

# Sibley East Garden Plot Action Plan

**Step 1.** Determine what type of project you are going do. Circle appropriate project(s)

Farm to School (FTS)

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Farmers Market

**Step 2.** What size garden/plot will be required to meet your needs/requirements?   1   acre(s)

**Step 3.** Where could this garden/plot be located? List 4 possible locations below....

1.   City Property  

2.   Portion of local Farmers Field  

3.   School Property  

4.   Fairground Property  

**Step 4.** Food Crop Selection: Common- Tomatoes, Potatoes, Onions, Cucumbers, Squash

Crop 1   Tomatoes   Crop 4   Green Beans  

Crop 2   Potatoes   Crop 5   Cucumbers  

Crop 3   Onions   Crop 6   Pumpkins & Squash  

Crop   Kohlrabi   Crop   Cabbage  

Crop   Peppers   Crop   Carrots  

**Step 5.** Calculate/Estimate number of plants/seeds needed for each variety

- Drawing a map (rough draft) would be helpful

Crop 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Crop 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Crop 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Crop 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Crop 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Crop 6 \_\_\_\_\_

**\* WILL DEPEND ON YOUR SPECIFIC GARDEN LAYOUT & PLAN**

**Step 6.** Determine possible solutions/partners for the following major requirements

- A. Initial Tillage \_\_\_\_ **Purchased equipment and used a Farmall Tractor** \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Local farmer donation?
  - b. Purchase Equipment?
  - c. Rent Equipment?
  
- B. Planting \_\_\_\_ **Students in the Spring and FFA Members in the Summer** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Consider timing – some done during end of the school year)  
 - Students, Parents, Program Supporters?
  
- C. Watering \_\_\_\_ **Did not water once this summer! Nice and Wet every week!** \_\_\_\_\_  
 -how close is garden to city water source?  
 -will the city let you use water?  
 -if it must be transported, how will this be done?  
 - who will pay for it?
  
- D. Weed Control \_\_\_\_ **FFA Members and Advisors! All Organic- We Used Tillers and Hands!** \_\_\_\_\_  
 - major labor required  
 - Organic –vs- Conventional ?
  
- E. Harvesting \_\_\_\_ **FFA Members, Advisors & Fall Semester Ag Students** \_\_\_\_\_  
 - if it needs to be stored, where? How?  
 - Ag Student labor? FFA Member labor?  
 \*amount of labor required depends on the crops being harvested!

**Step 7.** Create a budget....

<u>Item</u>	<u>Initial</u>	<u>Yearly</u>

**See SE Budget Handout**

**Step 8.** Possible funding sources:  
(refer to handouts)

1. MAELC
2. Ag Star
3. Minnesota Valley Electric COOP
4. Statewide Health Improvement Program

**Step 9.** Gain the Support of Influential People in the School

- A. Principal
  - a. How will this effect student learning?
  - b. When will you do it? (class time?)
- B. Superintendent
  - a. What's the financial impact?
  - b. How will it affect students?
- C. School Board
  - a. Financials
  - b. Community ties
  - c. Curriculum
- D. Food Service?
  - a. Are they willing to work extra hours?
  - b. Storage?

Tips –

- Use the action plan that you developed today and make it your own!
- Sell the incorporation of business and economics of this project into your program
- Dedicate class time to this project – spring semester, summer, & fall semester
- Use handouts and promotional material given to you today!
- Involve your extension education service
- Use your public health coordinators
- Involve your advisory committee in the idea

\*We just made them all think it was their idea! Just kidding! Sort of.... The Superintendent wanted our Ag program to do more that was visible in the community and we wanted something that would solidify our summer employment, this idea was hatched about 6 days before MAELC's spring deadline and we jumped in feet first without much planning. We plan to change many things for the next year.