

Spirit of the Land Garden

This spring, the SoL interns decided to grow a garden in order to help feed the fall Spirit of the Land class and provide for their weekly meals. In May 2016, 2 community garden plots were purchased (one by SoL, the other through the generosity of Treva and John Olsen). A pumpkin, zucchini, squash, potatoes, orca beans, beets, radishes, parsnips, carrots, yellow beans, kale, spinach, swiss chard, onions and green onions were planted. The interns visited the garden several times a week, watering and weeding. The zucchini and parsnips didn't succeed, but our greens were masterful producers.

As of August 12, 2016 SoL has produced:

- 3 bags of radishes
- 14 bags of spinach
- 4 bags of swiss chard
- 19 bags of kale
- 5 bags of beets and beet tops (about 30 beets)
- 3 bags of potatoes
- 1 bucket of carrots
- Edible flowers

As of August 23, 2016:

- 1 bucket carrots
- 1 garbage bag of green onions
- 5 squash
- 1 bucket orca beans

Into the fall, the garden will continue to produce squash, pumpkins, onions, green onions and beans.

The produce from the garden was distributed in three main ways: to the food bank, to friends, family and community members and stored or frozen for SoL class use.

We would recommend doing a SoL garden again, although we would suggest that only one plot be used and ensure that all things grown can be stored for the fall. Also, only 1-2 squash plants should be planted.