

History of the E. Lorene Young Community Garden



When former Leavenworth Mayor E. Lorene Young passed away in 2007 at the age of 94, she donated her property to be managed for education and stewardship purposes as part of Barn Beach Reserve.

Lorene's property included a lovely little red house at 250-12th Street, with a vacant lot just north of the house. Not long before her death, during a discussion with WRI's former Executive Director Jeff Parsons, Lorene gestured out the window and said, "There is one thing I do not want! I do not want that lot to become a parking lot. Can you promise me that?"

In tribute to Lorene, the once vacant lot is now Leavenworth's E. Lorene Young Community Garden. People from all around the greater Leavenworth community grow food here, learn about nutrition and gardening, and develop relationships with other community members.

Volunteers and Donors made it happen

In 2012 an enthusiastic group of volunteers developed a site plan with 31 raised beds, a deer fence, irrigation, and a commons area. Community volunteers put in hundreds of hours of manual labor, building the beds, dissuading the deer, and working hard to have everything ready for planting by June. The materials for these volunteers arrived thanks to wonderful donors and sponsors: an extremely generous local family, a grant from the Community Foundation of NCW, and sponsorship by the Leavenworth Lions Club, Snow Creek Integrated Health, Cascade Garden Club, Joanna Dunn Open House Yoga, and Mt. Stuart Physical Therapy, along with two "10% Tuesdays" from South, a "Benevolent Beer Night" from Icicle Brewing Co., and other generous donations.



If you would like to support our vision and make a donation to the E. Lorene Young Community Garden, please send your check to:

**ELYCG/ Wenatchee River Institute,
PO Box 2073, Leavenworth, WA 98826**

Our vision is to create an affordable garden space where people in and around the community of Leavenworth can grow food, learn about nutrition and gardening, and develop relationships with other community members.