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## Community Spotlight - Basehor PRIDE

When a community need, opportunity and resources come together, great things can happen. The Basehor PRIDE group had identified a need for a community garden, the city had a large park with an area that provided an opportunity for a garden and Kansas PRIDE, Inc. was offering some community improvement funding through the Partners in PRIDE program. As a result, Basehor PRIDE, interested community members and the City Council worked together to design a community garden program that would utilize a blighted area in the city park.



Basehor PRIDE lead a planning effort the past 12 months to design the garden plots, promote the availability of this new opportunity to community members, work with the city to provide water to the site and countless volunteer hours to prepare the site for 12 garden plots in the spring of 2012. Now if they can just control the wildlife.

Partners in this project included: Basehor PRIDE/Gold PRIDE, City of Basehor/Park Board, 4-H, Boy Scouts, the school district and the Basehor library. A very detailed work plan, timeline and area design drawing made it possible to keep this project on target and all partners up to date on needs and accomplishments.

As a result of this project, the visual appeal of the park area has been improved and there will be an opportunity for community members to have access to fresh produce, learn gardening techniques and increase the community's social capital through opportunities for new gardeners and experienced gardeners to interact.

This is a first year project, but demand for the plots has been high and cooperation between the City of Basehor and Basehor PRIDE has been excellent. If you would like to learn more about this project, plan to attend Day of PRIDE on June 2, 2012 in Melvern, Kansas. Representatives from Basehor PRIDE will be there to share more about this Kansas PRIDE, Inc. supported Partners in PRIDE project.

## Day of PRIDE 2012

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 2, 2012 for Day of PRIDE, which will be

held in Osage County, Kan. Registration will be online soon, and watch your mail for the registration brochure. The option to pay by credit card is still available this year. Registration will be \$40, and will include a continental breakfast and an air-conditioned bus tour.

We start in Melvern and make our way to Osage City to visit the City Park and Depot Museum and learn how Osage City PRIDE and the Chamber of Commerce have worked together to enhance natural capital. We will then return to Melvern for the Awards Luncheon at the Melvern Community Building for another opportunity to learn about Melvern's projects. The tour will then drive through Lyndon and view their community garden project, followed by a trip to Overbrook to see how they have transformed their park into a place that fits the recreational needs of community members of all ages. There will be an optional activity at the end of the day for those interested in walking the Melvern River Front Trail and learning about Geocaching.

Registration information will be coming soon. Check [here](#) for updates.

## Spring Gardening Opportunities

With the weather getting warmer, many PRIDE communities are turning soil for community gardens. KSU and K-State Research and Extension have many resources to draw upon.

- "A Day of Learning; Communities Engaging Landscape" is the title of the 2012 K-State Engagement Symposium. This half-day of workshops at the KSU Student Union in Manhattan will include sessions on Engaging Communities through Gardens; Learning Gardens; Gardening and Health; and Growing Food and Social Systems. The event runs from 1-4 p.m., is free and does not require registration.
- Community Gardening and Beautification resources through K-State Research and Extension can ensure your spring planting is successful. Resources for community gardening can be found [here](#). This website gives video instruction and gardening ideas, and will be the site for your community to apply for community garden grants for 2013.

Community beautification resources are also available through [K-State Research and Extension](#) and the [PRIDE website](#).

## Quarterly Reports

The first Quarterly Report of the year is due April 15, 2012. Forms can be sent to the PRIDE office via email to [jmenon@ksu.edu](mailto:jmenon@ksu.edu) or [PRIDE@ksu.edu](mailto:PRIDE@ksu.edu) or by mail or fax to (785) 532-6175. Do not hesitate to drop us a line if your reports will be delayed. The information on your quarterly report helps PRIDE accurately reflect your time, hard work and community efforts to legislators, funding agencies and to other communities like yours.

And on that same note, don't forget:

# The Quarterly Report Initiative for 2013

Each quarter, PRIDE communities are asked to track their impact through a quarterly report and share them with the PRIDE office. This year, we would like to start an incentive. Any PRIDE Community that sends in quarterly reports for all quarters in 2012 will have the name of their community put into a drawing for a chance to win two free registrations to Day of PRIDE 2013. PRIDE Quarterly Report forms can found by [clicking here](#).

## Events Calendar

April 26 - Community Gardening Symposium

June 2 - Day of PRIDE - Osage County, KS

June 5-6 - Rural Grocery Summit, Manhattan, KS

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