



The project

With a packed house for story time, summer reading program, and recently a new set of computers and updated internet the Clarks Public Library is a busy hub in a small community. This unique historic building is one of the last Carnegie Libraries and was recently listed with the National Registry of Historic Places. But, until recently, the outside did not reflect the vibrant activity within. Just before summer break in the spring of 2024, FFA and Honor Society students worked with PlantNebraska staff to plant waterwise, low-maintenance landscaping that will provide habitat for insects and beauty to main street. Students learned how to “design on the ground” laying plants out in their proper planting locations. They learned how to properly plant a shrub and how sedges could be used around a downspout to prevent erosion. Just one year after planting, the project was already drawing compliments and appreciation from village residents.

What we learned

- 1

Keep taller plants to the center of the garden and use shorter plants near sidewalks.
- 2

Shrubs can provide year round interest on shadier sides of the building.



FFA and Honors Society students learn from Justin Evertson how to space and plant shrubs.



Dwarf Blue Indigo
Baptisia minor



Pasque Flower
Pulsatilla patens



Plains Oval Sedge
Carex brevior



Korean Spice Viburnum
Viburnum carlesii

Who’s involved

- High Plains Community School FFA
- High Plains Community School Honor Society

Funding and costs

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| \$1,000 | PAID BY GREENER TOWNS |
| \$593 | Raised Locally |
| <u>\$523</u> | DONATIONS & TIME |
| \$2,116 | PROJECT VALUE |
| 16 | VOLUNTEER HOURS |



Students enjoyed the the chance to learn outdoors and give back to their community.

Clarks Public Library

GREENER TOWNS

