

Impact Story

One Year Later: Look What Grew!

Scotts Bluff County Courthouse, Gering



PLANT NEBRASKA

A return visit to a Gering pollinator garden offers a rewarding reminder of what can happen when we give good work time to take root.

We don't always get to see the "after" when we plant a garden. There's always another project waiting, another community to visit, another challenge to tackle. So it was especially rewarding to return to the Scotts Bluff County Courthouse during a June 2026 Wildflower Week trip to Gering to see what had grown since we were last there.

In 2025, PlantNebraska worked with local 4-H members to plant a pollinator garden at the entrance of the courthouse with funding from a Greener Towns grant. In 2026, we got to see just how much that garden has grown, and the results were remarkable. In just one year, the garden has flourished, offering a beautiful reminder that meaningful change is possible. Plant the right plants in the right place, give them water and a little care while they get established, keep at the weeding, and then add a healthy dose of patience and persistence. Before long, those small efforts can become something much bigger.

Congratulations to lead volunteer and past PlantNebraska board member Laurie Zitterkopf and her 4-H crew for nurturing this garden and seeing the project through. We're grateful for their hard work and delighted to see it blooming.

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I love it [the pollinator garden]. I'm also into gardening and planting flowers to attract pollinators to my veggies. Gardening is also a good therapy for mental well-being.

Mike Blue, Scotts Bluff County Commissioner for District One

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Before



After



More information about programs and funding is available at plantnebraska.org.