Thank you for your interest in the Hatchery Brook Community Gardens!

We are located in the Hatchery Brook Conservation Area, 685 Orchard Road, Berlin, Connecticut. The idea for a community garden was first explored by the Berlin Conservation Commission in 2008. Under the guidance of Garden Coordinator, Pat Bigelow, gardeners ambitiously planted their first crops in May 2009. Vegetables, flowers, and herbs are all sustainably grown. No synthetic chemical fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides are allowed.

The community gardens were organized and built by a group of energetic volunteers, most of them being the gardeners themselves. They have invested many hours of sweat equity to make the garden what it is today.

We at HBCG believe that our community gardens can benefit many members of the local community through our outreach program, known as "BE A PEACH!". "P-E-A-C-H" is an acronym for "People Excited about Combating Hunger". In 2009, gardener Jan Josephson, received a $500 grant for her creative submission to Quaker Oats. She is working with high school students to plant and tend their own "PEACH" garden. Their harvests have been donated to the Berlin Senior Center and the Salvation Army. In addition to the "PEACH" harvests, a collection cooler was made available so that gardeners and friends could donate their extra veggies.

We are looking forward to another productive season! Our new gardeners are very enthusiastic… beginners and experienced alike. We are looking forward to expanding our perimeter flower garden beds. The goal is to create a habitat for attracting pollinators and beneficial insects using deer-resistant flowering shrubs, perennials, and annuals. These perimeter gardens will benefit the local ecology and will enhance the beauty of the entire conservation area — see NWF Community Habitat Program: http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife/Community-Habitats.aspx

HAPPY GARDENING...and GIVE PEAS A CHANCE! For more information about HBCG, please send an email to Pat Bigelow: hatcherybrookcommunitygardens@gmail.com