



500 West Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084  
troymi.gov

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: August 4, 2020

To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager  
Kurt Bovensiepe, Public Works Director  
Dennis Trantham, Facilities and Grounds Operations Manager

Subject: Senior Community Gardens Report

---

While COVID-19 has attributed to the cancelation of many programs, the work related to those programs has not stopped in the Grounds Division. The Senior Community Gardening program located at the Troy Farm was one of the programs that took a hiatus. Since the spring, the Grounds Division has plowed the fields on a monthly basis to prevent the seeds from germinating and removed the old compost/trash pile. Compost has been added to the newly developed plots on the east side of the garden to boost the nutrient levels. In late June, seasonal staff tilled the nine raised beds and eight of the nine beds received plantings of ornamental sun flower seeds. In the month of July, the Grounds Division rototilled the plots using a tractor mounted tiller and added additional compost to the east plots. The same maintenance of tilling or plowing and incorporating compost will occur in August, September and October.

Additionally, in September the garden pathways will be reshaped using a tractor and a box blade to reduce the undulating land, which will improve walking, cart pulling and wheelbarrow pushing. The sheds will receive much needed maintenance including painting of the large shed and replacement of the smaller shed.