

AUDREY'S GARDEN

LIVING EXHIBIT



Audrey's Garden is our newest exhibit and our first "living exhibit". The inspiration for our Garden was Audrey Kinsella, a longtime board member, our first executive director, and a tireless volunteer until her passing in 2013 at the age of 89. One of Audrey's wishes was to have a teaching garden showcasing the native plants that our Villagers would have used for foods, medicines, dyes and ceremonies. The garden was designed by landscape architect John Helsper, Jr. and installed in 2015 by James Valley Nursery. Funds raised for Audrey's Garden came from the Kinsella family and the many friends of Audrey Kinsella.

The gardens consist of 36 different species, such as Echinacea, Rosa spp., Prunus sp., Gentiana sp., Monarda, Rudbeckia and many more. The flowers are attracting many different insects, such as the Eastern Swallowtail on the Echinacea in the photo. Prairie Smoke (Geum Triflorum) begins the parade of flowers in late March and the Rudbeckia sp. and Echinacea sp. end the floral show in the late fall.

Information plaques have been installed in the gardens so visitors may identify each plant and its uses. A flyer is available in the museum for more information. There are two stone benches placed near the gardens for observing the flower display and its winged visitors. Photo opportunities are abundant in our gardens.

Please stop and "smell the roses" when you visit the Mitchell Prehistoric Indian Village!