

YSCF
Youth Action Board
Grant

Agraria

YOUTH
FORAGE
GARDEN



Kat Christen, Education Director, Agraria
& Aiden Scavone, YSCF YAB Board Member

“The 2021 YSCF Youth Action Board believes that healthy and nutritious food is a basic and necessary human right that should not be restricted by one’s socio-economic status, race, identity, or any other possible discriminating factor.

Healthy and nutritious food fundamentally influences our ability to thrive physically, intellectually and emotionally. Access to fresh and nutritious food at a young age can increase our capacity to flourish into adulthood.”

\$2,000 Grant Agraria

In Fall 2021, the site for the **Youth Forage Garden** was prepared and planting began. Plants and supplies needed for fall installation were ordered and planted on the site with the help of Agraria staff, volunteers (from YSCF YAB) and Trekker's youth (an afterschool program for kids 6-12). The plants included a mix of edible fruit trees such as Paw Paws, Apple, and Pear. In addition, understory herbs were transplanted to the site including a variety of useful herbal tea plants such as mint and lemon balm.

It became clear after accessing plants available for sale in fall 2021, that it was best to postpone certain plantings, such as berries, until spring 2022. Melissa Heston agreed to this extension of the grant spending period via email. Approximately, \$1750 of the \$2,000 grant has been spent to date, which includes a variety of edible berries already purchased and arriving in the spring, when weather allows. We anticipate the remaining \$250 will be spent by spring 2022, at which time the Youth Forage Garden Project will be completed.

The initial Youth Forage Garden installation incorporated volunteer and youth program involvement. We have already incorporated education, planting and land care of the Youth Forage Garden area into youth programs and public tours. However, the biggest impact will only grow from here. We are really looking forward to foraging the first herbs this summer and fruits in years to come as well as providing a model of edible landscaping to visitors. We anticipate the Youth Forage Garden as a regular part of our seasonal tours as well as adult and all ages programs here at Agraria. Thanks YSCF!

\$300 Grant Yellow Springs Schools

Improvements to Yellow Springs Schools Cafeteria Program will take place in Fall 2022. Stay tuned for more developments on this program.