Burkittsville's Food Forest – IDP (10 Points)

Description of Implementation:

The concept of our Food Forest began as a way of managing a donated agricultural plot of land and blending it with nature. Guyton Park, the location of our Food Forest, was donated to the Town of Burkittsville by one of the founding families of Burkittsville. The space has perennial, low-maintenance crops that create a self-sustaining, food-producing ecosystem. Our food forest produces seasonal food for townspeople to harvest and eat; specifically, nut and fruit-producing trees and shrubs as well as berry and grape vines. In the spring pie cherries are available from one tree. The variety in the summer increases to peaches, grapes, raspberries and apples. Recently, two new apple trees were added to the 3 mature apples trees to ensure apples for years to come. Black walnuts and chestnuts are available from very prolific trees in the fall. All fruit bearing trees are lovingly maintained by an arborist twice a year. The Town of Burkittsville pays for the twice annual tree maintenance.

The Food Forest is promoted through Burkittsville's Facebook page, Back Yard Produce Exchange, and the Town's quarterly newsletter.

Supporting Documentation: Photos from our Food Forest

Food Forest Entrance with cherry tree in background

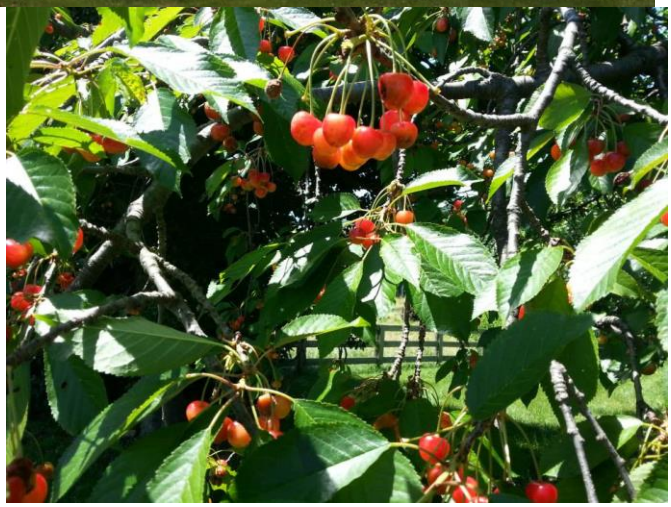
Mature apple trees in spring

Mature apple trees in fall

Two new apple trees planted in 2016

Early spring view of berry patch

<u>Prolific</u> grape vine in early spring



Cherry Trees

2nd Berry Patch

Chestnut trees