



## Jordan Bay Senior Community Garden

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Progress was slower than 'the boys' had hoped for, and our opportunities for funding were waning while planting time was rapidly approaching. With a growing season as short as ours timing is everything. When you are working with old school gardeners and retired farmers you just don't waste time, and the news that our "Sow It Forward" grant was on the way brought a great sigh of relief and celebration all around.

Jordan Bay is a 24 unit, low income, senior housing community in rural Maine. It is part of a larger network of such communities managed by AVESTA Housing. In late winter of 2012 some of the Jordan Bay residents approached us here at [Pearson's Town Farm](#) [1] looking for a little help rehabilitating a small, tired looking raised bed garden space at their community. With the grant money from KGI we were able to source locally harvested lumber and loam to both improve and expand the garden. The excitement from our KGI grant was contagious and our friends at Plantation Products were inspired to donate seeds and seed starting supplies to keep 'the boys' busy while the raised beds were put in place.

The benefits of this project have already spread beyond just Jordan Bay where our seniors have a new avenue to keep active while promoting good nutrition, self-sufficiency, and community involvement. All of our materials were purchased from local businesses and some of our gardeners plan to donate their excess produce to the local food pantry. Even as we make progress here, there are dreams of duplicating our project in other communities in the AVESTA network using residents of Jordan Bay to share their knowledge with others!

We are still working on keeping the wildlife out of the garden but 'the boys' are already talking about expansions. . .

Many, many thanks to KGI for helping us bring this project to reality.

Image (optional):

