



2025 Emergent Abundance Farming Collective Impact Report



Emergent Abundance Farming Collective as a 501c3 nonprofit (*EIN 99-1912929*).

The EAFC garden is located at Spar Hill Preserve, Kennett Township, Burnt Mill Road, Chadds Ford, PA.

The Advisory Council continues in the role of a non-profit board and oversees all financial, legal, and organizational matters.

Advisory Council members:

Katharine Michael (President) Founding Member - Forest School

Yulia Smagorinsky, (Treasurer) Founding Member - Widening Circle LLC, Spiral Journey Work That Reconnects, certified permaculture designer, WTR facilitator, MSc agricultural economics and social science, BSc agricultural plant science

Alexandria Sasek, (Secretary) Founding Member - MSc Urban Strategy, Limerick Township Historical Society

Heather Leach (Incorporator) Artemisia Orchard LLC, ethnobotanist and orchardist, MSc Ethnobotany, BSc Biology

Ariana Ahadi, Founding Member - Mycelial Network - on sabbatical

Thanks to the Advisory Council for facilitating the smooth transition to our new non-profit status.



Our volunteering members

EAFC is entirely composed of and run by volunteers. We are an intergenerational group with more than ten children participating on a regular basis.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our members for volunteering their time, physical labor, insights, and knowledge to grow together.

Building Leadership

As a non-hierarchically organized collective, it is fundamental to our thriving that we share roles and responsibilities. Leadership is shared among our members and ideally we have more than one person trained and able to hold any important role at a given time.

In 2025, we had members enthusiastically step into a small team entrusted with marketing, social media and newsletter writing. We had members step up into garden leadership roles, taking charge of harvests and deliveries to KACS, coordinating and communicating tasks in the field through our project management platform. A big shoutout especially to all the internal motivational updates and sharing of pictures!

We also had new leaders create and host a monthly orientation day for the broader public.



Growing Youth Engagement

In 2025, we hosted our first Middle School Student for a community service project for school credits helping with the construction of pathways as well as the planting of potatoes. We also engaged the help of High School Students to remove the old fence after the new deer fence had been constructed. Big thanks to the young people! We are excited to begin establishing pathways to engage more youth and are looking forward to expanding opportunities in the future.

Food Donations

- Food donated to Kennett Area Community Services (950 lbs), Free Food for All (420 lbs),
- Food, herbs and berries were also directly distributed among EAFC members.

Total estimate of produce harvested and shared: 1,840 lbs.

Support from Kennett Township and the Longwood Fire Company

We would like to express deep gratitude to Kennett Township, to the Board of Supervisors, to Alison Dobbins and her Administration team, as well as to Ted Otteni and his Public Works team, as well as to A.J. McCarthy and the Longwood Fire Company. Your support makes Emergent Abundance Farming Collective possible!

Thank you for allowing us to use the space: the garden, the gathering grove and the parking lot garage. Thank you for mowing regularly, and for your mindfulness around the garden and plants. Thank you for laying the permanent pipe from the water tank. Thank you for the water deliveries. Thank you so very much for gifting us a professional and truly sturdy deer fence! Thank you for wood-chip deliveries and for the new doors to the garage, as well as all the ways you provide support that haven't been named here.

Further Improvements to the Garden Site

In 2025, we received an in-kind donation of a garden shed. After obtaining the zoning permit from the township, we were able to install the shed in the heart garden before the construction of the new deer fence. In the late fall, we then began building organizing structures inside the shed (tool racks, shelving etc).



Seed Donations and Seed Saving Efforts

We received generous seed donations from: High Mowing Organic Seeds, Hudson Valley Seed Library, Baker Creek, Seeds Savers Exchange and Johnny's Seeds. Furthermore, seeds were made available through Chester County Food Bank and Kennett Library.

We are continuing to build habits of seed saving and sharing seeds with the wider community- embracing the Indigenous wisdom that we are borrowing seeds from future generations - among which we are successfully saving seeds from blue corn, winter squash, cosmos, indigo, zinnia, tithonia, sunflower, tulsi, calendula, runner beans and more.

Other Community Connections

Kennett Library continues to offer space for our Advisory Council meetings and to support us in our marketing efforts. The Kennett Seed Library is a wonderful community resource that we are actively using as an exchange platform, both sharing our excess seeds and supplying EAFC with important varieties.

Partnering with Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)

We have a connection with PJJSC through Yulia Smagorinsky and Heather Leach, who co-facilitate horticulture classes at the center, and are invested in the design, implementation, and upkeep of the PJJSC Healing Garden. EAFC has been able to share perennial transplants, fresh produce as well as skills and knowledge that we are continuing to develop at Emergent Abundance.

Fiber-Arts

In 2025, we continued to grow many natural dye plants, a project spearheaded by EAFC members Virginia Balke and Jim Pruitt. 10 varieties of annual and perennial dye plants, including indigo, coreopsis, dyers chamomile, madder, marigold, cosmos, and others. The harvest and dyeing techniques were shared with the EAFC community and a local fiber arts group.

West Chester University

Thanks to Kennett Township, we were interviewed as key stakeholders in a site assessment study conducted by Urban Planning students at West Chester University. The student plan outlined possible long-term development options for Spar Hill that take into account our vision of land stewardship and access.



Ecological impact

The garden is managed according to permaculture principles. As such we have established different zones throughout the garden:

- The heart garden is the area in which we grow most of our annual vegetables that require a lot of attention and care such as carrots, beans, lettuce, cilantro.
- The 8 field spaces are areas in which we rotate the growing of field crops. These can be grown with less frequent maintenance and care efforts. They include potatoes, winter squash, corn, sweet-potatoes, watermelon and cabbage. These areas are seeded in winter-rye in the fall to nurture and protect the soil.
- Fruit and nut trees and shrubs. There are many areas throughout the garden where we grow a great diversity of fruit, berries and nuts. These areas also balance some of our work, as we can do the mulching and pruning in the winter time.
- Perennial medicinal and tea herbs
- Pathways create accessibility throughout and connect different zones to each other.
- Wild areas: Meadow areas
- Meditation spaces and children's living hut

As the trees and shrubs are growing and developing the site along in its succession, we are experiencing an increase of shade, structural elements for nest building, more birds, more beauty, berries, and the first apples. We are continuing to establish and diversify our multi-layered food forests in sections of our garden by selecting and encouraging naturally occurring as well as adding specific understory plants.



We are facilitating the successional shifting of the thistle meadow into a meadow dominated by native perennial plants. The meadows are continuing to establish with perennials such as asters, goldenrod, and rudbeckia, noteworthy displacing the Canadian thistle in the areas that we leave undisturbed.

The great diversity of plants and structural features provide habitat for a great diversity of insects, butterflies, birds, reptiles, amphibians, rodents, as well as fungal and bacterial soil-life.

Overview of plants:

Fruit and nut trees and shrubs	Annual vegetables	Accumulator plants	Flowering Pollinator plants	Medicinal/Tea plants	Dye plants	Culinary Herbs
Hazelnut Beach plum Apple Blueberries Chestnut Figs Gooseberries Raspberries June berries Aronia Linden Spicebush Plum Blackberry Elderberry Paw paw Persimmon Goji berry	Lettuce Spinach Kale Collards Cabbage Broccoli Beets Carrots Beans Corn Potatoes Sweet Potatoes Potatoes Watermelon Melon Wintersquash Pumpkin Peas Zucchini Cucumber Tomatoes Bell peppers Hot peppers Eggplant Mustard Greens Swiss Chard Celery Radish Wild edibles	Comfrey ssp Burdock Sorrel Thistles Sunchoke Dandelion Chicory Horseradish	Asters ssp Goldenrod ssp Milkweed Rudbeckia Sunflowers Cosmos Native Honeysuckle Zinnia Peonies Alyssum Marigold Calendula Tithonia Comfrey Nasturtium Poppies Ninebark Linden Oak Locust Dogwood Redbud Birch And more	Lemon Balm Mint ssp Meadow Sweet Calendula Sage Yarrow Elderberry Chamomile Milky oats Burdock Dandelion Linden Goji berry Elderberry Raspberry leaves And more	Indigo Madder Dyers Chamomile Cosmos And more	Cilantro Parsley Basil Lavender Rosemary Oregano Thyme Savory Sage Marjoram Papalo Sumac Nasturtium Spicebush And more

We have a significant array of medicinal plants established in the garden, ranging from annual and perennial herbaceous plants, to shrubs and trees.

We are growing annual vegetables in two distinct permaculture zones: the heart garden, in which we grow all the plants that require regular maintenance, and the outer fields, in which we



grow many of our low maintenance storage crops such as sweet potatoes, flour corn, potatoes and winter squash.

The heart garden also includes culinary herbs as well as the dye plant garden and an area for children with a living-willow hut as a shaded hang-out spot.



Financial report

Profit and Loss

Emergent Abundance Farming Collective

Date Range: Jan 01, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025

Report Type: Cash Basis (Paid)

ACCOUNTS	Jan 01, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025
Income	
Donations	\$275.75
EAFC Membership	\$1,495.00
Total Income	\$1,770.75
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$0.00
Gross Profit As a percentage of Total Income	\$1,770.75 100.00%
Operating Expenses	
Computer – Software	\$129.13
Liability Insurance	\$406.46
Marketing	\$102.32
Medical supplies/first aid	\$2.49
Non-profit formation	\$275.00
PA non-profit fees	\$15.00
Seed & Plants Purchased	\$229.28
Small Tools & Irrigation - Field supplies	\$238.00
Transport and Fuel	\$20.63
Total Operating Expenses	\$1,418.31

Profit and Loss - Emergent Abundance Farming Collective
Date Range: Jan 01, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025

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Net Profit As a percentage of Total Income	\$352.44 19.90%
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