



# Grandpa Gardener

## *Growing Gardens. Growing Children.™*

By Grandpa Gardener



### Spring Planting in Sahuarita!

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Hello again! The weather is warming up and Spring planting is fast approaching for the Southwestern deserts. Preparation of the garden plots has already begun at the Sahuarita Community Garden. In fact, we can all begin preparing our Spring garden plots by tilling the soil, adding compost and other vitamin-rich supplements as well as deciding on our goals and general garden design. By making arrangements now, the seeds for a new garden can be planted sooner rather than later. Also, do not forget to verify the last potential “freeze” date(s) in your area and elevation. Check out your local botanical gardens or garden supply store for more information.

We are excited to announce that on March 7<sup>th</sup>, Spring planting will come to the Town of Sahuarita. On this date, the Sahuarita Community Garden, located in Anamax Park, will be dedicated by Mayor Lynne Skelton. This has been a community effort for the past nine months and has been spearheaded by Sue Payne, the Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator for the Town of Sahuarita. After the site was selected, the garden plots were prepared, leveled, and tilled. Fencing has been placed around the entire site and a water source has been established. The goal of the Community Garden is for the various citizens in and around Sahuarita to have a place to gather, plan, and grow their own gardens. This wonderful site in Anamax Park has 21 garden plots already laid out, each about 6 x 10 feet with walking pathways throughout the garden. These plots can be divided into smaller areas. Contact Sue Payne at her office, 822-8824, (or [spayne@ci.sahuarita.az.us](mailto:spayne@ci.sahuarita.az.us)) for more information if you would like to join in this wonderful Community Garden effort. Each plot must be planted, watered, tended, and weeded by their own gardeners.

Grandpa Gardener is honored to be included in events leading up to the dedication as well as in the dedication itself. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Grandpa Gardener will be reading at the “Storytime” event at the Sahuarita Town Hall, beginning at 10:00 a.m. In keeping with the theme of the Community Garden, Grandpa Gardener will read his newly published children’s book about an inspiring and loveable “Little Seed,” entitled What a Seed Needs to Know. Please come and join the fun, as we will have the reading and a coloring with crayons handout giveaway.

Grandpa Gardener has also been graciously invited to participate in the kick-off the Community Garden on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to noon. He will be conducting a mini-workshop on gardening tips with children. He will be doing a demonstration garden which will include general gardening tips, tool safety, preparation and planting, and a Storytime. Children will have the opportunity to dig and plant red radish seeds (properly supervised by their caregivers, of course) and have a Storytime with Grandpa Gardener. Tools and supplies will be provided for this demonstration. Please dress accordingly if you plan to do some digging and planting. If you are interested in community gardens, check out the American Community Garden Association at [www.communitygarden.org](http://www.communitygarden.org).

We are all very excited about the new Sahuarita Community Garden, so come and join us for this upcoming event! For more information about how Grandpa Gardener can come to your community or school for Storytimes or Garden Workshops, please visit us at [www.GrandpaGardener.com](http://www.GrandpaGardener.com). As always, Good Gardening!



Initial view of Sahuarita Community Gardens & Path

[www.GrandpaGardener.com](http://www.GrandpaGardener.com)

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