



# NEWS RELEASE

Waterford School District, 501 N. Cass Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328

Rhonda Lessel, Specialist | lesser01@wsdmi.org | Phone: (248) 706-4867

## **Waterford Foundation for Public Education Awards District \$5,000 for Waterford Community Garden/Outdoor Classroom**

**January 14, 2011, Waterford, Mich.** – The Waterford School District is the recipient of a \$5,000 Waterford Foundation for Public Education Grant that will be used to create the Waterford Community Garden/Outdoor Classroom, located at the Waterford Alternative High School, Crary Campus. The vegetable produce will be donated to Open Door Outreach and Forgotten Harvest, two organizations that focus on providing hunger relief. The funds from this grant will be used to purchase garden tools, plant materials, fencing and wood for the garden beds, and educational materials for Waterford Alternative High School.

The Waterford Community Garden/Outdoor Classroom will allow Waterford Alternative High School students to work with a landscape architect, master gardener, community members, and local growers to plant, maintain, and harvest a garden that will become a centerpiece of the Waterford community. The garden will not only include vegetable beds, but will include Michigan native plants, herbs, and flowering perennials. The Waterford Community Garden/Outdoor Classroom will enable teachers to tie together and extend what students are learning in the classroom. Students will also receive lessons that deepen their understanding of nature and natural systems.

In collaboration with Murphy & Associates, Landscape Design, installation of the garden will begin in spring 2011.

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