

El Llano Estacado RC&D

Resource

Conservation

& Development

Partnerships Serving America's Communities



Help our public and private partners to meet their regionally identified resource conservation and economic development needs.

Community Garden of Tucumcari

The Tucumcari Community Garden Project is designed to get children involved and aware of how vegetables are grown and make their way to the dinner table.

The El Llano RC&D partnered with Farm Services Agency (FSA), Canadian River SWCD, Quay County Extension, Bonnie Plants, City of Tucumcari and neighborhood volunteers.

The \$1,500 project cost was funded by FSA and El Llano Estacado RC&D, and County Extension Service. This on-going project will start

early in the spring. We recently built a Hoop House to help start plantings earlier in the spring.

Dan Perea, a Tucumcari resident, approached the El Llano Estacado RC&D with his plans to create a community garden for the kids.

His idea quickly became a reality as a host of volunteers, willing partners and interested youth did their part to make this come to fruition.

El Llano RC&D contacted the partners and found a suitable place in Tucumcari for the garden. The City of Tucumcari installed water meter. County agent Tom Dominguez helped install a water hydrant.

A local farmer prepared the plot for the gar-



den. Local gardening supply company Bonnie Plants donated a wide variety of vegetable plants.

Volunteers from the Tucumcari area tended and harvested the produce.



Tucumcari Community Garden Builds Hoop House

The Tucumcari Community Garden Group wanted to expand the growing season to increase garden production. So how do you grow year-round in Tucumcari? They built a "Hoop House," of course.

The Quay County Extension Service, Farm Service Agency, City of Tucumcari, El Llano Estacado RC&D and local volunteers teamed up to build a 12-foot by 40-foot greenhouse, also known as a Hoop House.

Eight volunteers provided their time, skill and dedication to build the \$700 structure in about five hours. The hoop house concept is well received -- resulted in several private hoop houses being built since then.

The idea for the hoop house came from Quay county Extension agent Tom Dominguez. He had a fellow county agent come from San Angelo, Texas, to supervise the construction. The El Llano Estacado RC&D and the Quay County Extension Service had received \$2000 each from the Farm Service Agency outreach coordinator Dan Abeyta. These funds were to be used for community projects

Twenty five local residents attended the construction. The greenhouse allows gardeners to begin the planting season much earlier in the spring, boosting the garden's production.



Lead volunteer Dan Perea is working to keep some plants going during the early winter inside the Hoop House.