The Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center gardens were established in 2001 to serve as a resource for visitors, conservation education programs, and seed collection site.

Youth Conservation Corps, students, teachers, certified master gardeners, youth groups, National Park Service volunteers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, UW-Extension and USDA Forest Service have planted nearly 8,000 native plants from 2001–2013.

As part of a new National Children’s Forest, Visitor Center staff use these gardens as a teaching platform for Earth Partnership for Schools and Lake Superior Stewardship experiential education programs and teacher institutes.

Volunteers and YCC provided 92 hours of maintenance in 2013 valued at $2,036.88.

Year Project Initiated: 2001

Project Completion: Weeding, transplanting, seed collection

Report Number: 1 of 1

Expenditures (through 10/2013): $0

FY13 funding (Partners/Contractors/Coop.): Youth Conservation Corps, USDA Forest Service, National Park Service VIP volunteers, Ashland/Bayfield County Master Gardener Association

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Figure 1. Native garden plant stakes provide botanical information for visitors touring the 22 gardens.

Figure 2. Teachers survey native plants during the Indigenous Arts & Sciences Watershed Institute hosted by UW-Arboratum, USDA Forest Service, and UW-Extension, July 2013.