

# Bumper Crop of Sweet Potatoes at Dundee Community Garden

Sweet potato harvesting is always an October highlight at the Dundee Community Garden—digging through the hills of dirt in search of potatoes yields other discoveries, such as garter snakes hibernating for winter. This year we also found two baby mice whose eyes were not yet opened, burrowed in the sweet potato vines.

But our biggest prize is always the many pounds of sweet potatoes, and this year turned out to be an exceptional year. We harvested 1,325 pound of sweet potatoes, which is almost double our largest past yield. We donated several hundred pounds to the residents at the Underwood Tower, and also made a large donation to the refugees at the Yates Community Center.



After harvesting the sweet potatoes, we seeded the area with a “green manure” seed mixture (containing winter rye, annual ryegrass, buckwheat, and crimson clover) as a cover crop. The seeds will grow over the fall and winter, and in the spring we’ll turn the plants under so that as they decompose, they will provide compost and added nutrients to the soil. This will help replenish the nutrients the potatoes took out of the soil during their growth last summer.

In December we’ll be ending our “Growing Roots” fundraising campaign. We give a huge thank you to all of our supporters who have helped DCG in this year of growth and development. Contributions are still being accepted, and donations of \$150 and over will earn you a spot on a permanent plaque in the garden. Donate on-line at [dundeegarden.org](http://dundeegarden.org) or send checks, made out to DCG, c/o Jo Bartikoski, 1614 N. 53rd St., Omaha, NE 68104. Dundee Community Garden is a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax-deductible.

