

# HISTORIC HARVEST GARDEN

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of Interior

Highlands Center  
at Cape Cod National Seashore



Driving along Old Dewline Road, Highlands Center visitors can now see stalks of corn growing tall in front of the Atlantic Research Center (ARC) Classroom. This Historic Harvest Garden is a project of the newly formed Truro non-profit Sustainable CAPE (Center for Agricultural Preservation and Education). Local and Native American youth are brought together to plant seeds sourced back to the 1600s in a raised garden bed. Planting the “three sisters” of corn, squash, and beans, shows the agricultural knowledge which was transferred from the Native Americans to the Pilgrims in 1620, enabling their later survival in Plymouth.

A collaborative project, Highlands Center partner, AmeriCorps Cape Cod, constructed the 3 by 16 foot raised garden bed during the site’s annual Spring Clean Up Day in 2011. Sustainable CAPE’s Francie Randolph and youth then planted in the new garden bed during the summer. They will come together again this fall to harvest. A welcome addition to the Highlands Center, this demonstration garden promulgates the site’s science and education mission.



AmeriCorps Cape Cod members build the raised garden bed out of plastic lumber.



Corn, squash, and beans are planted in the new garden bed.

(Photos courtesy of Francie Randolph, Sustainable CAPE)