

## **NEW Patriots Colony Gardens!**

After much anticipation, the expansion project for Patriots Colony has finally begun. This work will proceed in a series of steps. The first building to be built will be a new maintenance facility so that the PCAW maintenance crew will have a consolidated location for their tools and equipment, and storage for bulk materials.



But, in order for the maintenance building to be constructed, the residents' garden will be impacted. Therefore, the garden will need to be moved. A new site has been found, beside Villa Court 4, and across the street from Villa Court 2. The work to clear this lot began on April 4th. By the 8th, all standing trees had been downed, and most of the debris had been hauled away.



Because the Colonial petroleum pipeline runs between the road and the work site, a temporary “land bridge” was built to spread the weight of the heavy equipment moving back and forth. After the land had been cleared of trees and debris, it was time to bring in the fill dirt. This process allowed for a gentle slope to be established, and prepared the way for placement of the individual raised beds.

The beds were fabricated off-site and delivered by truck. Most will be at ground level, while four will be elevated. Rainy weather caused some delays, but eventually the beds were all put into place. They were filled with a mixture of half dirt and half mulch. A crushed gravel network of pathways will connect all the beds. A water supply has been installed and the concrete slab for a new shed has been poured.

***– Dave Lester –***