

The Friends of the D.D. Collins House



Broom Corn

One of our first seed sowings will be for broom corn.

Did you know this about broom corn? ~



- Broom corn is a type of sorghum.
- The long-branched panicles were first used in the Dark Ages to make – you guessed it, brooms!
- Italy is the first place it was described in the late 1500s.
- Benjamin Franklin introduced broom corn into the United States in the early 1700s.
- Illinois was the major producer of broom corn in the 1860s!
- Broom corn yields between 150 to 300 brooms per acre.

Humble beginnings . . .



It all begins with seeds.



Seeds become seedlings.



They grow and grow.



Panicles are harvested.



Then cleaned and bundled. Some become whisk brooms.



Some become sweepers~



Some become wreaths~



And festive décor that make home oh so sweet!



Broom corn growing behind the D.D. Collins outhouse has tasseled just in time for the full moon on August 7, 2017.

Photo taken by Carolyn Welch on August 4, 2017.