



Peace Garden

In 1974, the City of Corning finished construction and dedicated the Civic Center Plaza on Denison Parkway. The complex is home to City Hall, the Southeast Steuben County Library, the Social Security Administration, and the United Steelworkers Union Hall. When constructed the common areas in the plaza included an ice rink, tables and benches, greenspaces and fountains.

Over the years, the fountains in the plaza fell into a state of disrepair. In 1997, the City took an innovative approach to rehabilitating the fountains by converting them into gardens. The main fountain was developed into a Peace Garden in partnership with the Corning Sister Cities Association.

The Peace Garden contains ornamental plantings and a Peace Pole. The quote on the Peace Garden's plaque states, "Anyone can be a peacemaker. Peacemakers wage peace just as any war is waged: by planning, organizing, budgeting resources, struggling against odds, and celebrating victories. Peacemakers work together both locally and globally; and when peace is waged, the winner is the human spirit. This garden is dedicated to the daily efforts for peace, both small and large, waged by individuals, organizations and governments here in Corning and throughout the world."

By converting these fountains to gardens, the City avoided high repair and maintenance costs, and enhanced greenspace to provide the public with a more relaxing environment.