



Plant Sale Raises Funds for Garden

Thanks to the number and variety of plants donated by generous gardeners and Northside neighbors, the second annual Troy Community Gardens plant sale brought in \$340.25. The sale was organized by Marge Pitts and Pat Woicsek and took place on Memorial Day Sunday in front of Pierce's Northside Market. Last year, the sale brought in \$199, so we're growing in the right direction.

The heirloom tomatoes and peppers started by Marge sold out quickly, which has inspired a new marketing niche for Troy Community Gardens. There are plants sales all over town in the spring, but heirloom veggies do not appear to be the focus of other groups. We want people to think of Troy Gardens Plant Sale when they think about planting heirloom varieties in their vegetable gardens. And you can help!

Many Troy Gardeners start heirloom varieties from seed each year. If those of us who start seeds for ourselves would grow a few extra plants next year for our Memorial Day sale, it could become a significant fundraiser for the gardens. Since plot fees do not begin to cover the actual costs of running Troy Community Gardens, every dollar raised makes a difference. Watch for reminders about this next spring!

Save Your Aluminum Cans

In addition to the plant sale, we are continuing to recycle your aluminum cans to raise money for the Community Gardens. To date we have raised over \$375. We use these dollars to purchase new tools and to buy gas and parts for the power equipment. We also use some of the money to purchase small thank you gifts for people who have gone out of their way to help the gardens.

We now have a green recycling cart behind the yellow shed which can be used to deposit cans. Be sure to bag them up before placing them in the container. If the container is full, set them to the side. Someone will pick up the cans on a weekly basis.

Español: Traigan el sábado que son los días de trabajo latas de aluminio bacías en bolsas de plástico para juntar dinero para los Jardines.

Hmong: Nqa cov kauspoom aluminum (pesxij) uas haus tag lawm ntim rau ib lub hnab yas tuaj txhua hnuv Saturday uas muaj ua haujlwm sib pab, muag rau kev nrhia nyiaj pab lub vaj.

Mallards Fundraiser for Troy Gardens

Have some fun, support Troy Gardens and our local baseball team. It's a win-win-win situation. Buy your tickets for the Monday, August 4, Mallards game against the Green Bay Bullfrogs at this special website: www.mallardsgroups.com. Use the password "garden" to log in. \$2 will be donated to Troy Gardens for every ticket purchased for that game if you use the password. Tickets also available at the box office, but use that password and support Troy Gardens!

Work Day

Saturday, June 21
9 am -12 noon

If it is raining on June 21, the work day will be changed to June 22, at the same time.

Hnub ua haujlwm pab dawb yog
6/21/08, 9 a.m txog 12 teev tavs,
yog los nag muab pauv rau
6/22/08 tib lub sijhawm.

Día de Trabajo

El Sábado 21 de Junio
9 am -12 medio día

Si llegara a llover el 21 de Junio, el día de trabajo será cambiado para el día 22 de Junio a la misma hora.



A Big Thank You to Ben Sommers

The Community Gardens Steering/Leadership Committee would like to give Ben Sommers a big thank you for helping us with the Troy water system earlier this spring. Just as gardeners were starting to plant and the CSA farm was gearing up for the season, the City of Madison informed us they would not re-approve our water system until changes were made to prevent water from back-flowing into the water supply. Ben led us in the effort to install the necessary parts to the system and gave several hours of time to the project. Ben has been a gardener at Troy for the last couple years and is a Food Security Specialist, Gardens Division, at CAC (Community Action Coalition). Without Ben's knowledge and time, it is doubtful the water would have been ready for the growing season. Thanks again, Ben.



Help Make Mowing Easier at Troy

Please keep the grassy areas outside your plot(s) free of rocks, wire, sticks, milk jugs, plastic bags, etc. The rocks are very hard on the mower blades and the other items get caught in the mower. Bring a trash bag with you to Troy and help clean up trash when you see it. Remember there is no trash pick up at Troy. You need to take trash home with you.

Usted puede ayudar para que sea más fácil segar el césped a Troy Gardens

Mantenga por favor el césped acerca de su parcela libre de piedras, alambre, madera, jarras de leche, bolsas de plástico, etc. Tales artículos dañan al cortacésped! Traiga una bolsa con usted para que pueda recoger basura cuando usted la vea. No olvide que no hay recogida municipal de basura a Troy Gardens. Todos deben llevarse la basura propia.

Pab Kev Txiaiv Nyom Kom Yoojyim Nyob Teb Troy

Thov pab tu cov nyom uas nyob ntawm yus sab ntug teb/txoj kev kom txhob muaj pob zeb, hlua, pas ntoo, taub mis nyuj qhuav mus rau lwm yam. Pob zeb yuav ua rau lub cav txiaiv nyom puas thiab tej yam uas hais no yuav khis lub cas txiaiv tsis tau. Nqa hnab khib nyiab nrog yus tuaj es pab khaws cov khib nyiab ib ncig yus thaj uas yus pom nqa mus povtseg tom tsev vim teb Troy tsis muaj luv khib nyiab tuaj thawj. Yus yuav tau nqa khib nyiab los tsev.

Reminder - Weed Policy for 2008

We are not allowing gardeners to dump weeds or plant debris at the back of the gardens. Gardeners must compost their garden waste within their own plot or take it off site themselves.

Español: No se puede dejar malas hierbas o cualquier otro desecho vegetal en el fondo del jardín, como ha sido hecho en años anteriores. Todos los jardineros deben guardar tales desechos dentro de sus parcelas (para hacer abono) o quitarlos del sitio.

Hmong: Yuav tsis pub koj pov tej yam nyuag khaub nroj tsuag lossis me nyuam khaub ntoo, kav quav pobkws rau pem qab thaj teb lawm. Cov tswv ua teb yuav tau muab tej khaub nroj tsuag faus nyob rau nej thajteb lossis nqa mus povtseg tom nej tsev xwb.

Don't Take Without Asking

In just the first month and a half of the growing season, we have already had several reports of items disappearing from plots - a bale of hay from one plot, heavy t-posts from another plot, and bundles of fencing material from near one plot. Please do not remove anything from someone else's plots. In addition, several gardeners in plowed sections bundle and store their fencing material off to the sides of the garden. In the spring, these bundles are retrieved and reused within their plots. If you see material that is bundled or laying near someone's plot, please do not take it. It is likely the gardener will be returning to re-use it. Sometimes it is difficult to tell what has been set aside for reuse and what has been "abandoned" by a past gardener. If there is a question, please err on the safe side and do not take the material for your own use.

If you believe you have had items taken from your plot, including plant material, please report it to Christie Ralston at the Friends of Troy Gardens office (240-0409 or info@troygardens.org).

The Genesis of Troy Gardens

Since many of our gardeners are new this year, we're including this article about Troy Gardens - how it came to be and the entities that make up the whole. The information for this article was excerpted from the Troy Gardens website and from a report compiled by a consultant for Madison Area Community Land Trust (MACLT) in 2007. Enjoy!

In 1995, the state of Wisconsin placed a 15-acre undeveloped site abutting the Mendota Mental Health Center grounds on the State's surplus land list. The State intended to sell the site, most likely to a private developer. Area residents and people from other parts of the city had been gardening on 4 acres of the site for 15 years, and using much of the rest of it to bird-watch, walk their dogs, and simply wander the land.

Alarmed at the prospect of losing this valuable resource, concerned gardeners and neighbors, facilitated by the Northside Planning Council, began meeting and planning. Several non-profit groups - the Madison Area Community Land Trust (MACLT), the Urban Open Space Foundation (UOSF), and the Community Action Coalition Garden Program (CAC) - joined together to form the Troy Gardens Coalition. Several representatives from the University of Wisconsin joined the Coalition in 1996 when the State added a 16 acre landlocked undeveloped area to the north of the original site to the surplus list.

The Coalition developed an innovative proposal for integrated land use, one that combined housing with open space and agricultural uses. The city accepted the concept plan in 1998 for the community vision that was presented. In 1997, the State agreed to take the entire 31-acre site off the surplus land list. The Coalition was granted a 16-year lease to use the land for community gardens and open space. By the summer of 1998, the Coalition and the State reached an agreement for a 50-year lease, with a provision to buy the property. After years of fund-raising and development work, the Madison Area Community Land Trust, with support from the City of Madison, succeeded in purchasing the property on December 28, 2001.

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Save those Jung Dollars and consider donating them to Troy Community Gardens !!!

Keep Green Flags in Plots

Please do not remove the green plot marker flag from your plot. Try to keep it in the center of the plot or near the path but obviously within your plot. The Gardens Site Monitoring Subcommittee will need to reference the flag when monitoring plots.

Español: Por favor, no quite la bandera verde de su parcela. Ésta sirve como punto de referencia para el comité que hace el monitoreo de malas hierbas.

Hmong: Thov txhob rho tus chij ntsuab uas sau nej npe thiab nej tus nabnpawb tawm ntawm nej pav teb. Thaum pab saib xyuas teb (Garden Site Monitoring Subcommittee) ncig saib cov teb, lawv thiaj li paub leejtwg qho yog qho twg thiab nyob qhov chaw twg.

Upcoming Events

Natural Areas Stewards Workshop

Saturday, June 14, 9 am - 12 noon

Community Gardens Volunteer Work Day

Saturday, June 21, 9 am-12 noon

Birding for Kids!

Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m. - 10:30 am

Community Gardens Steering/Leadership Committee Meeting

Saturday, June 28, 10 am- 12 noon, tent at Troy Gardens

Community Gardens Weeknight Volunteer Work Day

Wednesday, July 2, 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Natural Areas Stewards Workshop

Saturday, July 19, 9 am - 12 noon

Community Gardens Volunteer Work Day

Saturday, July 19, 9 am - 12 noon

For details about any of these events, please call the Friends of Troy Gardens office at 240-0409.



Genesis *continued from page 3*

As stated, MACLT owns the 31 acres known as Troy Gardens: 5 acres for the housing development and 26 acres of green-space, also referred to as conservancy land. UOSF holds the conservation easement that sets forth baseline uses for the 26 acre conservancy parcel.

Friends of Troy Gardens (FTG) was created to put into operation the community vision by securing funds and implementing programming to manage the 26 acres of greenspace FTG rents from MACLT. As the lease holder FTG is responsible for meeting the requirements that bind the landowner, but ultimately, it is MACLT that is responsible for satisfying the terms of the conservation easement held by UOSF, and the land-use terms set forth by the city of Madison through its Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), which funded the purchase of the land.

In order to meet the conditions under which the land was purchased with CDBG funds, MACLT (or any designated leaseholder) must meet two bottom-line requirements: 1) The community gardens must be well managed; and 2) Other greenspace areas must be stewarded in a responsible manner. As stated above, the conservation easement, held by the UOSF, sets forth baseline requirements for the 26 acres that it covers. These requirements state that: 1) Certain areas must be set aside for certain uses (i.e., specific zones designated for community gardens, farming, and preservation of natural areas); and 2) Structures on this acreage are not permitted, other than the following: covered open space shelter, small sheds, greenhouse/hoophouse, restrooms, office space, building to house equipment and provide refrigeration, parking lot, open air farm stand, fencing to keep out animals, and an access drive.

Over the ensuing years, the 5-acre community supported agriculture (CSA) farm has been fenced in to ward against deer predation, the community gardens have matured, the natural areas have been restored, and most recently 30 units of mixed-income housing have been developed. The community vision has taken root but is still developing and, most importantly, you're part of it! (UOSF has had a name change since this article was originally written. They are now known as Center for Resilient Cities.)

Save the Date! Saturday, August 2



Savor The Summer at Troy Gardens

Celebrate Local Abundance

Free Family Fun!

Saturday, August 2

3pm-8pm

Free samples of garden goodies!

Kids' games & activities

Home-grown music & entertainment on the land

A GREEN FESTIVAL

*Bring-your-own picnic to Troy Gardens—
Take-your-own trash with you when you leave*

