

Dear Naperville Gardener,

Please see the below information on Garden Plot Help Desks, Food Donations, Volunteer Assistance, and Construction Activities.

Garden Plot Help Desks

The University of Illinois Extension will host garden plot help desks on July 10 and August 14 from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. at the Community Garden Plots. The desks will be staffed by DuPage County Master Gardeners. The Master Gardeners are a group of volunteers trained by University of Illinois Extension educators to provide a network of gardening and horticultural programs to educate the public. The help desks will be a wonderful opportunity to receive expert advice on gardening! Please stop by the help desk tent, which will be located near the garden plots gravel parking lot, on either July 10 or August 14.

Food Donations

If you have extra produce please consider donating it. You may leave your surplus at the kiosk located near the driveway south of the garden plots. The produce will be donated to Loaves and Fishes Community Pantry or the Martin Avenue Senior Citizen residence. If you are unable to pick all of your ripening produce please contact Al Glodowski, a fellow gardener who has graciously offered to pick produce for those unable to make it to their garden plots often enough to gather excess vegetables. Mr. Glodowski may be contacted at alglodowski@yahoo.com. We greatly appreciate your produce donations!

Volunteer Assistance

Each year the Naperville Park District relies upon thousands of volunteers to assist within our programs, events, parks, and special projects. We understand that this year's wet weather has in some cases made it difficult for gardeners to keep up with maintaining their garden. New for this year we would like to implement a volunteer program for gardeners who find that they are having difficulty maintaining their garden. If you are in need of volunteer assistance to help with your garden, please contact Diane Shomper at (630) 848-3530 to be added to an interest list. The Park District will in turn work with our pool of volunteers in an effort to schedule assistance for you. Additionally, if you are interested in volunteering to assist another gardener please contact Diane to be added to our pool of volunteers. We hope that through expanding the volunteer program to gardening it will provide gardeners who need assistance with additional help, and allow volunteers within the community to learn about gardening.

Construction Activities

This spring the development of the West Street athletic fields continued despite the rainy weather. An upcoming phase in the project includes the relocation of the south entrance drive to the garden plots and athletic fields from West Street. The City of Naperville requested the relocation of the south entry in order to align with Osler Drive to the east. Construction of the new entrance is scheduled to begin within the next several weeks. The existing south entrance will remain open until the new drive is completed, and access to the garden plots will not be disrupted during construction.

Have a wonderful week!

Sincerely,

Naperville Park District