

June 23, 2008

Dear Gardener,

I hope that you're having an enjoyable and successful gardening season. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information related to the Community Garden Plots.

First, I want to put to rest any rumors about the Garden Plots on West Street. Misinformation is circulating that the plots are going to be taken away. Please understand that this is not at all the case. The Naperville Park District recently participated in the development of a Campus Master Plan for the Caroline Martin-Mitchell properties. The properties included within the plan consist of Naper Settlement, Naperville Central High School, Knoch Park, portions of the Edward Hospital campus, Community Garden Plots, Sportsman's Park, and the Von Oven Scout Reservation.

The development of the Caroline Martin-Mitchell Master Plan allowed property owners and residents to share ideas and concerns regarding all of the above properties. Several ideas shared during the development of the plan include the relocation and improvements to a portion of the garden plots area, however, any development that has been discussed is only a concept at this point. Although ideas have been shared no decisions have been made.

In the near future, School District 203 and the Park District will initiate a public process which will explore in greater detail concepts for the garden plots. Residents and key stakeholders within the garden plot community will be asked to provide their thoughts for the area, and insight into how we can improve gardening in Naperville. We encourage all gardeners to be active participants in the community input process. Additional information regarding this process will be forthcoming.

In the meantime, please visit the City of Naperville's website at www.naperville.il.us/mitchell.aspx for more information regarding the Caroline Martin-Mitchell property discussions. You may also view the June 19th presentation given by District 203 and the Naperville Park District as well as find out more details about the next steps in the planning process.

I appreciate your interest in the Naperville Park District and its programs. You and our many other active Park District participants will be instrumental in shaping the future of this very important part of Naperville.

Sincerely,

Brad Wilson
Director of Recreation