



# Blooming Saint Paul Newsletter

City of Saint Paul, Division of Parks and Recreation  
WINTER 2011-2012

Welcome to the Blooming Saint Paul Newsletter. This newsletter appears twice a year to inform groups involved in city gardens about activities and opportunities in Saint Paul parks.

As we slip once more into winter, it's time to update and connect around the Blooming Saint Paul program. We had a long fall to put the garden beds to rest and much was accomplished this growing season. In 2012, more than 400 people volunteered more than 4,000 hours in gardens to make Saint Paul beautiful.

It's no wonder we are one of the most livable cities in America.

## VOLUNTEER NEWS

2011 saw the creation of the Friends of Upper Landing. This group helps to maintain the gardens along the fountains in the Upper Landing Park, in Chestnut Plaza and along the Sam Morgan Trail. They have been very active and a great support for keeping this park attractive and beautiful. This past summer they performed a lot of weeding and replanted several grass beds in the plaza.

Thank you, Friends of Upper Landing Park for doing such a great job.

Don't forget to report your volunteer hours monthly to:  
[parksvolunteerhours@stpaul.gov](mailto:parksvolunteerhours@stpaul.gov).

## BLOOMING SAINT PAUL AWARDS

The 7th annual Blooming Saint Paul Awards ceremony will be held on January 23, 2012 at the O'Shaughnessy Educational Center Auditorium. The invitation-only affair

is sponsored by the Saint Paul Pioneer Press and will be hosted by Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, the Saint Paul Garden Club and the Ramsey County Master Gardener program. Guest speaker at this year's ceremony will be public artist and Minneapolis College of Art and Design professor emeritus, Kinji Akagawa. The gardens were judged this summer by twenty five Ramsey County Master Gardeners.

Award categories include: Residential, Business/Institutional, Environmental, Art in the Garden, Public Volunteer Garden, Vegetable Garden and Gardening Advocate. Winners are announced at the ceremony and published in the Saint Paul Pioneer Press and on the Blooming Saint Paul webpage the following week.

In 2012, Blooming Saint Paul Nominations will be accepted online. Forms will be available March 1, 2012.

## PARKS AND REC'S NEW VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR, ANDY RODRIGUEZ

After working for Saint Paul Parks and Recreation in a variety of different capacities, Andy Rodriguez has taken on the role as the new Volunteer Coordinator for our Operations Section. A native of Saint Paul, and current Macalester-Groveland resident, he is excited about the potential of our Volunteer Program.

Andy's duties include working directly with Saint Paul residents as well as local groups and organizations to encourage them to participate in the many environmental volunteer opportunities that we offer. In

addition, Andy hopes to develop an easier way for gardening volunteers to report their hours. A quick email once a month to [parksvolunteerhours@stpaul.gov](mailto:parksvolunteerhours@stpaul.gov) will help us out greatly. Tracking volunteer hours is essential to our department for grant reporting purposes.

If there are any questions or ideas regarding our volunteer program, Andy would love to speak with you. [Andy.Rodriguez@stpaul.gov](mailto:Andy.Rodriguez@stpaul.gov) or 651-632-2411.

### BLOOMING SAINT PAUL ADVISORY PANEL

There is a panel of city staff and citizens who advise the Blooming Saint Paul program. This 17 member panel meets eight times a year to look at beautification issues and city policy and procedures. The panel looks at outreach and ways to support the beautification of Saint Paul through plantings and art.

There are open panel seats for representatives from Wards 4 & 7. If interested, please contact Mark Granlund: [mark.granlund@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:mark.granlund@ci.stpaul.mn.us).

Next meeting is January 9, 2012 from 4:30 – 6:00pm at the Como Streetcar Station.

### KATIE GODFREY GREENCORPS STAFF

This fall, St. Paul Parks & Rec welcomed Katie Godfrey, a new GreenCorps member who will be working with the Arts and Gardens department for a year.

Katie is working on several of the recommendations that came out of the Ramsey County Food and Nutrition Commission, including a land inventory and a community kitchen inventory. The land inventory involves creating a survey of vacant land in St. Paul that could potentially be used for community gardens and other urban

agriculture projects. Katie is working closely with the Planning and Economic Development department on this project.

A native of Madison, Wisconsin, Katie is a 2008 St. Olaf graduate with a degree in American Studies and Environmental Studies. Since graduating she has worked on several organic vegetable farms in Wisconsin. She recently helped a nonprofit called the Wormfarm Institute organize Fermentation Fest, an event that included everything from classes on fermented foods to art installations in farm fields. She hopes to continue working on projects that involve using art and food to revitalize rural and urban communities. Katie looks forward to learning more about community gardens and urban agriculture in St. Paul this year.

### Blooming Saint Paul Contact Information

#### Gardening Program/City Gardens

Mark Granlund (651)632-2454  
Arts and Gardens Coordinator  
[mark.granlund@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:mark.granlund@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
1100 Hamline Avenue N.  
Saint Paul, MN 55108

Angela Koebler (651) 632-2441  
Lead Landscaper for downtown gardens  
[angela.koebler@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:angela.koebler@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

#### Parks and Recreation Design Section

(651)266-6400 – ask for Jody Martinez, Design Manager

#### Public Works Traffic Engineering

(651)266-6200

#### Youth Job Corps

Trenton Henspeter (651)266-6363

#### Park Stewards/ Parks Clean-Up

(651) 632-2411

#### Marjorie McNeely Conservatory

(651)487-8200

#### Park Watch

(651)646-3535

#### Parks and Recreation - General Information

(651)266-6400 Voice  
(651)266-6378 TTY

