



Spring Greens from our Gardens!



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Friends Say "Good-bye"

Longtime community gardener and supporter Dot Bailey will be moving to St. Louis where she spent much of her professional life. She faithfully served on the garden committee these past two busy years and always grew the tallest okra!

Thank you, Dot!



Greetings to All Gardeners!

To get ready for Spring 2016, please put these dates on our calendar.

Friday & Saturday, March 4 & 5: Garden Sign-up at the Home & Garden Show in the lobby of the civic center Friday 3 – 8pm and Saturday 9am – 5pm.

Tuesday, March 15: Required meeting of all gardeners at the Health Department. Starting at 5:15pm and ending at 6pm. Keys to sheds/water spigots will be issued.

Friday, April 1: First day of gardening. (Trug Walk should be paved by then.)

How many of you have had to live around a remodeling project? Did it happen fast enough? Of course, not. One family I know actually set up an alternative household in their indoor swimming pool. They drained it, covered the floor with tarps, ran some sturdy extension cords and lived there for months until their home was ready.

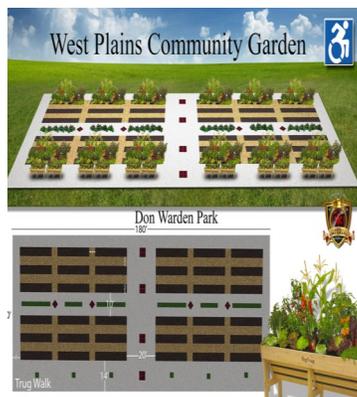
Our situation is not so drastic. – We just want successful gardens! Although we failed to foresee this renovation taking so long, its results will prove well worth our “remodeling blues” when people using mobility aids can easily get in and around the garden, and gardeners can spend more time gardening and less time maintaining.

What improvements can we anticipate for Spring 2016? First, our good garden soil will be “contained” by 36 cedar frames instead of spilling into the pathways. And, second, our Veggie Trugs will be filled with a high quality soil mix and standing on level pavement for the first time. These are truly dreams come true, and the best is yet to come!

Ginny Henderson, President

2016 Garden Rentals

Veggie Trugs-\$7.50, 4' X 22' Framed Ground Bed-\$10



Our Trug Walk will be paved this spring with other areas soon to follow!

FOR SALE:

Troy-bilt Chipper/Shredder, model # CS4625. Sells new for \$635. Used once or twice; supposedly handles 2" material. \$350 firm. (Please contact any garden committee member or Dawn Hicks.)



"Seed Money" Pours in from all over!

When the garden committee said we needed to equip the Veggie Trugs with better soil and a way to keep watering to a minimum, our faithful helper Dawn Hicks noticed a group-funding opportunity for community gardens on the internet. She immediately set up an account for our garden, describing what was needed. In very little time, \$520 poured in, mostly from around West Plains with a couple of contributions from out-of-state. Due to this generosity, we will be able to fill the Veggie Trugs with a quality coconut fiber soil mix interspersed with water-absorbent polymer granules that absorb, then slowly release water.

Things To Do List:

In order to be ready for gardening April 1, the following projects could use your help! **Veggie Trugs:** While they are in winter storage, the Trugs need to be wiped down & coated with a wood preservative. Just prior to April 1, they'll be brought to the garden and positioned on the newly-paved Trug Walk, when each one will need to be readied for planting with new soil and polymer granules. **Cedar Garden Frames:** These frames will be assembled in, in the garden. Each 4' x 22' frame will consist of 7 pieces. Cordless drivers will be needed to screw the various pieces together. Lots of help will be needed just to hold boards steady. The more hands on deck, the better.

Fall Parking Lot Sale a Success!

Yes, our best-ever sale was held in the Cash-Saver parking lot at Broadway & 63 Bypass last October 2 on a Friday. Good weather and quality merchandise, including a large wool rug & antique dresser, contributed to our success. However, the big money was from the sale of our garden tiller, which for the past three years saw multiple trips to the repair shop and caused more problems than it solved. At the end of the day, close to \$750 was deposited into our treasury to help pay for day-to-day expenses at the garden. Thanks to everyone who clerked the sale and contributed items! Thank you for the location, Steve Mallory and Cash-Saver!

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