

The Village of Palmyra Adopt - A - Garden Program



Program Overview and Goal

The Village of Palmyra's Adopt-A-Garden Program is a volunteer program designed for interested individuals, groups and businesses to be able to adopt a street side or public garden. The goal of the project is to provide adopters with an active role in the community by maintaining and improving the Village's street garden, as well as providing a way to grow pride in the community.

Adoption

Anyone 18 years or older is eligible to adopt a garden; residents, non-residents, individuals, groups and clubs, organizations, businesses, etc.

People who are interested in adopting a garden must fill out the application form provided. The Village will adopt gardens out on a first come basis and will hold names on a waiting list should gardens become available. Each year adopters from previous years will be invited to continue their adoption with the same garden before making it available to adopt in following years. The goal of the program is to have one garden per adopter, but multiple sites may be available if additional gardens are otherwise not adopted.

An annual preseason meeting will be held in March of each year to:

- Review the program for anyone who may be a new adopter.
- Review the list of any gardens that may be adoptable for the coming year.
- Review any program changes or goals that are new to the coming year.
- Review and approve any proposed alterations to gardens by adopters.
- Review and update desired donation list.
- Continue to develop and expand the new garden list.
- Set a weekend date for preseason garden cleanup.

The Village hopes to have all of the sites mulched by mid May of each year, which will be done by Village staff. Once mulching is complete adopters' duties take over for the remainder of that season. Any alterations to planters must be approved by the Village prior to being done and alterations are hoped to be completed by Memorial Day of each year.

Adopters will be responsible for their garden for the entire season and will be required to water, weed, pick up litter and generally maintain their adopted garden on a routine basis. If needed, adopters will be notified if more attention is required at their garden, with forfeiture of the adoption and reassignment of the garden being a last alternative.

The absence of irrigation or a hose bib at garden sites means adopters must find a way to water their garden to withstand dry periods. **Providing water will be adopter's greatest challenge.** In the summer heat, adopters may have to water as often as every 3-4 days for plants to survive the season. The Village will aid in watering during extremely dry periods, but adopters should not rely solely on this for maintaining their garden.

The use of chemical fertilizers, and herbicides and pesticides of any sort is strictly prohibited.

If it is necessary for adopters to terminate the adoption of their garden, contact should be made to the Village as soon as possible so that reassignment of the garden can be done as quickly as possible.

Alteration of Gardens

The Village has put a significant amount of time and money into the gardens to date. Adopters who wish to make additions or alter their garden must get approval by the Village before doing so. The Village does not want to discourage adopters from being creative or from improving their garden, only to make sure that alterations are appropriate for a specific garden. If adopters are interested in making alterations to gardens they need to submit a simple drawing of their existing garden, what alterations they wish to do and the associated cost. The Village will review the information and determine whether the alteration is approved. Your alteration will be subject to several constraints: existing plants, shrubs and/or trees should be retained or repurposed in other Village gardens, invasive plants or shrubs will not be allowed to be planted and any costs must have funds available. Once alterations are approved and completed, any included items will remain with the Village's Adopt-A-Garden Program.

New Gardens

The goal of the program is to have all of the existing gardens adopted prior to the creation of any new garden areas. If there is an opportunity to create a new garden area, it is hoped that the creator would also be or have available an adopter for the new garden. Anyone who is interested in creating a new garden must submit a drawing of the proposed garden outlining the location, size, plantings, materials and the costs for all of the above. The Village will review the information and determine whether the proposed new garden is a suitable addition to the program and if so, grant approval. A list of new garden areas is being continually developed and it is desirable to the program for the development of the listed gardens prior to but does not exclude other potential areas.

Donations & Sponsorships

During the growth of the program opportunities for donations of plants, materials and/or monetary amounts may be available. Plants and materials that are desired by the program will be specified and available for the program's preseason meeting and during the remaining growing season for review. Sponsorships of new gardens may be available to parties who are interested in financially aiding the program during new development or major alterations. Sponsorship money will be put toward the creation of the new garden or alteration of a designated area and will be available at different levels of participation dependent on the garden project.



The Village of Palmyra Adopt - A - Garden Program

Name of Individual/Group/Business _____

Representative of Group _____

Address _____

Phone _____ (Home) _____ (Cell)

Email _____

Requesting to Adopt-A-Garden location:

First Choice _____

Second Choice _____

Third Choice _____

I understand that neither the Village of Palmyra nor the Adopt-A-Garden group is responsible for my actions. I therefore agree to hold harmless the Village of Palmyra, the Adopt-A-Garden group for any liability, damage, loss or claim that occurs in connection with use of the garden by me or any of my guests.

Furthermore I have read through the Village of Palmyra's Adopt-A-Garden Program and understand what is expected of me by volunteering to adopt a garden as outlined in the program.

(Printed Name)

(Signature)

(Date)

Palmyra Village Hall East Garden



The Village Hall East Garden is located adjacent to the Village Hall on the corner of 1st St. and Taft St. The main focus of the garden is the directory sign placed in the center of the area. The garden is comprised of plantings of purple coneflower, lilies, iris, ornamental grass, catmint, and spiderwort.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. The visibility of the sign should be maintained with the continued growth of the plantings. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs near the sign for early season color. Diversifying the types of lilies and coneflower would also be desirable opposite the current locations of each. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Palmyra Village Hall South Gardens



The Village Hall South Gardens are located in front of the main entrance to the Village Hall. These circular gardens are relatively small in size and surround the adjacent flag pole and street light. The gardens each have two plantings of coneflower and a planting of iris.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. It would be desirable to include a small amount of spring bulbs to bring the planters some early season color. Due to the location of these gardens, drought tolerant plants should be maintained during the summer months. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Palmyra Fire & Rescue Department Gardens



The Palmyra Fire & Rescue Department Garden is located directly in front of the station and flanks the carriage walk. These gardens are each planted with ornamental grasses, purple coneflower and catmint.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. Removing sections of the catmint in favor of including flowering plants such as lilies and black-eyed susan would help to bring more color into these gardens and diversify the plant selection. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Palmyra Police Department Gardens



The Palmyra Police Department gardens provide a buffer between the building and the sidewalk on the west, south and east sides of the building. These plantings make up one of the largest gardens in the Village. They are planted with varieties of plants including black-eyed susan, lilies, purple coneflower, Russian sage, ornamental grasses, spiraea, catmint and creeping juniper.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. It is also important to keep the plantings from encroaching on the adjacent sidewalks and building entrances. Gradual thinning of the black-eyed susan and coneflower along the south side of the building should be done and supplemented with varieties of lily or other tall flowering plants. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Hot Rod Bar & Grill Garden



The Hot Rod Bar & Grill Garden is located on the corner of Main St. and Second St. fronting the business. This garden is filled with numerous groups of lilies, purple coneflower ornamental grass and catmint.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. This garden would benefit from planting of taller elements such as different varieties of ornamental grasses in the center of the area for a focal point and to help add scale to the very open surroundings. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Main St. & Second St. South Garden



This garden is located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Main St. and Second St. and is adjacent to a terrace area and surrounding public sidewalk. This garden is planted with opposing groups of catmint, lilies, and purple coneflower around a central cluster of ornamental grass.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. Removal of two groups of catmint for the exchange of plants such as black-eyed susan or similar plant would help to diversify this garden in color and height. Additional varieties of ornamental grass would also help to anchor the center of the garden. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Banco Garden



The garden in front of Banco is filled with lilies, groups of purple coneflower and also catmint and spiderwort.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. This garden historically has seen damage to the plantings due to the proximity to the street and adjacent parking stalls. Introduction of taller plantings such as ornamental grasses would help to mask the parking restriction sign. Additional lower growing plants would also help to diversify the scale of the garden. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Squidy's Garden



The Squidy's Garden is located on the Main St. entrance side of the business. This garden is smaller in size and includes a grouping of lilies on the east end, with catmint surrounding a small ornamental tree on the west end of the garden.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. Due to the smaller size of this planter as well as the street sign and street light, the available improvements to this garden should be well thought out prior to starting. Thinning of the catmint around the tree and a pyramid approach to the height of the plants in the garden may provide more visual appeal than the current arrangement. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Powers Memorial Library Garden



The Powers Memorial Library garden is located directly in front of the building and frames the sign located within the garden's field stone border. This garden is anchored on the east end by a burning bush and contains lilies and iris throughout the remaining areas.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. The visibility of sign within the garden should remain with the continued growth of the plants within this garden. Currently this garden would benefit from continual pruning or transplanting of the burning bush. It has crept in and partially obscured the sign. Transplanting of the lilies in front of the sign should be done and planting of different varieties of plants should be considered to help frame the sign as well as to bring different colors and heights for visual appeal. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Main St. and First St. Garden



This garden is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Main St. and First St. and is adjacent to the surrounding public sidewalk and parking area. It is planted with lilies, coneflower, catmint and Russian sage all surrounding the street light in the center.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. Access to the street light base should be maintained with the continued growth of the plants within the garden. Thinning of the Russian sage and catmint would help to tidy up the look of the garden during the later periods of the growing season. Along with that, the introduction of different varieties of flowering plants would help bring visual interest to this garden. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.

Main St. and Mill Rd. Garden



This garden is located on the corner of the intersection of Main St. and Mill Rd. and is across the street from Lower Spring Lake. The centerpiece of this garden is the Village Welcome sign that is backed by an upright cedar tree. The rest of this garden is planted with a variety of plants including lilies, prairie star, golden spirea, smoke bush, iris and yarrow.

As with all of the Village gardens, the long term goal of the garden is to maintain the garden with separated individual groupings of plants. Visibility of the Welcome sign should be maintained with the continued growth of the plants in this garden. As well it would be desirable to add a small amount of spring bulbs near the sign for early season color. Splitting of any variety of plants to fill other gardens in the early spring or late fall can be done, but should be approved by the Village ahead of time to incorporate into the overview of the program.