



Naperville Community Gardeners

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Mary Wright, Distribution

May 2009
Established 1980

Purpose: To nurture the gardening interests of its members and the community through educational programs and community service projects.

Next Meeting

June 1, 2009 6:30 PM

Naperville Country Club

@ 25w570 Chicago Avenue

Speaker:

**Topic: Changes at the
Naperville Country Club**

2009 Officers

President	Robert Elvert
Vice President	Patti Thompson
Secretary	Barbara Jones
Treasurer	Tom Campbell
Past President	Rod Beary

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From the President

Thanks to everyone who helped the Club complete another successful Annual Plant Sale.

This is despite Mother Nature's blustery conditions, Mrs. Killdeer efforts to make us move and a larger number of area organizational plant sales on the same day.

Tom Campbell is still massaging the books, but the preliminary sales numbers look good. More to come at the June meeting

While many individual members assisted in more than one way, thanks to Logan Wassen and Linda Allison for chairing the sale and keeping the rest of us informed, educated and keeping our hopes high.

One last note about the sale.....If you have any Plant Signs, please be sure to bring them to the June meeting. The more we return, the longer we can enjoy the Barbara Jones' artwork for years to come.

With May and its busy Club schedule now behind us, hopefully we can get out in our own yards to plant our purchases (mostly from our sale), get the mulch done and be available to sit down relax and start to enjoy your own yard work. If you are looking for more work, please don't hesitate to stop by our Club's garden plots to weed, water, and socialize.

We still have some annual summer activities that need planning and attendance this summer, such as the Club picnic, member walk-thru's, plant show, and garden plot judging. More on these topics at the June meeting.

June Meeting Reminder - The June 1st meeting starts at 6:30 at the Naperville Country Club located at 25w570 Chicago Avenue (Patti Thompson's May 19.email) **Let's be sure to get the word out to those who do not have email capability.**

July Reminder – No meeting, will we reconvene on August 3rd for the next meeting back at Greene Realty.

Thanks again to all for the excellent job and hard effort put forth to make our sale successful, as well as an opportunity to socialize and have fun.

From Patti Thompson:

Hello fellow gardeners, June 1 meeting location will be changed from John Greene building to Naperville Country Club at 25w570 Chicago Avenue. Their web site is www.napervillecc.org we will be meeting at 6:30 (a little earlier than usual) at the service building (looks like a metal barn) that sits by Chicago Avenue. Please park in the lot south of main building and walk to the service building. We will be able to see many of the new plantings and ground improvements so wear walking shoes. Below is the ESA memo to give a small idea of what is happening on the course. A lot of changes have been made in the past two years to NCC. The meeting's agenda will be in reverse to allow members to view grounds during daylight. We do need a head count. Please email a response before Saturday May 28 if you are planning to attend. Hope to see you all.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

1. Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)

The renovation of the golf course incorporates several new Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA's). This includes the retention pond by #11 tee, the retention pond in front of #18 tee, the retention pond by #17 tee, the native area around the pond at #17, the native area around the pond at #14, and the wetland shelf along the north edge of the pond at #17. All of these areas have been planted in accordance with the permits issued by DuPage County. Collectively these areas are referred to as ESA's. They are protected under the DuPage County Storm Water Management Code. As part of the permitting process, NCC was required to deed a perpetual plat of easement to the county for these areas. Any activity within an ESA is prohibited without prior written consent and permit by the county. Prohibited activities include: entry by a member or their guest to retrieve a golf ball, entering to take a stance and play a shot, or entering with a motorized golf cart or speed cart.

ESA's are marked with a combination of signage and traditional yellow or red stakes identifying them as either a lateral or water hazard. If a hazard stake has a green cap on it, then the area is marked as an ESA and entry is prohibited. If a player hits an errant shot into an ESA, They have the standard options available

to them under the rules of golf - except that they cannot enter the area to retrieve their ball or play their shot. If the hazard stakes do not have a green cap then the area is not designated as an ESA and should be treated as a normal hazard. The signage that is used in conjunction with the ESA's reads "Environmentally Sensitive Area- Entering This Area is prohibited."

The green staff is allowed to enter the ESA's to perform required maintenance. This will include periodic controlled burns to rejuvenate the native plants. Our first burn is scheduled for this spring. We have applied for and received the necessary burn permits from DuPage County, The City of Naperville, and the Illinois EPA. We will work in conjunction with Tallgrass Restoration to conduct the burn. The timing of the burn is dependent upon proper weather conditions. We will try to coordinate it to occur on a closed Monday. Following the burn the ESA's will look black until the native plants begin to break dormancy. The appearance of the ESA's will change significantly over the next couple of years. It takes 3-5 years for these plants to get established. The established ESA's will look very different from the cover crop of oats that populated the areas during their establishment. Native plants typically spend their first full year developing a deep root system before they begin to establish their top growth.

The wetland shelf located along the north side of the pond at #17 green has been planted with a variety of emergent wetland plants including: Blue flag Iris, Pickeral Weed, Arrowhead, Bulrush, Yellow Pond Lily, and Bur-reed. To protect the area it has been enclosed in a cage constructed of chicken wire and string. The cage prevents geese from entering the wetland shelf and eating the tender plants. We plan to leave the cage in place for the balance of 2008 and into the spring of 2009. By spring of 2009 the plants will be mature enough that they are no longer of interest to the geese, and the cage will be removed. At maturity many of these plants will be over 5 feet tall. The different wetland plants will flower throughout the summer.

In accordance with the rules of golf, ESA's are identified by an appropriate agency. In our case the agencies are DuPage County and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The county will monitor our maintenance and upkeep of the ESA's for a period of 5 years. To date we have successfully completed the first year of the monitoring period. Non-compliance with the easement agreement will result in an extended monitoring period, and delay the release of the letters of credit (LOC's) that the club was required to post with DuPage County. In addition, non-compliance could result in the county enforcing

more strict methods which might include permanently enclosing the ESA's with fencing.

It is important that members understand the significance of this topic. When you bring a guest to the club makes sure that they are aware of the ESA's. It is possible that your guest may not be familiar with how to apply the rules of golf as they relate to ESA's (not all courses have designated environmentally sensitive areas). If you have any specific questions regarding ESA's or how to treat an errant shot that has come to rest in an ESA, please contact the Golf Course Superintendent or Golf Shop.

2. >From the April 2009 Divot Digest:

Prairie Burn:

The ESA's (environmentally sensitive areas) have passed the monitoring standards set by the county for the second consecutive year. We are required to meet the monitoring standard for a total of 5 years to secure full release of the letters of credit (LOC's) that the club had to post during the renovation project. For 2009 the LOC's have all been reduced and one of the LOC's has been fully released. The county monitoring standard accounts for proper establishment and maintenance of the ESA's. Part of our annual maintenance includes prescribed prairie burns. The fire helps control unwanted weeds and provides the heat that is beneficial for the native plants. The prairie burn is permitted and coordinated with the IL. EPA, DuPage County, and the City of Naperville. The burn itself is supervised and conducted by licensed professionals from Tallgrass Restoration. We are scheduled to conduct a spring burn of the ESA's. The exact date is dependent upon weather conditions and approval from the Naperville fire department. Once the areas have been burned they will appear black until the native plants break winter dormancy. Native plants break dormancy at a higher soil temperature in comparison to turfgrass plants. The charcoal look in the ESA's after the burn has been completed is normal. The native plants will survive and thrive later in the season on account of the fire. Remember the ESA's are an evolving ecosystem. Their appearance will change as they mature. Full development is a 5 year process. We are starting year 3 of this maturation period. Also please remember that golfers are not permitted to enter the ESA's for any reason. Cart traffic is not permitted in the ESA's. Violation of these rules will result in fines from the County and could affect the clubs ability to recover the LOC's that have been posted.

Annual Plant Sale	OPEN
Member Plants	Betty Ference
Community Projects	
Benton Street Post Office	Carolyn Finzer
Gardening Workshops	Ron Ory
Garden Plant-A-Row	Ben Calvert
Garden Plot Judging	Wanda Wohead
Garden Kiosk	Eleanor Holt
High School Liaisons	
District 204	Wanda Wohead
District 203	Kris Siuciak
Naper Settlement	Eleanor Holt
Naper Settlement Rose Garden	Brian Bell
River Walk Clean Up	Linda Thompson
River Walk Gardens	Joe Pope
Flower and Garden Show	Tom Campbell
Harvest Banquet	
Historian	Carolyn Finzer
Library	Ben Calvert
Membership	Betty Ference
Meeting Refreshments	Linda Thompson
Mini Show	OPEN
Newsletter	Kris Siuciak
Mail Distribution	Mary Wright
Officer Nominating Committee	Jill Borlick
Organic Gardening Sub Group	Betty Ference
Photography	Patty Thompson
Picnic	Linda Thompson
Publicity	Linda Thompson
Programs	Bob Elvert
Shop and Share	Jill Borlick
Show Director	OPEN
Special Events	Betty Earl
Special Correspondence	Eleanor Holt
Website	Peter Klassen

"Walk the Garden Path to find a Cure for Parkinson's Disease" Naperville, Illinois
 Sunday, June 28, 2009

Team Fox - Garden Walk & Reception -
 Mary Anne Ostrenga www.teamfox.org, click on "Support A Member" and enter Naperville IL under "Find an Event"

*Garden Walk***VIEW 6 SPECTACULAR GARDENS**

1:00PM - 5:00PM All of the gardens are located within walking distance of each other in beautiful Naperville, Illinois, near the intersection of Royce Rd. and Apple River Drive. Each garden is unique and spectacular in its own way, you will find a variety of gardens ranging from very natural to perfectly groomed. Highlights include natural habitats for birds, and a fabulous outdoor living room complete with stove and a fireplace!

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Reception, Silent Auction & Raffle at: DuPage River Park 808 Royce Road, Naperville, IL 60540

Plant Sale Signs

Please bring the Plant Sale Yard Signs to our next meeting or drop them off at my house (1043 E. Gartner Rd).
Thanks
Barbara Jones

REUSE & RECYCLE EXTRAVAGANZA.

The City of Naperville will host its annual Reuse & Recycle Extravaganza on Saturday, June 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Alcatel-Lucent, 1960 Lucent Lane. The following items will be accepted: electronics, scrap metal, books, tattered American flags, keys, eyeglasses, hearing aids, bicycles and parts, cell phones and ink jet cartridges. For more information, call (630) 420-4190 or visit www.naperville.il.us/reuserecycle.aspx.
From JoAnn Monge

PLANTING AT NAPER SETTLEMENT

Thursday, May 14, was sunny and bright, perfect for planting at PreEmption House. Ten NCG club members arrived promptly at three o'clock, and by five o'clock they had planted hundreds of annuals in the gardens surrounding the building.

Sharon Hinkle, Facilities Manager, thanked the group for doing a great job. The gardeners included Linda Allison, Kathye Bollman, Barb Bockman, Carolyn Finzer, Jan Gricus, JoAnn Monge, Sima Petri, Patti Thompson, Eleanor Holt, and the man with the efficient shovel, Nick Papadolias.

Once again Naperville Community Gardeners show that service to the community truly is one of their commitments. When you visit Naper Settlement this summer, take a minute to enjoy the flowers.
From Eleanor Holt

May Minutes**Naperville Community Gardeners Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2009**

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:13 by Bob Elvert.

Welcome: We welcomed guests/new members.

Treasurer's Report: Tom Campbell presented the Treasurer's Report.

Minutes: Eleanor Holt motioned to approve the last month's minutes, Judy Kanarak 2nd.

Announcements:

- Hornbakers field trip - Tuesday May 19th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm to Hornbakers in Princeton, IL. Cost is \$25. Contact Nancy Carroll at 416-1022 if you want to go ASAP.
- Eleanor Holt - Naper Settlement Volunteers - Thursday, May 14 at 3:00 pm. Planting at Pre-Emption House. Contact Eleanor or show up if you are able.
- Nancy Carroll volunteers at LifeSpring shelter in Aurora. She would like the club to donate some plants for them, from the plant sale. Jan Bargmann made a motion to donate 3 flats of annuals at the end of the sale. Motion died for lack of a 2nd. It was decided that donations would be made at the end of the sale. If anyone wants to purchase any plants to donate, they can do it.

Old Business:

- **Financial Review** - Tom Campbell and Judy Kanarak complete the financial review for 2006, 2007, 2008. Ron Ory moved to accept the review. Peter Klassen 2nd.
- **NPD Garden Workshop** - Ron Ory - had a good turnout for the workshops. The garden plots are sold out for this year. He thanked the club members who participated in the panel discussion.
- **Betty Earl** is speaking at the Nichols library tomorrow evening, Tuesday, May 5th. Carolyn Finzer mentioned this.
- **Green Earth Fair** - Bob Elvert, Rod Beary and Barbara Jones represented the club at the Green Earth Fair on Sunday, May 3rd. This was a good opportunity to publicize the plant sale.
- **NPD Riverwalk Cleanup** - Linda Thompson said we had a good turnout. They mulched at

a different part of the Riverwalk. She thanked all members who showed up.

- **Jaycee's Distinguished Award** - Carolyn Finzer nominated us for an award. We received a nice plaque for recognition for our club efforts.
- **Plant Sale:** Sign ups went around for the Plant Sale. The Plant Sale is Saturday, May 9th. Logan has purchased \$6000 worth of annuals from Shaefers, Shady Hill and Lizzi's. They will be there Friday afternoon at 3:30 so all members need to be there to help unload the trucks and set up the tent. Linda Allison is in charge of members plants. Wednesday May 6th from 6-9 pm is the labelling "party". Please let her know by noon this Wednesday, what you will bring, how many, the growing conditions etc. If you cannot get her that info by Wednesday, make your own labels. Linda and her committee will price all the plants - do not price them yourself. Make sure you publicize the event to your friends etc. Members plants should be dropped off to the sale location on Friday afternoon/evening. If you cannot drop them off then, try to get them to someone else who can bring them for you. If you bring them Saturday morning, they will need to go into a separate area where they can be priced. On Saturday morning at 7:00 am, every member in good standing (who has paid dues this year) will get a card which will enable them to select 3 members plants to purchase, before the public is let in. Bonnie Oulman suggested that we change the yard signs to read "This Saturday" instead of specifying a date. Wanda Wohead said 3 high school students will show up to help.
- **Mini Show** - We need a chairperson. This is an easy position where you just present the items folks bring in to the meetings. Talk to Bob Elvert if interested.
- **Tee Shirts** - Betty Ference has club tee shirts. Remember your name tags for the plant sale and wear your shirts.

New Business:

Esther Prock - The Growing Place is having the Gardeners Art Festival on Saturday June 20th. Call Connie Bailey at the Growing Place at 630-355-4000 if you want to help.

Mini-Show:

- Jan Gricus brought in 3 kinds of tulips. Rosemary Stelter brought in a spring bouquet. Nancy Carroll brought in beautiful daffodils and tulips. Joann Monge brought in a mystery

plant and she wanted help in identifying it - Nancy Carroll said it was a Coreopsis. Wanda Wohead brought in several gorgeous orchids. Jim Canavan brought in a ligularia and several bromeliads. Bill Mills brought in varieties of cabbage that he started from seed and some balsam. Judy Kanarek brought in purple irises and was the winner of the raffle.

Adjournment: Barbara Jones motioned to close the meeting. Betty Ference 2nd.

Speaker: Patti Thompson introduced our speaker; George Janowiak from Gem Ponds of West Chicago. He spoke to us on RainXchange Rainwater Harvest Systems from Aquascape. They Capture > Filter > Reuse rainwater. They've been in business for 17 years doing ponds. We have a limited supply of fresh water, so harvesting rainwater for landscaping needs is very efficient. In many places in the country they have strict water restrictions. In ancient times in many places, they used large cisterns to capture water. Today, we have rainwater barrels available to us for our homes. They fill up very quickly so larger cisterns are a good idea. 1" of rain on 1 acre generates 27,000 gallons of water. Much of this winds up in our stormwater system. Green solutions for urban run-off include collecting the water into rain gardens, and rain barrels. Combining these solutions produces the RainXchange system. The water is sent from the roof through a filter into a pondless water basin which is underground. You can create a beautiful natural looking water feature with this water. You can put a pondless water fall, columns or bubbling urns can hold 500-1000 gallons of water.

In the RainXchange system, the water from the roof is sent into a filter which is just underground at the base of the downspout. The downspout filter is connected to a basic by corrugated pipe. The basin can hold 500 gallons of water or as big as you want. The water can be used for landscape irrigation, washing your car, patio or deck, topping off water features, pools. A booster pump can be added to pump the water out. There are different design options - a Decorative Fountain and a Pondless Waterfall. You can purchase the kits and install it yourself or you can have it installed by George's company. Rainxchange.com is their website, and they have a lot of useful information there.