

*You can make a difference today.*

Please donate your time.

Please make a donation to hire a skilled, summer gardener to work with the volunteers.



Did you know...

- Ä You don't have to be an expert gardener to participate.
- Ä Some Montrose Common volunteers do not have children attending the school.
- Ä New volunteers work along side experienced volunteers.
- Ä Montrose Common and Montrose Park are over 10 acres of combined green space.
- Ä Friends of the Park volunteers receive materials and equipment support from the City of Winnipeg.
- Ä Montrose Park runs a "model" composting site - advising others on how to compost.

*Building a Community*

*How does our garden grow?*

## MONTROSE COMMON



*Our school gardens are referred to as Montrose Common Gardens. This area, combined with the park north of the school grounds, is cared for by volunteers. This small, dedicated group of people work hard to provide the students of the school with an outdoor classroom and the community with an inviting green space. The volunteers have a love for gardening, a devotion to children, and a desire to create a sense of pride in the community.*



## Creating a community.

Montrose Common and the adjacent City Park have generated a lot of excitement in the community, the city and internationally. The gardens have won the *Winnipeg in Bloom* contest each year it has entered. In the summer of 2005 the gardens were a featured part of the North American tour of the *Lily Society*. The gardens have also been seen on Prairie Public Television in a locally produced documentary.

A lot of research, planning and time has gone into the gardens which are maturing very nicely. The plant species have been carefully chosen to attract butterflies, birds and people. Our gardens contain a variety of hardy, prairie plants that provide a beautiful setting for relaxing. Some plants are rare and are much coveted in the gardening community. External start-up funds have been received from a variety of sources. Between the grants and the estimated labour costs of the volunteers, well over \$100,000 has been invested in Montrose Common.

## Outside Funding

Each year the Montrose Common Gardens Committee makes an application to the *Urban Green Team* program in an attempt to secure some assistance. This year, for the first time, **our application has been declined.** The committee is

Your family can help. Adopt a flower bed during the growing season, volunteer to assist with routine maintenance, or make a donation to pay for the wages of a summer gardener.

looking to other funding sources but the prospects look dim. The committee is developing contingency plans should we be unsuccessful in gaining outside grants. Once again, our movie night profits will supplement



Parent Council funds to support the efforts of the Montrose Common Gardens Committee.

## Help Us Out!

My family can ...	Date	Time
<input type="checkbox"/> Pot Canna Lilies	April / May	Day / Eve
<input type="checkbox"/> Spring Weeding	April / May	Day / Eve
<input type="checkbox"/> Weeding	May / June	Day / Eve
<input type="checkbox"/> Weeding	July / Aug.	Day / Eve
<input type="checkbox"/> Watering	May / June	Day / Eve
<input type="checkbox"/> Watering	July / Aug.	Day / Eve
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopt a Flower Bed	May to September	

Please check  a box above and indicate your availability using a **circle**. All volunteers will receive training.

Family Name / Members \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### Our family is unable to help in the garden but we are willing to pay for...

- 1 hour of wages @ \$9.00
- 2 hours of wages @ \$18.00
- 3 hours of wages @ \$27.00
- 4 hours of wages @ \$36.00
- My cheque, payable to *Montrose Parent Council* is enclosed.

Please return this to the school office.

### How does our garden grow?

- It takes community spirit.
- It takes commitment.
- It takes manual labour.
- It takes money.