

PPCG NEWS—AUGUST 2017

Celebrating our Success!

August 2017

Volume 5, Issue 4

Giving and Celebrating

Wow, what a productive summer it has been! There has been plenty of rain all season long and not too hot or too cold. If we [amended our soil](#) our plants jumped! But then so did the weeds...

The number of PPCG sites is growing like weeds, too. We have added PPCG Bedford, PPCG Seymour, and the Hanging Gardens of Towerside to the bevy of gardens under the PPCG umbrella. More on each of those follows. And [The Wall](#) art project is happening at the Towerside site.

Have you noticed that the days are getting much shorter? It's time to enjoy the harvest and start to think about winding down our gardens. Please donate any extra produce you have to those in need instead of letting it go to waste. We have plenty of ways for you to give - see the article that follows

We'd love to see you at the Harvest Festival from 5 PM to 8:30 PM on October 7th at PPCG Towerside. More in the article that follows. And mind the fall clean-up milestones you'll find in the Gardener's Agreement as we wind down the gardens.

Happy Harvesting!

Farmer (or Dahlia) Del

2015 Gardening Milestones

- August - The Wall art project at Towerside
- Oct 7th - Harvest Festival
- October 31st - Fall clean-up completed. Please read the [PPCG Gardner's Handbook](#) for clean-up requirements.

Harvest Festival >> Oct 7th

Mark your calendars! [Prospect Park 2020](#) and others are teaming up to sponsor the 2017 Harvest Festival! It will be held on **Saturday, October 7th**, from **5 pm to 8:30 pm** at **PPCG Towerside**. The event will feature sample brick-oven baked pizza, cider, other cultural food treats, a bonfire, s'mores, info booths, tours, entertainment, etc. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

The Prospect Park Community Gardens will be providing the brick-oven pizzas. We would love our

gardeners to contribute fresh garden produce that we can use on the pizzas, and some help in running the oven, cutting up the pizzas, and handing out the pizzas samples.

Leadership Transitions

Steve Weeks has relinquished his responsibilities as the Site Coordinators for PPCG Yale so that he can focus on some medical issues he is facing. Stay strong, Steve!

Kit Leffler has relinquished her role as the PPCG Towerside Site Coordinator because her art career is taking off and she needs to focus on that. Congrats, Kit!

In both cases we have chosen to let those sites run on auto-pilot for the remainder of the year rather than search for someone to assume the roles. Please do your best to step up and contribute where you can to fill the voids.

New PPCG Sites

PPCG Bedford is a pollinator, giving, and demonstration garden on the corner of University Ave SE and Bedford Street SE. It is a joint effort with the building owners and the PPCG.

PPCG Seymour is a memorial garden on the corner of Seymour Ave SE and Arthur Ave SE. It was developed and maintained for 30+ years by the late Phil Hutchins, owner of the neighboring property, and is still being maintained by his wife Verlaine. When sharp eyes (thank you, Vera!) noticed that the City put the parcel on the block we picked it up. The poppies and hydrangeas live on!

The Hanging Gardens of Towerside is a true partnership effort using the University of MN Good Neighbor Fund. Click [HERE](#) for more details on the project and a photo journal of the installation. Phase I, which includes installing 50 planter boxes, is nearing completion. Some of the liners are planted for testing and demonstration purpose. The rest will be planted for the 2018 gardening season.

You are welcome to volunteer at any of the sites and log your service hours in the [Volunteer Log](#). Please send an email to coordinators@PPCGMN.org if you are interested in helping out.

PicStrip

Visit the [PPCG Facebook page](#) for the latest pics!

(click pic below to enlarge)



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Welcome New Gardeners and Volunteers!

We picked up more new gardeners and volunteers. The additions since the last newsletter follow. Welcome aboard!

- Corinna Turbes (T)
- Dianna Myles (T)
- Kate Needleman (T)
- Nick Velander (V)
- Patrick Rohling (Y)
- Venture Academy Summer Youth Program (T)

Garden Maintenance

When you get a chance, P L E A S E pull the weeds in and between your garden beds and in the surrounding areas, including the paths around your gardens. The common areas of the gardens is looking a little raggedy so your extra attention here would be appreciated. A special thanks goes out to Bob Belgam for keeping PPCG Towerside mowed and whacked all year!

Donating your Extra Produce

Don't let your extra produce go to waste!!! The [Glendale Food Shelf](#) and [Teamsters Helping Teamsters Food Shelf](#), both right in our own side yards, will gladly accept any extra fresh produce that you have in your gardens. You can drop it off, or if you pick and bag/box it and let me know where I can pick it up I'll drop it off for you. You can also leave it in the Share Shelves at each site so that passers by can enjoy it. So please don't let the wonderful fresh produce go to waste in your gardens!

Glendale Food Shelf
92 St. Mary's Ave. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Hours:
Monday & Thursday:
11 am - 3 pm
Tuesday & Wednesday:

Teamsters Food Shelf
3001 University Avenue SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414

Hours:
Tuesday & Wednesday:
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Garden Pests

The rabbits, field mice, and Japanese beetles have had, well, a field day this year! And watch out for the wasp nests that pop up.

The Japanese beetle are especially problematic. Click [HERE](#) for a great article about them from Jeff Hahn, the UMN Extension Entomologist. And click [HERE](#) for one of the better articles out there about how they attract each other. Unless you want to take out your aggression for they are doing to your garden and squish them, the best way to dispose of them is to drop them into soapy water.

PPCG Towerside goes "Green"

PPCG Towerside has solar power thanks to a class project from the UMN. We can also now use water from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWWO) [stormwater collection system](#). This water source may become our primary water access in 2018.

If you have been to the Towerside area recently you may have noticed the 4th Street road construction in addition to the Rise building construction. The 4th Street overhaul is a \$4 million project to rebuild and improve 4th Street SE from TCF Bank Stadium to Malcolm Avenue SE. The project will include rebuilding the street, better sidewalks, bike lanes, lighting and on-street parking.

Lake Cornerstone will become Green on Fourth, a 243-unit development, which begins construction this fall. It will consist of 177 market-rate apartments and 66 units of affordable housing. The site is adjacent to the district storm water management system. It is a key components of the Green 4th Project which will help transform 4th Street SE into a walkable, arts-centered cultural corridor.

For more on these and other Towerside Innovation District projects click [HERE](#).

The PPCG Towerside site may be on the [HCMG Learning Garden Tour](#) in 2018. The Tour Committee was blown away with the work we have done to make this a community jewel. Stay tuned!

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION
Master Gardener Program - Hennepin County 2013

VGB 1: Getting Ready to Garden
Prepared by: Dal Hampton
University of Minnesota Extension
Master Gardener Program - Hennepin County 2013

VGB 2: Planting Your Garden
Prepared by: Dal Hampton
University of Minnesota Extension
Master Gardener Program - Hennepin County 2013

VGB 3: Veggies One By One
Prepared by: Mollie Dean
University of Minnesota Extension
Master Gardener Program - Hennepin County 2013

VGB 4: Designing Your Garden
Prepared by: Julie Davis
University of Minnesota Extension
Master Gardener Program - Hennepin County 2013

VGB 5: Maintain Your Garden
My garden is all planted. Now what!
Prepared by: Mary Wertz
University of Minnesota Extension
Master Gardener Program - Hennepin County 2013