

News Release

Share Perennials, Sponsor a Garden Bed

By Elizabeth Tollefson on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 Gardening season is almost here and you can help grow the new Riverside Community Garden in Crookston by sharing perennials. Community members with perennials they are dividing may share them for use in the Riverside Community Garden. Collection will be held on Friday, May 1 through Sunday, May 3. The collection drop-off site is located on the east side of the old park building at 520 Albert Street and available any time of day.

The Riverside Community Garden is located in the 400 block of Riverside Drive near the Crookston Community Pool. The community garden contains 8 raised beds, 2 wheelchair accessible beds, a butterfly garden, perennial garden, corn patch, and more. Sponsorships for raised garden beds are available in the garden for individuals, families, or even clubs.

Sponsoring a raised bed allows you to grow your own produce. Options include reserving a full-sized bed measuring 10 feet x 5 feet or choose a bed half that size. Signs will be located in the garden to recognize the sponsorships.

These raised garden beds are available on a first come first serve basis. Spaces are available to those interested in raising perennials as well. To sponsor a plot, call and leave a message stating your name, interest in sponsoring a garden plot, and phone number where you can be reached. Contact DeAndra O'Connell in the Center for Sustainability at the University of Minnesota Crookston at 218-281-8128.

The Riverside Community Garden project is part of Crookston's new designation as a Minnesota GreenStep City. Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve their sustainability and quality-of-life goals. These actions are tailored to all Minnesota cities, focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, and encourage civic innovation.

The University of Minnesota Crookston now delivers 31 bachelor's degree programs, 22 minors, and 36 concentrations on campus as well as 14 degree programs entirely online. These degrees are offered in the areas of agriculture and natural resources; business; liberal arts and education; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of 1,800 undergraduates from more than 20 countries and 40 states, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

In the photo, students stand near the campus garden with its abundant produce.



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