

SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER

SAINT LOUIS CITY RECYCLES

Recycling in St. Louis just got easier! Thanks in large part to the generous support of the **St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District** and the creative folks at **Tuva Interactive**, St. Louis recycling has a fresh new look, logo and website.

The new, user-friendly website **STLCityRecycles.com** will help St. Louisans easily find recycling information. This fun, interactive site is full of useful recycling information. You can take the pledge to recycle, become a Recycling Ambassador for your block, look up where and how to recycle items not accepted in your blue recycling bin and even request the Saint Louis City Recycles team to visit your neighborhood, school or special event.

The recycling team's goal is to help you incorporate recycling into your daily routines. To make this easier, the



team is implementing a pilot project aimed at increasing recycling participation. Two city neighborhoods have been selected and will receive

a recycling education kit plus a free in-home recycling bin. Our research shows that recycling increases when people have the tools they need to make recycling as easy as possible.

Don't have a recycling container in your kitchen or bathroom? Any box, bag or container will do. It's a fun challenge to see how many items you can recycle once you stop to think about it before you throw something away.

In St. Louis, the most recent trash study shows that about half of what we are throwing away could be recycled. See if you can cut your trash in half by recycling all of your bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.

For more great ideas about recycling, join the followers from all over the country who are getting weekly tips from the Saint Louis City Recycles team. Scroll through the hashtags #TrashTipTuesday, #WhatNotToDoWednesday and

#FastFactFriday to learn and share with your family, neighbors and co-workers. Together we can make recycling even easier!

and share with your family, @STLCityRecycles







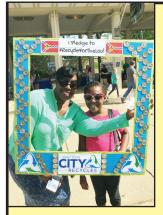


AND THE WINNER IS...

New City School and Brightside will be honored with the Outstanding Recycling Education Project award presented by the Missouri Recycling Association (MORA) at their annual conference this year.

At Brightside's request, the third grade students at New City School developed a video to help educate city residents about the proper ways to recycle in St. Louis. You can watch the fun and engaging video at **stlcityrecycles.com/resources/videos/**. Soon you will be singing along.

Special thanks to the third grade students and teachers at New City for their outstanding, and award-winning, video. Thank you MORA for recognizing their hard work and this important partnership. Now we all know, 'recycling is the thing to do!'



SMALL STEPS, BIG IMPACT

Join the movement to drastically reduce the amount of trash St. Louis sends to landfills. It's easy, just take the pledge to recycle!

Visit STLCityRecycles.com and click "Count Me In." Just a few more clicks and you're done. It's just as easy as recycling! Check back often to see how many of your neighbors have taken the pledge to recycle with you.



THE DEMO GARDEN TURNS FIVE!





We can't believe it's already been five years since the Demonstration Garden became a St. Louis landmark. It seems like just yesterday we were working with the 20 **U.S. Marines** who helped transform the vacant lot adjacent to our office into a beautiful urban oasis.

Since it was established, the Demo Garden has welcomed countless visitors from across the globe, hosted numerous events under the shade of the big purple coneflowers, and has become a study site for local pollinator research.

Not only has our garden made St. Louis more beautiful with its wide array of native plants, it has served as an inspirational teaching tool helping thousands of people learn how they can incorporate sustainable gardening and urban forestry best practices into their own home or neighborhood gardens.

In five short years, Brightside has accomplished a great deal through our Demo Garden and we are excited to see what the next five years will bring. If you haven't strolled through the garden yet, stop by anytime or check out **brightsidestl. org/what-we-do/demonstration-garden** to learn more about our garden and the native plants growing there.





RAIN ROT BAD FOR SLUGS

Rain is great for our gardens, but not so great for outdoor events, yet this year's St. Louis Urban Gardening Symposium still turned out great. Participants even got to see the Demo Garden's storm water management features in action.

We thank the nearly 100 enthusiastic participants who braved the early storms to learn from local experts how to design a garden, attract butterflies and birds, best practices for pruning woody plants, which native plants are suited for specific growing conditions and many other interesting topics.

We especially want to thank our partners at the Missouri Department of Conservation and University of Missouri - Extension and all of the experts from Shaw Nature Reserve of the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis Audubon Society, Wild Ones, Missouri Master Naturalists, St. Louis Master Gardeners, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, St. Louis University and Bellefontaine Cemetery & Arboretum for helping make this year's Symposium a huge success.





Brightside welcomes the monarch conservation team.

Dan Guenther and Elizabeth Ward have been working to engage and educate community members and increase monarch habitat across the City. With more than 300 registered monarch gardens in the City, monarch conservation efforts are now heading in a larger, landscape-scale direction with the St. Louis Riverfront Butterfly Byway. Over the next few years, this new project will restore or enhance monarch and pollinator-friendly habitat within two miles of the Mississippi riverfront in the city of St. Louis.

For more information about the City's urban monarch conservation efforts or to find out how to create and register your own monarch garden, please visit **stlouis-mo.gov/monarchs**.

GROWING A GREENER STL

There's something happening in neighborhoods all across the city and it's making St. Louis better in more ways than one. Brightside's Neighbors Naturescaping (NN) program helps community groups beautify public spaces while connecting neighbors with nature and each other through gardening projects that foster neighborhood pride.

Gardens bring neighbors together as they plan, prepare, plant and care for their neighborhood green space. Yet, the gardens benefit communities in other ways as well. They show that someone is caring for the space and set an example for others to follow. When people see others putting effort into their neighborhood, they are more likely to follow suit.

Since a well-maintained garden is much more attractive than an overgrown lot of grass and weeds, Brightside gardens can also improve the value of nearby properties.



The plants used in Brightsidesponsored gardens are locally-grown and native to Missouri. Their long roots soak up rain water and help reduce storm water run-off, an important benefit for our urban environment. Native plants also provide habitat for birds, butterflies, bees and other pollinators that keep our ecosystem balanced.

This year, Brightside is able to once again help community groups bring all of the benefits of a NN garden to their neighborhood thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, including Employees Community Fund of Boeing St. Louis, Missouri Department of Conservation

(MDC), Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, City of St. Louis, Milkweeds for Monarchs and Philpott Family Foundation.

As a long-time partner, MDC has been a valuable resource providing technical support to NN participants for many years. MDC

has increased their level of support for NN and are now contributing plant material through a cooperative agreement with Brightside. With their assistance, along with our other partners, we can continue to establish beautiful native plant habitats that benefit people city-wide.



young friends of brightside

The Young Friends of Brightside is a group of young professionals who strive to make St. Louis a cleaner, greener and **better** place to work and live. We are passionate about St. Louis and want to preserve and improve our city for the future. The primary purpose of our Young Friends group is to engage and educate younger generations about Brightside St. Louis and the services it offers in our community. From Saturday plantings and neighborhood cleanups to board meetings, networking opportunities, garden yoga, and happy hours, there are plenty of reasons to become a Young Friend and support our community! If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a leader within the Young Friends group please fill out our interest form at: brightsidestl.org/ get-involved/young-friends/join/ and like our Facebook page facebook.com/YoungFriendsBrightside to be notified of upcoming events!

Protecting Neighborhoods

So far this year, Brightside crews have removed over 200,000 square feet of graffiti from more than 1,400 vandalized properties at no cost to the property owners.



Can you imagine what St. Louis would look like without this service?

Every day, St. Louis homes, businesses, schools, churches, playgrounds and public spaces are vandalized with graffiti.

Graffiti not only looks bad, it threatens our sense of safety and stability in neighborhoods across the city. By quickly removing the

vandals' work, Brightside crews reduce the occurrence of repeat vandalism, protect property values and make people feel safer in their own community.

If you see graffiti, report it to the Citizens' Service



Bureau at 314-622-4800 or **stlouis-mo.gov/csb** and help us make St. Louis a cleaner, greener, better place to live.

MUCH MORE THAN JUST TRASH

With the City's single stream recycling program, residents can mix all household recyclables into one bin for recycling! That's your paper, flattened cardboard, plastic bottles and containers (#1-5, 7), glass bottles and jars and even cartons and cans.

But what about other household stuff you want to get rid of? Do you have large items, electronics or household chemicals that need to be properly disposed of? Do you want to recycle even more than what can be recycled in the blue bin? If so, we've got you covered.

OPERATION BRIGHTSIDE RECYCLING CENTER:

- What: Recycle your bottles, cans, paper, cardboard, corded electronics and cables, plus take advantage of bulk paper shredding services at our drop-off site.
- Where: 1660 South Kingshighway Blvd., 63110, next to the City of St. Louis Water Division. Open Mon-Sat 8am-4pm. Operated by Earth Circle Recycling.
- ▼ For Details Contact: (314) 664-1450 or earthcirclerecycling.com



RECYCLE BEYOND YOUR BLUE BIN:

- What: Search on our website to find a place to recycle or donate unwanted items, from clothing to bicycles and nearly everything in between.
- **▼ Where**: STLCityRecycles.com/recycle-with-us/database/
- **Why**: Because keeping useful materials and items out of the landfill helps protect our earth's natural resources, plus it's good for our health and our economy.



REFUSE DIVISION'S MONTHLY BULK PICKUP:

- **What**: City residents serviced by the Refuse Division can place up to **3 large items** per household per month out for bulk pick-up (e.g. furniture, electronics, appliances, tires, automotive batteries, bundled branches).
- When: Place items outside of your home by 6AM on the Monday of your bulk pickup week. Find out what week this is online at stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/street/refuse/refuse-collection-lookup.cfm. Or, call the Citizens' Service Bureau (314) 622-4800 or Brightside at (314) 772-4646. Your items will be picked up by the end of your designated bulk pickup week.
- **Where**: Residents with curbside collection should place bulk items at the curb in front of your home. Residents with alley collection should place bulk items in the alley directly behind your home, not by the dumpster.
- **Why**: Following the bulk pickup schedule helps keep our streets, alleys and dumpsters as clean and tidy as possible.

SAINT LOUIS HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE:

- What: Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) refers to unwanted chemicals from around your home that are toxic, flammable, corrosive or reactive. While safe when used and stored properly, they become hazardous waste once unusable or no longer wanted.
- ► Examples: Paints, stains, varnishes, pesticides, herbicides, poisons, gasoline, solvents, strippers, aerosols, gas cylinders, fluorescent tubes, rechargeable batteries, automotive fluids, pool chemicals, wood preservatives, mercury-containing items, etc.
- ▼ Where: Residents of St. Louis City, County and Jefferson County are welcome to use either of two facilities to dispose of their HHW. An appointment must be made so please visit hhwstl.com today or call CSB at (314) 622-4800 to schedule an appointment.

Amazing Volunteers



Already this year, over 4,000 volunteers have contributed countless hours to clean and green St. Louis. Neighbors, organizations, school groups, corporate volunteers, **St. Louis Master Gardeners** and individuals who just want to make a difference have cleaned up alleys and vacant lots plus planted more than 165,000 flowers to make St. Louis neighborhoods – including downtown – more beautiful places to live, work and visit.

Thanks to all who have shared their time and energy to enable community gardens to bloom and make neighborhoods and area parks more inviting. Thanks to all of you for your hard work and commitment to making St. Louis better. You are amazing!

Special recognition goes to the Wells Fargo Advisors Green Team for their continuing commitment to the Jefferson overpass. Thanks Paul Ramberg and Susan Cannon for spearheading this initiative.

It's not too late to set up a volunteer opportunity for your group. Call Brightside at 314-772-4646 or email marylou@brightsidestl.org.

Looking for something to do on Thursday mornings? Join us in the Demonstration Garden for some weed-pulling fun! During the heat of the summer we get started at 8:00 a.m.
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Fight the Bite

With the threat of the Zika virus this year, the most important action you can take to keep you, your family and neighbors safe from mosquito-borne illnesses is to eliminate mosquito breeding areas.

Mosquitoes breed quickly in standing water, so follow these tips to help reduce local mosquito populations. Keep gutters clean and dump out standing water around your property at least once a week. Look for water pooling in places like flowerpots, abandoned tires, birdbaths, pet dishes, toys, etc. It only takes a capful of water to yield a whole new generation of mosquitoes! Ewww!

For areas where standing water is difficult to remove, such as ponds or rain barrels, mosquito dunks are an effective way of killing mosquito larvae without harming other living things. Bti is a natural mosquito larvicide which, when used as directed, is harmless to people, birds, fish, pets and wildlife. Bti dunks are available at most hardware stores.

Eliminating mosquito breeding areas is much more effective than spraying or fogging which only kills adult mosquitoes but has no effect on larvae. Spraying also kills butterflies, insects and other pollinators.

Special thanks to the **City of St. Louis Health Department**, **Missouri Botanical Garden** and the **Saint Louis Zoo** for spearheading efforts to protect our community from mosquitoborne illnesses.

For more information check out the Fight the Mosquito Bite blog on Brightside's website brightsidestl.org/blog/.

Mosquitoes transmit diseases, affecting thousands of people in the U.S. every year with symptoms that range from fevers to lifelong debilitating consequences, even death.

The American Mosquito Control Association suggests following the **4Ds** to provide protection from mosquitos:

DRAIN - Mosquitos breed in water! Drain any standing water in your yard each week. Eliminate standing water in: Buckets, flower pots, pet water dishes, gutters, tree holes, abandoned swiming pools or tires, drainage ditches and other areas.

DRESS - Wear lightweight, long-sleeved shirts and long pants while outdoors. Spray clothing with insect repellent, since mosquitos can bite through clothing.

DEET - All day, every day. Whenever you are outside, use insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus. Apply insect repellent sparingly to exposed skin. Use an approved repellent according to its label.

DAWN/DUSK - Limit time spent outdoors at dawn or dusk, when mosquitoes are most active and feeding.

For more information: Environmental Health Services - 314-612-5300

OUR DONORS MAKE IT POSSIBLE

Brightside's mission is to improve the quality of life in our community by educating, engaging and inspiring St. Louisans to make our region cleaner, greener and more environmentally sustainable. The page's of this newsletter show the many ways Brightside is working to achieve this

The most important component of all of these efforts is the generous donors who make our accomplishments possible. Special thanks to these individuals, companies, organizations and foundations. It is through your generosity that Brightside is able to enhance the quality of life in neighborhoods across St. Louis. Your contributions are making St. Louis a better place for all.

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Blooming Soon! Everybody loves the beautiful Brightside blooms!

Order today for your gardens plus get some for your family and friends – Brightside flowers make great gifts!!

You can order securely online at <u>brightsidestl.org</u> and pay through PayPal or call Brightside at 314-772-4646 or mail in your payment with the order form on the reverse side.

Orders will be available for pick up at the Forest Park Greenhouse on Friday, October 7 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.











Our exclusive "Midwest Mix" collection of six varieties of fine daffodils was selected by the Greater St. Louis Daffodil Society for their outstanding performance in the Midwest.

Photos courtesy of Daffseek.org, American Daffodil Society, Inc. Retrieved on April 20, 2011. For these photos and others visit Daffseek.org

The Midwest Mix includes five bulbs from each of these six exceptional daffodil varieties: **Carlton**, an outstanding and sweetly fragrant, all yellow large cup: **Pink Charm**, an ivory white pink-

all-yellow large cup; **Pink Charm**, an ivory white, pinkrimmed large cup; **Tahiti**, a showy, yellow and orange, heat-blast-resistant double; **Slim Whitman**, a flamboyant white and golden-orange, pinwheeled, large cup;

Barrett Browning, a white and glowing tangerine small cup; and **Suada**, a brilliant yellow and exuberant orange-ruffled large cup.

Bulb size: 14-16 cm. Bloom: March-April Lot: 30 bulbs only \$16



Carlton Daffodils

Fragrant, yellow large cup heralds the return of springtime in St. Louis. As seen on St. Louis highways, our daffodils are particularly striking when planted in abundance.

Will grow 16" tall. Plant 6-8" deep and 6-8" apart in full sun or light shade.

Bulb size: 14-16 cm.
Bloom: March-April
Lot: 50 bulbs only \$16



Hybrid Darwin Tulips

Mix of brightly colored Darwin Hybrid tulips including: Parade, Golden Parade, Ollioules, Van Eyk, Big Chief, American Dream and Banja Luka.

Will grow 18-24" tall. Plant 6-8" deep and 6-8" apart in full sun or light shade.

Bulb size: 11-12 cm. Bloom: April-May Lot: 50 bulbs only \$16



Stella d'Oro Daylilies

Stella d'Oro, the longest blooming daylily, produces masses of yellow ruffled flowers in May and throughout the growing season.

Will grow 15-18" tall. Plant crown 2" below the ground 18-24" apart.

Plant size: I Bloom: May – October Lot: 12 plants only \$20

ORDER TODAY!

You may order online at <u>brightsideSTL.org</u>, call (314) 772-4646 or mail in an order form along with payment to:

Brightside St. Louis 4646 Shenandoah Ave. St. Louis, MO 63110-3424



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SEE INSIDE BACK COVER

Don't want to pick up your bulbs? Request to have them shipped when you place your order.