

CLEANING & GREENING ST. LOUIS SINCE 1982

SUMMER 2024



BRIGHTSIDE WOULD NOT BE THE SAME WITHOUT GWEN MCFOWLAND!

Gwen started her journey with Operation Brightside in 1984 and has been an integral part of the work that has been accomplished over the past four decades. Gwen brings fairness, determination and wisdom to her job every day.

Gwen, thank you for your hard work and dedication during your 40 years at Brightside. You have made your mark on St. Louis! And made your mother, the late Alderwoman Daisy McFowland, proud!

Keep up the great work!

Doing the Work to Keep STL Looking Sharp

Brightside's graffiti removal crew painted over or power washed more than 235,000 square feet of



graffiti throughout the city. That's just in one year's time! Without their hard work and dedication, St. Louis would look very different! Not all heroes wear capes. If you see the crew working to rid our city of unwanted graffiti, please let them know you appreciate their efforts!

CONGRATULATIONS ELYSIA!

After eight years with Brightside St. Louis, Elysia Musumeci Russell is now the Sustainability Director for the City of St. Louis.

Elysia led the Saint Louis City Recycles team and served as Brightside's Sustainability Education and Outreach Coordinator.

We are proud and honored to have worked with Elysia for eight years and look forward to supporting her work to make St. Louis more resilient and sustainable.

The City is in good hands with Elysia spearheading its sustainability initiatives.



City Nature Stewards

For many years now, Community Conservation has been identified as a priority for the City of St. Louis. The City recognizes that people need nature and nature needs people.

To ensure that we can continue to connect people with nature plus

protect native pollinators and their habitat, the City formed its own Nature Steward program.

To do this, the City of St. Louis Forestry Division partnered with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Today, Elizabeth Dasenbrock and Jimmy Moore are working diligently to grow the Butterfly Byway by developing native pollinator habitat around the city. They are even restoring habitat initially established under the Milkweeds for Monarchs program.

"We have to learn to coexist with nature or we risk losing it altogether," said Elizabeth Dasenbrock.

Project Blitz Volunteers Make Huge Impact



Over the past year, nearly 6,000 residents and community volunteers worked to clean the city's streets, alleys and vacant lots. Each piece of litter picked up makes a

difference! More than 8,000 Brightside trash bags were filled with trash and debris. Just think of the collective impact this makes!

In late winter, volunteers sowed more than 100,000 annual flower seeds. The flower seedlings were distributed to neighborhood residents and community groups that participated in Spring clean-up projects.

All of the trays of flowers were planted to beautify public spaces throughout St. Louis, including around City Hall. When you're downtown, be sure to check out the celosia in bloom!



St. Louis Urban Gardening Symposium



Scores of people braved the threat of rain to participate in this year's SLUGS event! Everyone was sure glad they did!

This year featured a Partner Showcase presentation. This proved to be a great opportunity to highlight regional organizations doing excellent work with native plants and trees.

If you missed SLUGS yet would like to see the Partner Showcase presentation it is available on the **BrightsideSTL.org** website.

In addition to the showcase, several experts shared their knowledge with the participants during the educational workshops. Special thanks to Mark Grueber, Evan Parker, Angie Weber and Sean Gunsten for their presentations.

Thanks also to our "Ask the Experts" partners — Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, St. Louis Audubon Society, St. Louis Master Gardeners, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Master Naturalists, Wild Ones St. Louis, St. Louis Native Plant Swap and City Forestry who were available to visit with SLUGS participants.

Thanks to everyone who helped make SLUGS a great learning opportunity! We thank you, as do the pollinators!

Conservation Corner



At the intersection of nature and neighborhoods.

Brightside's building, located on Shenandoah Ave next to our Demonstration Garden, now shares space with both the MO Department of Conservation's Howard Wood St. Louis Urban Outreach Office and Forest ReLeaf of Missouri.

Forest ReLeaf has many exciting programs for the public. Visit their website **moreleaf.org** or stop by their office at 4642 Shenandoah to learn more about these important programs.

The MO Department of Conservation's space hosts staff with expertise in urban wildlife, fish, forestry and conservation education. Call the Howard Wood Urban Outreach Office at 314-301-1504 or stop into their 4640 Shenandoah office. This is a great opportunity to pick up their informational publications, speak to an employee about educational opportunities or just get your fishing license.



Neighbors Naturescaping

The Neighbors Naturescaping Kickoff at SLUGS was packed with interested city residents who are ready to beautify public spaces where they live and work!

The Neighbors Naturescaping application process takes place each

summer. Community groups with a solid plan and a committed group of volunteers may request native plants and tools they will need to beautify nearby public spaces.

Interested in learning more about Neighbors Naturescaping? Contact Brightside for more details!

Four Seasons of Interest

What does 'four seasons of interest' mean? In Brightside's Demonstration Garden it means beautiful and beneficial to both people and animals.

Summer is the perfect time to see the blazing



star in bloom in the glade area and the massive rose mallow blossoms in the bioswale. Summer milkweed plants also bring the Monarchs back to the garden. Plus the coneflowers are a great source of food for the finches.

Fall is great to enjoy the bright yellow goldenrod and the purple asters providing nectar for many species of bees.

Winterberry bushes and evergreen cedars offer many a treat for birds in winter. Old stems, fallen leaves and baldcypress needles also provide shelter through the winter for bees, insects and some birds. Keeping the stems and leaves in place throughout the winter offers benefits to animals yet makes the garden interesting for people, too.

Of course, each Spring boasts new growth throughout the garden. The coreopsis in the prairie is spectacular and showy as well as a food source for birds and butterflies. And the serviceberry bushes – both people and animals enjoy those juicy serviceberries!

There is no bad time to visit Brightside's Demonstration Garden – in person or online – https://www.brightsidestl.org/what-we-do/demonstration-garden/.

A visit to the garden warms the soul and is always a great way to start planning your own!

THANK YOU DONORS!

Special thanks to these individuals, companies, organizations, foundations and governmental agencies. It is through your generosity and grants that Brightside is able to enhance the quality of life in St. Louis neighborhoods. Your support is making St. Louis better for everyone.

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@STLCityRecycles



Keep Electronic Devices Out of the Landfill

Take advantage of both Spring and Fall Electronics Recycling

events. STL City Recycles is partnering with Midwest Recycling Center (MRC) to host two electronic recycling events.

The Fall 2024 event will be October 19th. Look for more details regarding the Spring 2025 recycling event. Follow us on social media @stlcityrecycles to stay updated.





Recycle Coach Now Available For City And County Residents

Recycle Coach helps residents better understand what they can recycle in their Blue Bins. Try the amazing image search by taking a photo of any object to see where it can be donated or recycled! The app also has fun quizzes and allows you to get notifications about Refuse schedule changes or upcoming events, like electronics recycling collections.



Invite STL City Recycles to your Community Meeting or Event

Each year, Recycling Specialists present at dozens of neighborhood meetings across the city to help people learn to recycle responsibly!

Community events give the recycling team the opportunity to share recycling

info and goodies in a fun and engaging way.

Consider inviting the STL City Recycles team to your next city meeting or event. **STLCityRecycles.com/invite-us**



Partnering with St. Louis Public Libraries

Thanks to the St. Louis Public Libraries, STL City Recycles info is now available in all of the city library branches. Having information at

SLPL allows us to reach more residents each day. Thank you for being excellent partners, St. Louis Public Libraries!

Stick with the 6 to Recycle Responsibly!





Plastic bags and food waste do NOT go in your Blue Bin! Always keep your recyclables loose, clean and dry!

Water in a Can?



Drink **Local**. Support **Local**. Recycle **Local**.

Yep, St. Louis' great tasting water is now available in an infinitely recyclable aluminum can!

Aluminum cans are recycled at higher rates than any other beverage container - and at more than twice the rate of plastic bottles!

Let's show St. Louis that recycling works! Be sure to pick up a can of cold refreshing ONESTL water the next time you visit the St. Louis Art Museum or Missouri History Museum. Hopefully there will be many more locations soon!

Of course, bringing your own refillable water bottle is still the best way to help protect the environment and enjoy St. Louis' great tasting water!

NO PLASTIC BAGS IN YOUR RECYCLING Partic Bags Recycline Recycline Recycline Recycline Recycline

Have you seen our billboards around the city? Plastic bags and film do not go in your Blue Bin! Remember to recycle them at the grocery store.

Funding for this project provided by

St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District and the MO Department of Natural Resources.

Please consider a donation to Brightside to support our cleaning and greening initiatives which help make St. Louis more thriving and vibrant. It's easiest to donate through our website BrightsideSTL.org. Donating online is safe and easy with PayPal even without a PayPal account. Just click on the Donate tab on our home page, select your donation amount and add it to your cart. You may also donate by credit card by calling the Brightside office at 314-772-4646 or mail a check using this form and the enclosed envelope. Your generous gift can help Brightside continue to make a difference in our community. YOUR GIFT TO BRIGHTSIDE \$2,500 \$1,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$50 **MAKES A DIFFERENCE...** Name: Address: **\$2,500** Sponsors an educational workshop in our City/State/Zip:_____ Demonstration Garden and Learning Center. Phone: \$1,500 Provides plants and tools to establish a neighborhood garden. Email: **\$1,000** Removes graffiti from 10 vandalized homes. My check, made payable to **Brightside St. Louis**, is enclosed. \$500 Buys flowers for one garden bed at City Hall. ☐ My company's matching gift form is enclosed **\$100** Provides supplies for a volunteer work day. Credit card payments will be accepted over the phone by calling the \$50 Buys two tools for a neighborhood project. Brightside office at **314-772-4646**, Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm. \$25 Provides four Missouri native plants for a Or, place your order online at **BrightsideSTL.org/online-store**. All credit card community garden. payments are processed by PayPal. No PayPal account is needed This gift is in honor of -OR- In memory of PLEASE SEND AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THIS TRIBUTE GIFT TO: Address: Chank You! City/State/Zip: **Blooming Soon! Order Form** Our premium bulbs, direct from Holland, are comparable to SHIPPING INFORMATION Brightside St. Louis wholesale prices and make the perfect gift for family, friends, requests that all If you choose to have your order shipped schools and other organizations! orders be received by please add shipping charges to order total September 26, 2024. Lot(s) Midwest Mix Daffodil Collection @ \$17/lot Shipping charges based on order total: Lot = 30 Bulbs All prepaid orders will be available for pick up Up to \$30 – add \$9 Lot(s) Yellow Carlton Daffodils @ \$17/lot at the Greenhouse in \$31-40 - add \$14 Lot = 30 Bulbsbeautiful Forest Park, October 11 and 12. \$41-60 - add \$16 Lot(s) "Brightside Red" Hybrid Darwin Tulips @ \$17/lot Lot = 30 Bulbs Over \$60 - add \$18 Friday. Total Bulbs & Plants Lot(s) Pink Impression Tulips @ \$17/lot **October 11** - 11am - 4pm Lot = 30 BulbsShipping Charge Saturday, **Order Total** Donation **October 12** - 9am - 12pm **Total Amount Due Donation to Brightside St. Louis** Name: My check, made payable to **Brightside St. Louis**, is enclosed. For security purposes, credit card payments will be accepted Address: over the phone by calling the Brightside office at 314-772-4646, City/State/Zip: Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm. Phone: Or, place your order online at **BrightsideSTL.org/online-store**. All credit card payments are processed by PayPal. No PayPal

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OperationBrightside



BrightsideSTL

BLOOMING SOON!

GET YOUR BRIGHTSIDE EXCLUSIVES!

ORDER TODAY FOR YOUR GARDENS PLUS GET SOME FOR YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS - BRIGHTSIDE FLOWERS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!!

You can order securely within at BrightsideSTL.org and pay through PayPal or call Brightside at (314) 772-4646 or mail in a check payment with the order form on the reverse side.

ORDERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE FOREST PARK GREENHOUSE ON FRIDAY, OCT. 11 FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M. & SATURDAY, OCT. 12 FROM 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.











BROWNING



SUADA

Bulb size: 14-16 cm. Bloom: March-April Lot: 30 bulbs only \$17

WHITMAN

Brightside's exclusive "Midwest Mix" collection of six varieties of fine daffodils includes five bulbs from each of these exceptional daffodil varieties: Carlton, an outstanding and sweetly fragrant, all-yellow cup; Pink Charm, an ivory-white, pink-rimmed large cup; Tahiti, a showy, yellow and orange heat-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.



CARLTON DAFFODILS

Fragrant, yellow large cup heralds the return of Springtime in St. Louis. Our daffodils are particularly striking when planted in abundance.

Will grow 16-20" tall. Plant 6-8" deep and 6-8" apart in full sun or light shade.

Bulb size: 14-16 cm. Bloom: March-April Lot: 30 bulbs only \$17



BRIGHTSIDE RED TULIPS

Rave reviews for the "Brightside Red" Hybrid Darwin tulip. Exclusively through Brightside, this very large, vibrant red tulip will add awesome color to your spring garden.

Will grow 22-24" tall Plant 6-8" deep and 6-8" apart in full sun or light shade.

Bulb size: 12/+ cm. Bloom: April Lot: 30 bulbs only \$17



PINK IMPRESSION TULIPS

The Hybrid Darwin Pink Impression is both beautiful and strong. Sturdy, long stems help these vibrant tulips withstand spring

Will grow 20-24" tall Plant 6-8" deep and 6-8" apart in full sun or light shade.

Bulb size: 12/+ cm. Bloom: April Lot: 30 bulbs only \$17



ORDER TODAY!

You may order online at BrightsideSTL.org, 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

DON'T WANT TO PICK UP YOUR BULBS?

REQUEST TO HAVE THEM SHIPPED WHEN YOU PLACE YOUR ORDER.