



4646 Shenandoah Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110-3424
314-772-4646
Brightsidestl.org

Let's work together for a better St. Louis!

Brightside's goal is to help clean up and beautify our city neighborhoods. Join the effort and help make a difference in your neighborhood! Focus on your block or organize something for your entire neighborhood. However you get started, Brightside has the tools to help you clear litter from your streets and alleys, clean up a vacant lot, plant flowers in public green spaces, pull weeds in your community garden and more. Together, we can make St. Louis a city in which we can all be proud!

Clean up your neighborhood...Organize a Blitz Clean-up!

First, talk with your neighbors to select a date, time and location for your clean-up or beautification project. Consider organizing seasonal clean-ups so your neighborhood is always looking great. Register your project(s) with Brightside *at least one week in advance* to reserve brooms, rakes, shovels and other hand tools and trash bags. Litter grabbers and gloves are also available. All supplies are free to borrow! Complete the form online at BrightsideSTL.org/Blitz, call Brightside at 314-772-4646 or use the enclosed Blitz Project Registration.

Beautify your neighborhood...Request Free Flowers!

Groups with registered projects may also request FREE annual flower seedlings for planting on public property. Register your Blitz project with your flower request or submit the included Blitz Blooms Flower Request form by April 24 to be eligible for flowers. Flowers will be available for pick-up during designated hours on May 1 and 2 at the Greenhouse in Forest Park.

If you're cleaning up a very large area...avoid overloading alley dumpsters!

For large community projects, a roll-off container may be placed in a designated location on Friday before your scheduled clean-up and will be removed the following Monday. Clean-up organizers must make sure that only appropriate items are placed in the container – trash, yard waste and bulk items cannot be mixed together. Roll-off containers cannot be used for private property projects. To request a container, please complete a Blitz Project Registration form. All requests for a roll-off container must be submitted in writing at least two (2) weeks before your scheduled cleanup.

Pro Tip...schedule your Blitz cleanup right before your Bulk Pick-up Week!

Maximize your efforts by scheduling your clean-up the weekend before your bulk pick-up. This way, large, bulky items (furniture, appliances, etc.) can get picked up during the City's regularly-scheduled monthly bulk pick-up for your area.

-over for more info-

Help keep St. Louis clean by reporting Graffiti...

Notice graffiti in your neighborhood? We can help! To report graffiti, contact the Citizen's Service Bureau (CSB) by calling (314)622-4800, dialing 311 from your mobile phone, or report to: stlouis-mo.gov/csb. When making a report, please provide a detailed description of the location of the graffiti and a picture, if possible. After making a report to the CSB, Brightside's Graffiti Eradication team will be dispatched to remove graffiti from the property at no cost to the property owner! Brightside can usually remove all graffiti we can safely access.

Don't be a wish-cycler! Keep contaminants out of recycling...

Be sure to get the City's Ultimate Waste Disposal Guide and share with your neighbors! This guide is available online in English and Spanish. It contains information about all City waste services (trash, recycling, yard waste, bulk pick-up and more). If you would like to share this information with your neighbors, visit STLCityRecycles.com/Downloads, call Saint Louis City Recycles at 314-772-4646 or email recycle@stlouis-mo.gov to request a physical copy. The information in this guide will help keep your streets and alleys clean as well as explain how to properly dispose of items. Use the Recycle Coach app to find the answers to all of your waste disposal questions right from your phone! Simply search or snap a pic to know exactly what items go where. Download in your app store or visit the STL City Recycles website: stlcityrecycles.com/#recyclecoach.

Keep unwanted electronics out of the landfill by bringing them to the Electronics Recycling events on Saturdays March 28 and October 24, from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Check STLCityRecycles.com/Events for more details. Document destruction is also offered.

Do you need recycling info in another language? We have Recycling 101 information sheets available in Spanish, Mandarin, Bosnian, Vietnamese and Arabic, too! Recycle Coach is in English, Spanish or Arabic.

Learn how to beautify your neighborhood even more...check out these events!

Be sure to mark your calendar for important Neighbors Naturescaping events. Applications will be available the week of May 18 and St. Louis Urban Gardening Symposium will be Saturday, May 30. Through Neighbors Naturescaping, any community group in the city may request up to \$1,500 in native plants and tools to improve a public or nonprofit space in your City neighborhood. The garden symposium is a great opportunity to learn from our special guest presenters about the importance of pollinators and native plants in our urban environment, even if you are not interested in applying for a greening project.

Talk with your neighbors today about organizing your Blitz project(s) to keep your neighborhood looking its best. We look forward to working together in 2026 to keep St. Louis city growing and thriving!

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Green
Executive Director

Joe Cunningham
Program Manager



Thank You



for all your efforts to clean and
beautify St. Louis!

**Donations to Brightside help
make this possible...**

- Tools and trash bags to clean up streets, alleys and vacant lots
- Flowers to beautify downtown and city neighborhoods
- Paint and other supplies to eradicate graffiti
- Native plants to enhance community green spaces

SUPPORT BRIGHTSIDE TODAY DONATE SECURELY ONLINE AT
[BRIGHTSIDESTL.ORG/DONATE](https://brightsidestl.org/donate) OR USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE

**Mark your calendars for GIVE STL DAY on MAY 7th
and make your gift go even further! Learn more at [GIVESTLDAY.ORG](https://givestlday.org)**



Every gift to Brightside - no matter how large or
small - makes a difference for St. Louis!
Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

LET'S WORK TOGETHER FOR A BETTER ST. LOUIS!

Take Action...

Recruit

your neighbors to clean up the street, alleys and vacant lots on your block

Organize

your co-workers to participate in a community service project



Commit

to help weed your local community garden or plant Brightside flowers in the Spring and daffodils in the Fall

Donate

to help purchase needed clean-up supplies and planting material

To volunteer or for more information on volunteer opportunities...

- Search Brightside on STLVolunteer.org
- Call: 314-772-4646
- Email: info@brightsidestl.org
- Visit: BrightsideSTL.org/blog/events

Thank you for joining the effort to make St. Louis better!





4646 Shenandoah Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110
314-772-4646 (phone)
314-772-7444 (fax)
info@brightsidestl.org

BLITZ PROJECT REGISTRATION

Submit your request using our online form at brightsidestl.org/blitz

Project Information

Project Date: _____ Project Times: _____

Project Location: _____

Type of Project: ___ Clean-up ___ Beautification

Please describe your project: *(ex. pick up litter in streets/alleys, plant flowers, pull weeds)*

Project Leader Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Best Phone # To Reach You: _____ Alternate #: _____



Volunteer Information

Number of volunteers expected: _____

Please identify your source of volunteers: *(check all that apply)*

___ Neighborhood Residents ___ School or Church Group ___ Scout Troop

___ Business or Company ___ Court-Ordered Community Service ___ Other

Please list the name(s) of organization(s) providing volunteers: _____

Is your project open to the public? ___ Yes, anyone can join us ___ No, only our volunteers are invited

TURN OVER TO REQUEST TRASH BAGS AND TOOLS



This activity is financed in part through an allocation of Community Development Block Grant funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the City of St. Louis' Community Development Administration.

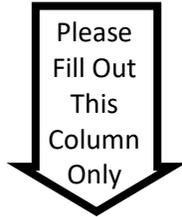
TRASH BAG AND TOOL REQUEST FOR BLITZ PROJECTS

Tool Request Information

Date tools will be picked up: _____ Date tools will be returned: _____

Pick-up on Fridays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. **Return on Mondays** between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Help loading and unloading tools available at 3:00 p.m. For tool pick-ups/returns outside of these days/hours, please make special arrangements with Brightside. The Brightside office is closed on weekends and holidays.



The number of trash bags and tools requested should reflect the size of your project area and the number of volunteers that will be working. For example, an alley clean-up with 10 volunteers may need 2 flat-edge shovels, 3 leaf rakes, 3 push brooms and 1 roll of trash bags.

	NUMBER REQUESTED	NUMBER BORROWED	NUMBER RETURNED	NUMBER MISSING	NOTE/COMMENT
TRASH BAGS (rolls)				NA	25 bags per roll.
PAIRS OF GLOVES					Please wash before return.
LITTER GRABBERS					
PUSH BROOMS					
FLAT SHOVELS					
SPADE SHOVELS					
LEAF RAKES					
HARD RAKES					
HAND WEEDERS					
HAND TROWELS					
RECYCLING ROLL CARTS					Rollcarts are 32 gal. in size.
OTHER—SPECIFY <i>(safety vests, buckets, etc.)</i>					

I understand that I am responsible for returning all of these tools AND I will be charged a minimum of \$30.00 for each tool not returned.

BORROWER'S INITIALS _____ **DATE** _____

For Office Use Only:

How many volunteers participated?

Blitz Blooms

Register a Blitz clean-up to get
FREE flower seedlings
to beautify your neighborhood!

- 1. Work together!** Organize your neighbors to participate in a Blitz clean-up.
- 2. Register your Blitz clean-up** with Brightside by April 24 to become eligible for free flower seedlings.
- 3. Select your planting area - public property only*** - and recruit neighbors or other volunteers to help plant and maintain the flowers.
- 4. Submit a Blitz Blooms Flower Seedling Request** online, via mail to Brightside or email info@brightsidestl.org by April 24. We will have a selection of flowers in 200-count trays.
- 5. Pick up your seedlings** from the Greenhouse in Forest Park during designated hours on May 1 or 2.
- 6. Plant** your neighborhood's seedlings and water regularly. Always remove weeds and trash from your garden areas.
- 7. Enjoy the beautiful blooms!**

*medians, neighborhood entrances, street barricades, tree lawns, community gardens

To register your Blitz project and request flowers, visit Brightside online at BrightsideSTL.org/Blitz, email info@brightsidestl.org or give us a call 314-772-4646. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.



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Blitz Blooms Flower Seedling Request

In early May, Brightside will have free flower seedlings available for planting on public property. To be eligible for free seedlings, you must register a Blitz clean-up project with Brightside. To register a Blitz project, fill out a **Blitz Project Registration** form online at BrightsideSTL.org/Blitz, complete the enclosed form or call us.

REGISTERED BLITZ PROJECT INFORMATION

Have you registered a Blitz project this calendar year? Yes No (If no, please register before proceeding)

Blitz Clean-up Project Date: _____ Blitz Project Times: _____

Blitz Clean-up Project Location: _____

Blitz Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

FLOWER SEEDLING REQUEST

Flowers are available in 200-count trays. Seedlings should be planted 6 - 8" apart in a sunny location on public property. Flowers must be planted and maintained by area residents or other volunteers. Please consider available water sources and volunteer commitment when making your request.

Number of Trays Requested (200 seedlings per tray): _____

Selection of flowers may include: dianthus, marigold, celosia or gomphrena.

Name of person picking up flowers from Greenhouse: _____

Flower Planting Location(s): _____

Is the property caretaker (e.g. Parks Dept., neighborhood) aware you are planting on this property? Yes No

(This is important so your new plantings do not get removed or accidentally mowed down.)

Where is the water source? _____

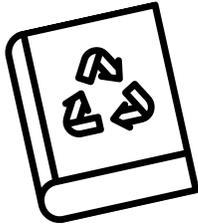
How many volunteers will help plant seedlings? _____

How many volunteers will help maintain the flowers? (e.g. watering, trash and weed removal) _____

Please identify your source of volunteers and name any organizations providing volunteers: (e.g. residents, church group, business) _____

FLOWER SEEDLING REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BRIGHTSIDE BY APRIL 24.

FLOWER PICK UP DAYS ARE MAY 1 & 2 AT THE GREENHOUSE IN FOREST PARK.



RECYCLING EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Our mission is to ensure every St. Louis City resident has the knowledge, tools and motivation to make reducing, reusing and recycling a part of their daily routine. Our goal is to increase residential participation and decrease contamination.



FIND A DROP-OFF SITE NEAR YOU

As alley recycling has ended, drop-off sites are a great way to reduce contamination rates and offer convenient access, often with 24/7 availability. Visit STLCityRecycles.com/dropoff to find one near you! Be a good neighbor - pick up litter at your recycling drop-off site and offer to transport recyclables for neighbors in need.



NEED A RECYCLING BIN FOR YOUR HOME?

Come by our office to get your in-home recycle bin. Free for all city residents! Our office is located at 4646 Shenandoah Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110. We're open Monday through Friday, 8:00AM to 5:00PM.



RECYCLE COACH

Recycle Coach is a mobile app and web widget that makes recycling easier! Simply search an item to learn what bin it goes in or even if it can be reused. Keep this resource at your fingertips or use our web widget today at STLCityRecycles.com.



ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENTS

STL City Recycles will host two e-waste events in 2026: **March 28 & October 24; 8-11am**. Fees waived for City residents *I.D. required*. The Midwest Recycling Center professionally recycles almost anything with a power cord or a battery. Document destruction also offered with two box limit. Documents will be securely transported to MRC for shredding.

For rollcarts & Drop-Off
 Recycling Locations

WHAT GOES IN YOUR BLUE BIN

For rollcarts & Drop-Off
 Recycling Locations



Paper



Flattened
 Cardboard



Plastic Bottles &
 Containers



Glass Bottles
 & Jars



Metal Food &
 Beverage Cans



Food & Beverage
 Cartons

Keep items loose, clean & dry. Always flatten your cardboard.

AND WHAT DOESN'T



Bagged
 Recyclables



Plastic Bags
 & Film*



Styrofoam



Food Waste



Sharps & Needles



One-Time-Use
 Disposables

*Recycle plastic bags & film at your local grocery store.

Connect With Us @STLCityRecycles



Project funded in part by the St. Louis-Jefferson
 Solid Waste Management District and the Missouri
 Department of Natural Resources.

NEIGHBORS NATURESCAPING

What is Neighbors Naturescaping?

A program offered by Brightside St. Louis to help neighborhood groups enhance their community by planting native gardens in public spaces.



Request up to \$1,500 for...

Perennials · Grasses · Shrubs · Flower Bulbs · Trees
Hoses · Garden Edging · Shovels · Rakes · Other Hand Tools

Eligible expenses include Missouri native plants selected from our recommended plant list, plus hardscape materials and gardening tools from Home Depot.

What are the benefits of Neighbors Naturescaping?

- Beautify a public or visible nonprofit space in your neighborhood
- Restore Missouri native plant communities
- Attract beneficial wildlife, such as butterflies, bees and birds
- Reduce storm water runoff and protect our drinking water

Eligible Groups

Neighborhood associations, community groups, block units, nonprofits and school groups located in St. Louis city

Eligible Planting Locations

Medians, neighborhood entrances, parks, street barricades, LRA lots with current garden leases and other public spaces and nonprofits approved by Brightside.

Must be located in St. Louis city.

Locations NOT Eligible

Privately-owned properties and locations outside of the St. Louis city limits



Sincere Thanks to our Sponsors



This activity is financed in part through an allocation of Community Development Block Grant Funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the City of St. Louis' Community Development Administration.

IMPORTANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

NEIGHBORS NATURESCAPING 2026 TIMELINE

WEEK OF MAY 18

- Applications become available
- Request an application by completing this google form: tinyurl.com/naturescaping2026

SATURDAY, MAY 30

- Learn from native plant and pollinator experts at the St. Louis Urban Gardening Symposium (SLUGS)
- No charge for Neighbors Naturescaping participants and volunteers

JUNE 13

- Native plant garden tour

JUNE 8 - JULY 10

- Technical assistance appointments with Brightside (Please schedule in advance)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

- Project applications due by Noon at the Brightside office

SEPTEMBER 9

- Announcement of selected projects

SEPTEMBER 10 - OCTOBER 2

- Brightside will coordinate with selected groups to purchase approved tools and supplies from Home Depot

OCTOBER 9 & 10

- Plants, shrubs, trees and bulbs will be available for groups to pick up in Forest Park



Application packets include a recommended plant material list with plant descriptions and links to MDC educational materials. Many of the plants can be seen growing in Brightside's Demonstration Garden adjacent to our office.

Neighbors Naturescaping applicants (project leaders and volunteers) are highly encouraged to attend - at NO CHARGE - the 2026 St. Louis Urban Gardening Symposium on May 30. Participation in the symposium is a component of the Judging Criteria considered by the Selection Committee in project funding decisions.

Selected projects will be provided with plants, tools and supplies, as requested in the application and approved by the Selection Committee. No cash awards will be given.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US

info@brightsidestl.org • 314.772.4646

[BrightsideSTL.org](https://www.brightsidestl.org)

4646 Shenandoah Avenue, 63110

[f](#) @OperationBrightside [@BrightsideSTL](#)

[X](#) @BrightsideSTL

2026 ST. LOUIS URBAN GARDENING SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, MAY 30 8:15 AM - NOON



Featuring talks by experts on native plants & trees, pollinators, landscape design and best practices to keep your gardens thriving!

Reserve your spot at Brightsidestl.org
or call Brightside at 314-772-4646

Demonstration Garden at Brightside St. Louis
4646 Shenandoah Ave., 63110

Event Charge: \$10

Neighbors Naturescaping participants and volunteers may participate at no charge

Special thanks to:





2026 ST. LOUIS URBAN GARDENING SYMPOSIUM



EVENT SCHEDULE

Neighbors Naturescaping potential applicants check in 8:15 a.m. Neighbors Naturescaping 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.		Check-In, Registration and “Ask the Experts” for non-Neighbors Naturescaping participants 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	
9:00-9:10 a.m.	Welcome		
CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS			
9:10-9:55 a.m.	Start Where You Are!* Learning and preparing your site	Four Seasons of Interest Plant selection for structure beyond the bloom & wildlife benefit	Working with the Soil You Have Texture, compaction, drainage, roots and soil life
9:55-10:15 a.m.	Break – “Ask the Experts” and/or tour Demo Garden		
10:15-11:00 a.m.	Putting Plants Together* Plant selection & design	Small Gardens, Big Impact Pollinator-focused planting for small spaces	What’s Wrong with My Plant? What’s normal and what’s not?
11:00-11:15 a.m.	Break – “Ask the Experts” and/or tour Demo Garden		
11:15 a.m.- Noon	A Year in the Garden* How we manage the Brightside Garden	Who Shows Up? Wildlife in a Naturescape Pollinators, birds and predators	Rethinking Mulch: Better Ground Covers Mulch pros & cons, green mulch
12:00 p.m.	Thank you & Native Plant Sale		

* Session especially helpful for newer gardeners

Reserve your spot at Brightsidestl.org
or call Brightside at 314-772-4646