

Heal The Earth

Sponsored by the Prospect Park Garden Club &
PPA Environment Committee

Garden Walk & More

June 26, 2021
10am - 3pm

PLANT SALE

10 am - 3 pm
At Pratt School
66 Malcolm Ave. SE



Key

(G) Gardens

Spend a leisurely day outside and peek into the yards of homeowners to see their work, get design ideas, and growing tips.

(AES) - Alternative Energy Sites

[Alternative Energy Resources for Homes and Transportation]

Visit homes and talk to homeowners about alternative sources of energy for houses & vehicles as a way to reduce our carbon footprint. Learn about their journey and experiences.

This event is made possible by the following organizations:

Prospect Park Garden Club

Prospect Park Association's Environment Committee

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

Nice Ride



Descriptions

1. (G) 66 Malcolm Ave SE - Pratt School Gardens

Sidney Pratt School, built in 1898, is the oldest Minneapolis Public School building still in use. There are several gardens here: one at the front entrance with a mix of annuals and perennials; a long perennial garden runs along the edge of the parking lot with plants donated by neighbors, and an amazing Wisteria vine growing on the fence; planter pots of annuals along the sitting area by the playground and a more shaded garden, in progress, at the amphitheater - all tended by Garden Club members **(G, AES) 4th Street Garden Park**

Lots of activity at the corner of 4th Street & 29th Ave. SE. The focus will be Health Wellness & Cultural Arts: Sustainable Food Systems, Seed Saving, Farming, Organic Recipes, Music & Art.

2. (G) #BrittFit50 Indigenous Health is partnering with PP/Environmental Committee, to provide music and entertainment...find out about the Community Garden Plots from the **Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board** Coordinator. The **Nice Ride Neighborhood Bike Organization** will introduce Electric Bikes & talk about how to sign-up for Nice Ride Community Memberships. Some bikes will be available to try and even use for riding to gardens on view in the neighborhood.

3. (AES) 48 Clarence Ave.

Fifteen solar panels were installed on this roof in 2019 as part of the Hennepin County group buy program. To date they've cut CO2 emissions by 13,000 pounds—the equivalent of 100 full grown trees. They are connected to the energy grid. View them from the back yard—or catch a glimpse between 87 and 93 Orlin Avenue. These panels really make a difference. Learn more about solar tax credits, rebates, and energy buy backs to see if solar panels are an option for your home or business.

4. (G) 44 Arthur Ave. SE

Semi-shady beds in the front side garden have low growing hostas, a variety of peonies, cleatis, roses and astilbe, anchored by a large rhododendron. Tucked on the left side, there is a small lacy-leaf Japanese maple along the brick walkway leading to the deck where water features and container gardens make for a calm and relaxing retreat. The sunny backyard hosts a pollinator garden and vegetable patch. Bright pots of annuals add color to the gardens and sculptures add interest. Lighting throughout makes the deck and gardens magical after dark.

5. (G) Arthur Ave SE/Orlin Ave SE Triangle

Check out the adirondack bench used by many for meditating or just to rest for a few moments. The large rocks too, are used for climbing by children. The garden bursts into spring with 100 tulips and a flowering crabapple tree. Then, it follows with hostas, peonies, day lilies, iris, and annuals. This is a community space enjoyed by everyone who pases by.

6. (AES) 114 Arthur Ave SE (10-noon only for inside access)

Reducing our environmental impact has been a priority for projects since we purchased the home in 2002. We started with insulation and fiber-cement siding, then added a solar hot water system, a high-efficiency boiler, and a rain garden. A goal to reduce natural gas usage has led to a tankless water heater, electric heat pump dryer and induction stove. In addition, we're happy to talk about our Chevy Bolt electric car. To see the basement systems, come between 10 & noon.

7. (AES) 118 Arthur Ave.

This owner-occupied duplex used Minneapolis' 4D program to pay for 90% of a high efficiency furnace and heat pump. A heat pump runs on electricity (not natural gas) and redistributes heat to either inside or outside of your house. The electricity is provided by a collective solar garden, but prior to that, it was provided through Xcel's wind energy program.

The 4D program offered by the City of Minneapolis rewards landlords for keeping rents below a certain rate. In return, you get a property tax cut and funds for energy upgrades. The owner, Mary, will be on hand if you have questions about her experience in the program.

8. (G) Arthur Ave Community Garden (next to the sound wall on Arthur Ave. SE)

10 gardeners work independently to grow vegetables, but work together to keep the whole garden neat and tidy. Pollinator beds along the sidewalk attract bees and more. The patio next to the shed is for anyone to stop and take a break.

9. (G) 50 Barton Ave. SE

A long row of perennial beds, backed by lilac hedges, grace the property line. Included are many typical flowers arranged in triangular formations. Hostas, bee balm, solomon seal, rudbeckia, phlox, yellow lady slipper, Karl Forster grasses, stella d'oro, Other plots include cone flower, gay feather, peonies, trillium, meadow rue, bellwort, bluebells, violets, and annabelle hydrangea. A small vegetable garden has pole beans and cucumbers growing up the side of the house, and a Native American 3-sister plot of corn, beans and squash. There are many potted vegetables on the rear deck. Photos and information posted on-site.

10. (G) Barton Ave SE/Malcolm Ave SE Triangle

Interesting Tactics (www.interestingtactics.com) is an experimental design practice, with three local Prospect Park residents. In March 2019 we received a grant from the Prospect Park Legacy Fund to realize our design proposal for Barton Triangle Park.

From Summer 2019 to Summer 2020, we worked with the Garden Club and our neighbors on Barton Ave. (particularly our neighbor John and Garden Club members, Gib and Kay), to design, build, plant, and install the park. We tried to create a small utopia in the middle of the street, to make a gathering spot where there was previously only a place to walk around, and to collaborate with our neighbors.

The design celebrates the existing boulders and geometry of the triangle, and is low maintenance in planting and materials. Pollinators, cats, birds, toddlers, adults, and teenagers currently enjoy the new Triangle Park.

11. (G) 145 Melbourne Ave. SE

This yard is a "Work in Progress" and has been for many years. So far, we've completed a brick "sipping terrace" that is flanked on either side by a large Corten steel raised vegetable garden and a native pollinator garden, three front gardens, a white "moon garden" by the side patio, a back lawn edged with reclaimed cobblestones, and a second Corten steel raised garden bed that disguises an unsightly architectural element. Fifteen new trees have been planted, mostly natives and Japanese/Korean maples. Projects underway this year include rebuilding a collapsing gazebo, planting a "woodland garden" and planting all the backyard borders. Oh, and building an outdoor kitchen.

12. (G, AES) 111 Melbourne Ave SE

When our 40 year old Norway Maple came down in May 2020, we had no choice but to revise our shady gardens. Moving, dividing, adding a mix of perennials, and reshaping garden beds with paver borders occupied several months. While false Indigo (white & blue), peonies, iris, penstemon dominate in the sunny part of the yard while hosta and other shade plants grace the shade under the apple and pear trees. Other plants add color and variety throughout the yard. The addition of an arbor allowed our grape vines to finally be productive (16 pints of grape jelly last year). A new bed for pollinator plants this spring should add a bit more color.

While you are visiting the garden, take a look at the newly installed solar panels and electric car, all in the name of reducing our carbon footprint. Our goal is to help heal the earth by using new technologies to move us forward in the sustainability equation. Talk to us about how we decided to do it and how our car and solar panels are working out. (Electric vehicles on site include a Nissan Leaf and at least 1 Tesla model)

13. (AES) 100 Melbourne Ave. SE

Harnessing the energy from the sun is one way to get electricity and heat. Harnessing the energy from the earth is another way to get heat using geothermal technology. Geothermal heating works by moving temperature -conducting fluid through an underground loop of pipes beneath or near a building. As air is circulated through the building, the heat pump removes heat from the air and transfers it to the fluid that circulates to the ground. Learn more by visiting Dan Peters and Julie Horns to find out how this method of home heating/cooling has affected their house.

14. (AES) 1829-1831 Franklin Ave. SE

Wondering how to make your house energy efficient? Stop by to see the results of last year's work - insulation, new siding, heat pump, mini-splits, and solar panels all contribute to making a smaller carbon footprint on the earth. This is a transition off fossil fuels in the operation of the home. Bring your questions and look for some good conversation about how you can make your house an alternative energy gold mine. Guided tours will offer information about options, resources, and pitfalls to avoid.

15. (AES) 78 Bedford

Reducing your carbon footprint includes some inexpensive options and others that cost more. Joining a solar garden and a used electric car are on the inexpensive side. A ducted mini-split heat pump balanced with a high efficiency gas boiler is on the opposite end of the spectrum.

Electric BMW i3 and home charging station, ducted heat pump for review. Information and discussion about joining a solar garden and the lifestyle adjustment of electric car range and the balancing of a heat pump and gas boiler for greatest efficiency. Join Sean at the garage on Orlin side of the NE corner of Bedford and Orlin.

16. (G) 130 Warwick St. SE - Signature Arts Building

Connect with the newest arts space in Prospect Park and get to know a few trees! The Signature Arts Building is a place to build community through arts and nature and offers a variety of programming and private rental for kids and adults year-round. Garden Walkers are invited to view progress and participate in the ongoing community art project "Trees of Prospect Park," organized by artist Sarah Nassif through Mississippi Park Connection and funded by Prospect Park Co-op Legacy Fund.

Learn more about these creative initiatives at sarahnassif.com and signaturearts.net

17. (G) 215 Cecil St SE

Nygardens is home to Kelly and Mike Nygard. They have installed raised bed vegetable gardens in the backyard constructed from gabion walls. There are several gardens throughout the property consisting of a mix of annuals and perennials. Mosaic tile bird baths, pots and other garden art created by Kelly are also visible throughout the gardens.

Additional Garden Information

The PPA Environment Committee has received funds to install 3 rain gardens with the support of residents at three sites in the neighborhood. With assistance from Metro Blooms and the Prospect Park Garden Club, construction and planting will take place in the latter part of the summer. Ask about the site locations and how you can participate.

- Glendale Town Homes
- The Pillars
- Stadium Village Church (former Tierney building)