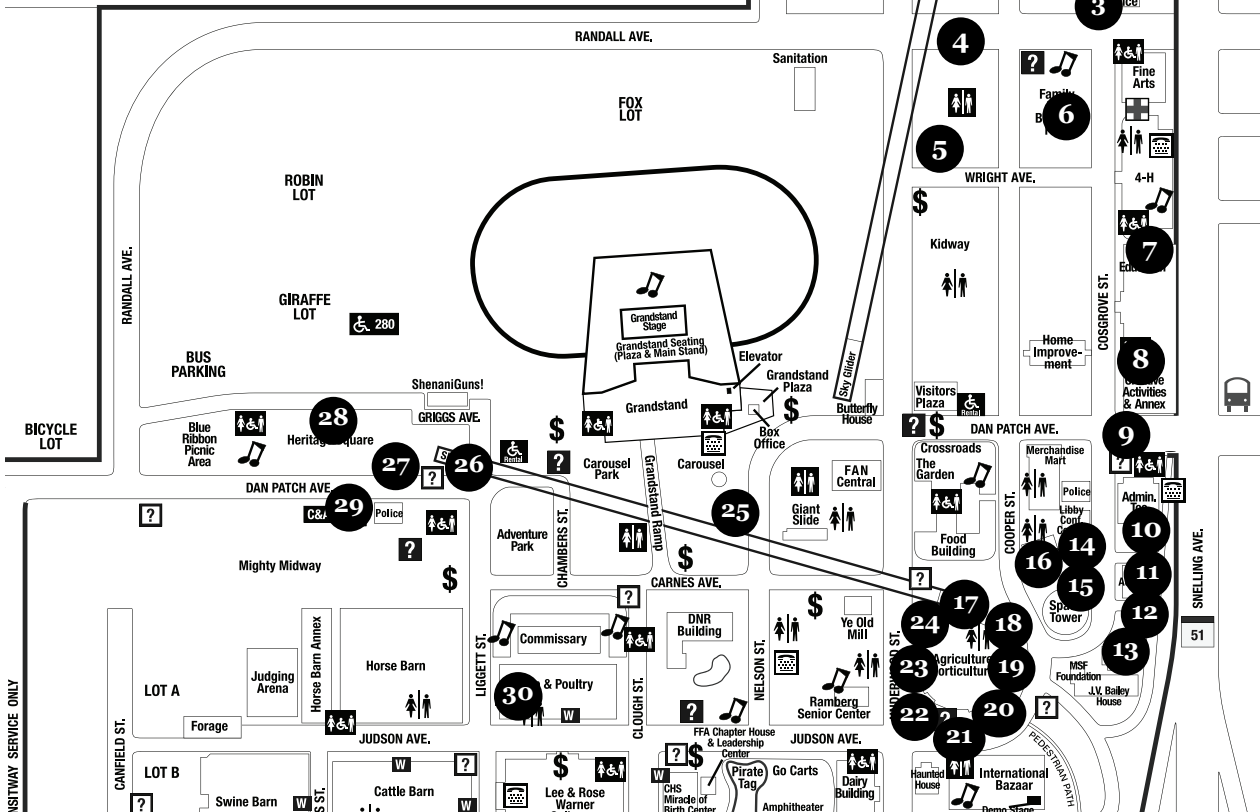


MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

Aug. 27 – Labor Day, Sept. 7
2009 Adopt-A-Gardens
 by Location



The Minnesota State Fair is home to many gorgeous gardens. Use this brochure as a guide to the fairgrounds' most naturally colorful attractions. Enjoy the expertly created arrangements on display and gather ideas for your own garden! A flower next to the description denotes an Adopt-A-Garden Sponsor.



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Adopt-A-Garden Tour 2009



The Adopt-A-Garden Program is brought to you by the Minnesota State Fair Foundation 501(c)(3). The mission of the Foundation is to preserve and improve the historic State Fair buildings and grounds, and to support State Fair educational experiences. Visit us at www.msffoundation.org.

1 Lawn and Landscape Gardens

At the north silo entrance of the fairgrounds, outcroppings surround a mix of sun-loving perennials and shrubs.

2 Botanical Blitz

Be greeted by a carnival of colors at the north gate entrance. Featuring a giant crimson mandevilla, perennials, herbstone, Russian sage, Karl foerster and Verbena bonariensis, this shapely garden is sure to catch your eye.

3 Out Back Nursery, Inc.

This rain garden features ecologically appropriate plantings that attract birds and butterflies. It is attractive and low maintenance. The dead tree is part of a healthy, highly diverse garden.

4 Dakota Communities

Arranged in circular planters along Randall Avenue's boulevard, this garden showcases plants and ornamental grasses such as Karl Foster, little bluestem and blue oat grass. Dakota Communities provides support to people with disabilities. Caring for gardens allows these individuals to give back to the community.

5 Underwood & Wright

Beneath the Skyglider sits a pair of raised flowerbeds. The north bed consists of an expertly crafted combination of sawtooth palms and pink super petunias. The south bed features millet grass, mixed impatiens and coleus.

6 Family Fair in Baldwin Park

A whimsical centerpiece anchors this circular garden in Baldwin Park, featuring a vibrant display of mini petunias, blue salvia and cannas. This garden has a one-of-a-kind look.

7 Bever Landscaping, Inc.

This garden, which is centered around an upper pond, is connected to a lower pond by a waterfall. A gazebo and outdoor grilling area overlook the water features. It also includes a concave retaining wall using Keystone Country Manor wall block as well as Borgert cobblestone pavers and Dresser trap rock. An abundance of beautiful flowers surround the area including: Borealis yarrow, cat candy catmint, avalanche feather reed grass, coreopsis crème brulee, blue oat grass, purple dome asters and autumn delight sedum. Returning for the second year in a row are Sven and Ole roses and xenox sedum.

8 Heidi's Lifestyle Gardens, Inc.

The children's garden was created to showcase the pottage style of edible landscaping. Pottage is a French style of combining edibles and flowers in a bed or border in an aesthetically pleasing way. Many edibles portray ornamental characteristics. The foliage color of the golden sage, variegated basil, and Pac choi brighten the garden as vibrant hues of the eggplant, peppers, and heirloom tomatoes peek out at you. Cucumbers and the edible beans of the Dolichos lablab climb the trellis. The nasturtium flowers on the border are edible and add interest to any salad. Though not all the flowers in this garden are edible, they are highly attractive to butterflies, bees, and other pollinators that help keep the edibles producing luscious fruits.

9 Sunnyside Gardens

A brand new garden this year sponsored by Sunnyside Gardens of Minneapolis is located right inside the main admission gate. The garden has an English style cottage feel which is accomplished through conifer trees and shrubs of various textures. Red tipped spruce and lime green evergreens add bursts of color. A paver walkway featuring large slate pavers is surrounded by crushed rock, typical of Japanese gardens. Hardscape wall blocks accent the raised multicolored flower beds.

10 Admin Too

Snoopy takes a dog nap at the fair among a pleasant mix of perennials including columbine, delphinium,

peonies, painted daisies and hostas. An assortment of annuals including impatiens and marigolds also blanket this popular napping spot.

11 Administration Building

This festive garden is centered around a water feature and includes a wide assortment of plantings. The outside ring of perennials, all currently in bloom, consists of hens and chicks, echinacea, sedum and monarda. An inside ring of annuals add color to the display.

12 4-H Train

Bursting with color, this wooden planter is a dream come true for gardeners and woodworkers alike. The train features an assortment of petunias, potato vine, magilla perilla, sawtooth palms, impatiens and hibiscus.

13 Officer's Quarters

With red geraniums bordered by red cannas and white vinca, this garden is sure to dazzle State Fair officers and visitors.

14 Bergmann's Greenhouses and Garden Center

Bergmann's displays beautiful Bloom'n Garden Pouches around the Bandshell area. The pouches, which hang from light posts, feature an assortment of petunias and other colorful plants.

15 Flagpole

Featured underneath the State Fair flagpole is a vibrant array of brilliant colors. Magilla perilla, pink super petunias and mixed hibiscus surround the State Fair's Diggin' Dino statue.

16 Heidi's Lifestyle Gardens, Inc.

Like a band with many different instruments that add unique sounds, the color and texture of this Bandshell garden combine to create a beautiful song. Along with Minnesota hardy shrubs and perennials, there are some exciting newer annuals, such as Ptilotus exaltatus and Begonia 'Bonfire'. Heidi's favorite and underused annual, Dolichos lablab, grow up the arbor. It's pink flowers are followed by an edible bean. Keep your eye out for the black Mondo grass and yellow shrimp plant.

17 Minnesota Water Garden Society

Located across from the Food Building, this mature woodland garden and pond features a variety of shrubs and perennials interspersed to take advantage of their color, size and texture. A hardy Kopper King hibiscus shows spectacular plate-sized blooms at State Fair time. The pond, fed by two wandering streams, supports a variety of water plants including water lilies, cattails, yellow flag iris, and a variety of floating plants.

18 Jackson Landscape Supply, Inc.

This garden brings one back in touch with nature by using a unique plant community to create a naturalistic design. Take a break at the seating area made of Sioux pink quartzite and rest your feet on the elegant rectangular bluestone. Enjoy this seating area that abounds with color year round and gives soothing ambience by utilizing unique low voltage lighting.

19 Liberty Bell

Originally constructed in 1921, the State Fair Liberty Bell provides space for a patriotic display. A dense topiary of hens-and-chicks wrap around the bell's arches. Bright red and white begonias compliment the brown alternanthera that form the bell and star beneath it. The beautiful stone border is accented by blue ageratum.

20 Accent Gardens & Shrubs

Accent Gardens & Shrubs, with the aid of a naturalist, have created this beautifully arranged garden outside the Agriculture Horticulture Building. This wildflower garden is home to a mix of native plants and commonly-used perennials.

21 Veteran's Memorial Garden

Located on the south side of the Agriculture Horticulture Building is a lovely garden dedicated to all Minnesotans who have served their country. This year, a plaque will be placed honoring the veterans of World War I.

22 Minnesota State Horticultural Society

This late summer garden peaks during the Minnesota State Fair. It is home to a waterfall feeding two streams that end in a central pond; a bubbler fountain in a large boulder; and two pondless falls at the patio level. Plants such as yellow moneywort, assorted grasses and sedums have been used for their texture and color. Other plants have been selected for their glorious bloom and include various vegetable varieties. This year, agaves were added to the collection of hydrangeas. The gardens surround the ramp leading to the Agriculture Horticulture Building and includes a raised bed to demonstrate how seniors and people with movement limitations can continue to garden.

23 Gates Ajar

A State Fair mainstay, the majestic Gates Ajar topiary requires a crew of six and approximately three weeks to complete. The initials 'MSF' are spelled out with green pilea surrounded by red alternanthera to welcome guests.

24 Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association

This 5,000-square foot garden includes tropical

plants, colorful annuals, perennials that attract butterflies and hummingbirds and native plants that require lower maintenance. The garden also features a pondless waterfall created with stone from the Lake Superior region, a bubbling stream and an environmentally friendly drip irrigation system.

25 Hidden Falls, Inc.

Feel at though you are taking a trip to the Boundary Waters at the Hidden Falls Garden. The garden highlights a pondless waterfall that cascades into a stream, creating a landscape straight out of north country. New this year is the creation of the waterfall by bog, which allows water to flow naturally and in turn simulates a waterfall found in nature. By using a rain water harvesting system and LED technology to light the display at night, this garden is truly eco-friendly. Native plants, including beautiful balsam firs, surround the stream.

26 Mike's Lawn and Landscape

Mike's garden features a sparkling fresh artesian spring which bubbles into a natural pond and creek filled with colorful eye-catching fish. Multi-bloom lilies, patriot hostas and little bluestem are accentuated by nightcap lighting.

27 Friends School of Minnesota

This garden located in front of Heritage Square consists of a variety of tropicals and annuals along the accessible ramp. In its second year, it features prickly plants, so touch carefully. Also notice the focus on colorful leaves and interesting textures.

28 Ole's Hollow

A Ye Old Mill boat filled with super-mini petunias paddles through Ole's Hollow. Mixed hibiscus and candle vine provide plenty of color. Spring rye grass decorates the base of statues dedicated to Cliff Olson and Gale Frost, two longtime friends of the fair.

29 Plant Kingdom

This sensory garden is visually appealing at first glance and enjoyed on a more intimate level upon closer contact. Sensory delights appeal to the five major senses: sight (in full bloom at fair time), touch (contrasting textures), smell and taste (herbs and several surprising annuals and perennials), and hearing (a quaking aspen in the hosta garden). The second garden is a display of "hosta of the year" selections.

30 Bobby Jensen's Landscape Junction

In true fair fashion, this garden features boulders on-a-stick.