



DOWLING COMMUNITY GARDEN

FALL 2004
GARDENING NEWS AND VIEWS

newsletter

Come to the Potluck HARVEST DINNER

Wrap up the gardening season with great food, conversation: join your gardening neighbors for a potluck dinner and share your garden's bounty, stories and photos, maybe a prized recipe. RSVP to the Dowling voicemail, 651/255.6607 by October 14 if you will attend. We can use help; call if you can set up before or clean up after the event. Hope to see you there!

When: October 16, 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Location: Hiawatha School Park, East 42nd Street between 43rd and 44th Avenues. Park building entrance and parking lot is on 42nd Street.

Bring a dish to share and serving utensils. Beverages will be provided. We encourage you to bring plates and utensils to reduce waste, but paper plates will be available if you forget.

Dowling Garden Hosts HEIRLOOM EVENT, TOMATO TASTING

Gardeners and community members gathered on August 21 to learn about heirloom varieties and sample more than 15 kinds of heirloom tomatoes. After a threatened frost the night before, the weather cooperated and there were enough ripe tomatoes to offer for tasting! This event proved that tomato lovers have their own preferences about what makes a tasty tomato; no one tomato was preferred over others. Favorite tomatoes: Watermelon Beefsteak, Provenzano, Marianna's Peace, Indian Stripe, Eva Purple Ball, Opalka, Rutgers.

HEIRLOOM VARIETIES have been passed down through generations of gardeners. Some have a specific regional origin, or were selected for desirable traits such as flavor, size or

disease resistance. The Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa maintains and grows out seeds of more than 24,000 heirloom fruits and vegetables.

Try growing heirloom varieties in your garden next season. Attend the Seed

Minneapolis Mayor R. T. Rybak samples heirloom tomatoes at Dowling Garden's Heirloom event August 21.



Swap in January and trade heirlooms with other gardeners.

For more information about heirloom varieties, and sources for seeds, visit our website, www.dowlingcommunitygarden.org, and click on "links".

Congratulations GARDEN of the MONTH Winners!

The gardens have looked especially neat and attractive this season, and it was difficult to select just one for recognition each month. Award winners in July, August and September were Gary Gross and Steve Brown, Diane Diebele & Jon Pederson, and Shelly Anderl.

Honorable mentions go to Margi Miller, Robin Markowitz & Daniel Westacott, Mary Ann McLeod, Natalie Becklund, Seng Xiong, Dennis & Karen Vis, Phil Grove, Larry Elder, Kristin Berg-Thompson, Paula Henry, Susan Peterson, Paul & Cynthia Johnson, Janet Knowlton & David Kness, Kathy Hollander, Paul Flaming's Special Ed class.

Reminder: Clean up Your Garden by NOVEMBER 7

Your garden must be cleaned up by this date. Remove dead plants to compost pile (located east of the orchard; take to back of the pile) and take down seasonal plant supports. Arrange leaf bags neatly on your plot.

GARDEN SWAP DAY October 16

Recycle usable garden items by bringing them to the garden during Fall clean-up hours, 10 AM-Noon. Items not claimed must be removed from the garden. *Do not leave items next to the shed after clean-up is over, or at any other time of year.* Garden items may be recycled only on Spring and Fall clean-up days.

THANK YOU

To Larry Elder for serving as water coordinator this season.

Fall Garden Clean-up Day: OCTOBER 16, 10AM - NOON



Come and help clean up the garden areas before winter. We will be raking leaves, cleaning up along the fence, storing water barrels, organizing the shed, path maintenance and other seasonal chores. Bring rakes, pruners, lawn mowers, trash bags, work gloves.

If you haven't fulfilled your volunteer requirement this year, you should plan to attend. You'll get to know other gardeners, and it's fun! Meet at the shed rain or shine.



FALL GARDENING TIP

Clean Up your Garden Remove dead and diseased plants to help prevent diseases next season, and eliminate over-wintering places for insects. Remove weedy plants now to get your garden off to a weed-free start in the spring.

Wonder Where the HORSE MANURE Comes From?

Donna and Max Ashmore provide care for 25-30 horses at their farm in Lino Lakes. Thanks to Dowling gardener Steve Dosch for delivering the manure all season. For more information about the Ashmore farm, or to arrange a visit, contact Steve at 612/729-1865.

Report Your SERVICE HOURS,

Make sure you get your 2004 service hours completed before the end of the garden season. Gardeners are required to work four hours of time each season, per plot. Come to the Fall clean-up, or help out at the potluck if you need to fulfill your hours.

All service hours must be reported by November 30. Call the garden phone line, 651/255-6607, if you haven't reported your hours this season. Let us know your name, activity performed and when, and time spent.

Update on LEASE NEGOTIATIONS

The Dowling Garden Committee is nearing completion of negotiations with the Minneapolis Public Schools Facilities Department to secure a five-year lease for the Dowling Garden. Gardeners can expect higher plot fees in the future, as we increase our yearly rent to the school district in stepped increments over five years.

Dowling Garden NEEDS YOUR HELP

A small group of volunteers makes decisions about the garden, from yearly management issues to long-range plans and improvements. Do you have practical ideas about how things could run more smoothly? Dreams about improving the garden

GARDENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fourth Annual Green Tomato Cook-Off Thursday, Oct. 21, 6:30-9:00 PM. Sponsored by GreenSpace Partners and the Green Institute: Contact Corrie Zoll for more information, 612/278-7119 or email czoll@greeninstitute.org.

Seed Swap Plan ahead to trade seeds and place joint orders for seeds with other Dowling gardeners on Saturday, January 8, 2005. Look for a postcard with more information in late December.

Bulletin Board Check the shed for other gardening notices.

space? We really need committed individuals to help with garden management on a regular basis.

If you'd like to join us, or want more information, please call the garden phone line, 651/255-6607. Meetings are the third Monday each month.

Green Tomato Pie

- 1 14" circle pie pastry, chilled
- 6 medium-size green tomatoes, sliced 1/8" thick
- 3/4 cup golden raisins
- 1 1/2 tsp. grated lemon rind and 2 tb. lemon juice
- 1 tb. cider vinegar
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 4 tb. flour
- scant 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp. ground ginger
- 2 tb. unsalted butter, cut into small pieces
- confectioners' sugar

Place pastry in 9" pie pan. Combine tomatoes, raisins, lemon rind and juice, vinegar. Stir and set aside. Combine sugar, flour, salt and spices in small bowl. Sprinkle 2 tb. over pie crust and toss rest with tomatoes. Put filling into crust and dot with butter. Fold pastry up over filling. Bake 425 degrees for 15 minutes, reduce heat to 325 and bake 50 minutes more until filling is bubbling and crust is golden. Cool completely; dust with confectioners' sugar.

(excerpted from *Martha Stewart's Pies & Tarts* by Martha Stewart. New York, NY, Clarkson Potter Inc., 1985)

GO TO WWW.DOWLINGCOMMUNITYGARDEN.ORG FOR GARDEN NEWS UPDATES, HISTORY, GARDENING TIPS, RECIPES AND WEBSITE LINKS!

Dowling Community Garden

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www.dowlingcommunitygarden.org

Forward and Address Correction Requested

Calendar of Events

- OCT 16** Fall Clean-up Day, 10 AM – Noon
Harvest Potluck Dinner, 6:30 – 8:30 PM
Hiawatha School Park, 42nd St. at 43rd Ave.
- NOV 7** Have your garden cleaned up by this date
- NOV 30** Report your 2004 service hours