

Thanks to efforts by the City of Madison, Community Action Coalition (CAC), local community groups and residents, our neighborhood has a new opportunity to grow together in the soon-to-be-established Brittingham Community Garden. The garden will be located in Brittingham Park next to the playground between the Park View Apartments and the bike path and will have approximately 28 plots that are 10x20 feet in area each.

By definition, a community garden is an area of land maintained by members growing fresh food for non-commercial use. Gardeners plant, maintain and harvest produce from their own plots which are rented for a small fee. In addition, each household support the garden as a whole by maintaining common areas and attending meetings. The garden will be open to the public for viewing and learning.

Due to the collaborative effort of many stakeholders throughout the past two years and a high demand for garden plots, CAC will hold a lottery for garden plot allocation. Because there is a strong need for gardening space for our elderly and disabled, the garden committee has decided to allocate the plots with the following distribution:

- ❖ Three plots will include raised beds which will be designated for those requiring raised beds to garden successfully.
- ❖ Three plots will be designated for those leaders who have worked to organize the community around this issue for the past two years. This is standard practice in all community garden efforts. Those who have worked to establish the garden often go on to organize the garden as well.
- ❖ One plot will be designated as a youth garden.
- ❖ Eleven of the plots will be allocated to elderly residents living in the Monona Bay neighborhood or within a half-mile of the garden. The Monona Bay neighborhood includes the Triangle.
- ❖ Ten plots will be open to residents of any age living in the Monona Bay neighborhood or within a half-mile of the garden.

Those residents living outside the defined radius will be considered for a plot only if there is available space remaining once the immediate neighborhood is served.

The lottery to choose the plots will be held on Monday, April 1st at 5pm at the Bayview Community Center board room (601 Bayview) in conjunction with the garden committee's monthly meeting. Applicants are not required to be present at this event but you are welcome to come and observe the process. The individuals whose names are drawn will be contacted within five days with details regarding registration. Selected gardeners must attend the registration meeting on April 14 at the Bayview Community Center Community Room (2nd floor) from 3:30-5:00 pm.

To enter the lottery for a plot at the Brittingham Community Garden, please fill out this survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KWMRFY7>

You may also print a survey from the CAC webpage: <http://www.cacscw.org/gardens.php> and return it by mail or as an email attachment.

For more information, please call Shelly Strom at 246-4730 ext 209.