



## **BRIGHTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD NATURESCAPE GRANTS**

### **Spring 2010 Winners**

#### **Bates Elementary School – Awarded \$ 500 (District 22)**

Bates Elementary School will expand an outdoor education classroom for the students and teachers. This project will be implemented in several phases. The first phase of the project was implemented in the fall of 2009 through funding obtained from the Sheltopee Environmental Education Coalition, U.S. Forest Service and Redwing Ecological Services, and included the construction of an emergent wetland. The Brightside NatureScape Grant will allow Bates Elementary School to install wetland plants in the emergent wetland and establish a butterfly garden adjacent to the wetland. The goal of the project is to create an excellent resource for teachers and students to learn about the outdoors and the environment.

#### **First Unitarian Church – Awarded \$850 (District 6)**

First Unitarian Church Senior High Youth Group will plant a plot at the Limerick Community Garden. These Senior high school students are studying the problem of hunger, including walking and raising funds for the needy. The youth will share their harvest with the Center for Women and Families. Their efforts will reinforce the importance of locally-grown food. The garden plot will contain vegetables and some potted plants and may also include fruit trees and blueberries in the garden's common area. The youth will also set up a beehive in the adjacent fenced lot, secured from public access. The bees will assist with pollination for the entire urban garden and neighborhood.

#### **Goldsmith Elementary School Student Council – Awarded \$1300 (District 26)**

Goldsmith Elementary School's "Spruce Up Goldsmith" project will add landscaping materials to the interior courtyard and exterior foundation wall around the school. Goldsmith staff, students and parents will work with the Agri-Science and Horticulture programs of Seneca High School to identify plants that will grow well in the identified areas. Goldsmith and Seneca will look at variables such as available sunlight, plant size, cost and required maintenance to determine appropriate plant materials. A day will be designated to Spruce Up Goldsmith where the new plants will be planted and the green areas around the school will be cleaned up of trash and leaves.

Goldsmith Elementary is an International Studies Magnet School. All students study the cultures of a variety of countries across the world. The student Council members and staff will research plant materials which originated in some of these countries and have been successfully transported and grown in the Louisville area. Every effort will be made to designate at least three of the small plant beds to be used for these International plant materials. The garden area will create a greater sense of "community" and also become a place where students can gather to eat lunch.

### **James E. Farmer Elementary – Awarded \$1500 (District 20)**

James E. Farmer Elementary will create a sensory garden for their students, teachers and parents as part of their community garden project. The proposed area currently has six raised beds without plantings. The sensory garden would incorporate annuals and perennials that would use the five senses to engage in learning through the multiple intelligences of naturalists, interpersonal, intrapersonal, spacial and kinesthetic. The garden will also serve as a means for sensory integration for both calming and alerting effects in students with sensory integration issues.

### **Kentucky School for the Blind – Awarded \$1000 (District 9)**

Kentucky School for the Blinds will replace “significant” trees that have been lost over the past two years due to weather, in addition to adding additional native trees to their campus. These ‘signature’ trees helped give the campus a true park-like feeling. The original intent of the school’s founders was to always maintain its “park-like” character. That is still the intent of the school today, 168 years later. With the assistance of Metro Parks Landscape architect, the school surveyed the current conditions of the trees and developed a long term plan for replacing and adding to the grounds with the appropriate type and location of new trees including those native to Kentucky. The school is the home of Boy Scout Troop #10 made up of the Kentucky School for the Blind visually impaired students along with a Cub Scout troop and a Venture Crew. These three student organizations, under the leadership of their scoutmasters will plant all of the new trees as part of their scout service requirements and will be the sole maintainers of all of the trees.

### **Kenwood Elementary- Awarded \$1300 (District 25)**

Kenwood Elementary School will start a school garden – from scratch. They will build raised beds to be used for vegetable garden and some flowers. The school’s Environmental club will complete the initial set up of the garden. All of the Kenwood Elementary community will help with the maintenance. The goal of the garden is not only to teach children about proper nutrition but help build a “community” with the students. They will learn about science, social studies, living nutrition and literacy.

### **Toonerville Trolley Neighborhood Association – Awarded \$1000 (District 6)**

Toonerville Trolley Neighborhood Association will replenish their neighborhood with trees in a concentrated area both to maximize impact and utilize volunteer power. The association will purchase and preparation (stump removal), soil, mulch and initial maintenance of five good sized trees to the 1300 block of South Brook Street. The neighborhood association will provide the labor, trimming, mulch and ongoing care for the critical two years after planting. Louisville Metro’s arborist will assist in the selection of specific species and caliper of trees for this location.

### **St. Aloysius School – Awarded \$1500 (District 19)**

St. Aloysius School will create the first school garden for their community. Each grade level will have its own garden to plant, tend and harvest. Lessons and activities will be integrated into the curriculum to learn about school gardens from every aspect. The school will build a garden that will make a difference by improving environmental attitudes, promote good nutrition and build community pride and spirit. The garden will become a unifying element in the community and provide hands-on experience to all students especially those who have a difficult time in an academic setting. The plans include different garden for each grade including: Salad Bar

Garden, A Salsa and Tomato Garden, A Kitchen Herb Garden and much more. Food will be used for the community, church, local food bank, nursing facility and in school.

**Volunteers of America – Awarded \$1400 (District 4)**

Volunteers of America will create Shelby Men’s Campus Therapy Garden. The garden will be operated and maintained by men in the Third-Step program with support from garden experts. The garden will enable men in recovery to interact with nature, their peers, and the community to prepare and cultivate an on-site garden. The therapeutic garden helps during the recovery process and also helps to defray food costs with a nutritious diet. The garden teaches personal responsibility and creates a sense of pride and ownership.

**University of Louisville School of Public Health – Awarded \$500 (District 4)**

University of Louisville School of Public Health will create a rooftop garden on the top their building with the goal of introducing fresh foods to the downtown Louisville area. This project will allow the school to test feasibility and establish the requirements needed for a larger garden and additional gardens on the UL campuses. This project includes building six wooden planter boxes in which to plant and grow an assortment of vegetables and herbs. Additionally, they will grow eight to ten ornamental and fragrant flowering plants to make the rooftop garden more visible. Harvested herbs and vegetables will be donated to St. Anthony Soup Kitchen. The UL Dept. of Mechanical Engineering will assist with the irrigation system through a student project for an undergraduate course requiring demonstration of field experience.

**YMCA Safe Place Service – Awarded \$1100 (District 21)**

YMCA Safe Place Services will create a “Circle of Courage” garden that will encourage and inspire young people to develop their sense of “belonging, mastery, independence and generosity”. In partnership with Louisville’s Junior League and their Urban Garden Committee the plot of land next to their facility on Crittenden Drive will be utilized to create a community garden of edible and ornamental plants. This grass site will be converted into a 700+ foot harvestable circular garden. YMCA Safe Place Services provides immediate and free services to teens that may be at-risk of life altering situations that need shelter and support. These youth have created a scale model of what to plant and the land will be tilled and compost added to prepare for planting. This project will encourage healthy eating, beautify underutilized property and allow our neighborhoods to be safe and fun.