

"Adopt-A-Spot in Wyandotte" Program Rules

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The Wyandotte Beautification Commission's "Adopt-A-Spot in Wyandotte" Program is intended to engage our entire community in beautifying our city. The program is open to all Wyandotte residents and businesses, Scout troops, faith-based groups and organizations, schools, non-profit organizations, clubs, and other community-action groups.

GETTING STARTED:

- Complete a Wyandotte Beautification Commission "Adopt-A-Spot in Wyandotte" Volunteer Application and Hold Harmless Agreement, indicating your preferred Adopt-A-Spot site(s).
- Commit to Adopt-A-Spot for a minimum of 2 years.
- Submit the signed and dated "Adopt-A-Spot in Wyandotte" Volunteer Application and Hold Harmless Agreement to the Beautification Commission c/o Mayor's Office at City Hall for approval.
- Specific Adopt-A-Spot site(s) will be approved and registered by the Wyandotte Beautification Commission - You will receive a formal approval notice.

SUMMARY OF ADOPT-A-SPOT VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Purchase and plant only Beautification Commission-approved annual, biennial, and perennial flowers, bulbs, soil, soil amendments, and mulch for your specific registered site(s). Placement of non-approved flowers, materials, artifacts, signage, or other objects is expressly prohibited.
- Perform on-going maintenance of the flower beds by weeding and watering the beds as necessary.
- Properly dispose of all plant waste and weeds, plastic or cardboard containers and bags, and other recyclable materials at the Wyandotte Recycling Center.
- Pick-up and properly dispose of litter and trash from the area of your adopted spot.
- Volunteers will provide their own gardening tools and aids, watering containers, trash bags for litter collection, containers for weed removal, and transportation to and from their adopted spot.

CURRENTLY-APPROVED ADOPT-A-SPOT SITES:

Potential "Adopt-A-Spot in Wyandotte" Program sites through-out the city are continuously being evaluated for inclusion into this program. If you observe other potentially appropriate sites not on private property, please inform the Beautification Commission via our Hotline or by email. We will periodically update our list of approved sites on our Facebook page. Thanks so much!

The Currently-Approved Adopt-A-Spot Sites Are:

1. Welcome Signs:

- ✓ *Eastbound Goddard Road at 12th Street Welcome Sign (Sorry, Adopted)*
- ✓ *Eastbound Emmons Boulevard at Riverside Drive Welcome Sign (Sorry, Adopted)*
- ✓ *Southbound Biddle at North Drive (72 Biddle Avenue) (Sorry, Adopted)*
- ✓ *Northbound Biddle Avenue at Pennsylvania Avenue Welcome Sign (Sorry, Adopted)*
- ✓ *Eastbound Oak Street at Fort Street Welcome Sign (Sorry, Adopted)*
- ✓ *Eastbound Northline Road at Fort Street Welcome Sign (Sorry, Adopted)*
- ✓ *Northeast Corner of Fort Street and Eureka Avenue at Walgreen's (Sorry, Adoption Pending)*

2. City Parks and Landmarks: **NEW!**

- ✓ WWI Memorial, Superior at Biddle
- ✓ Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Superior at Van Alstyne
- ✓ WWII Memorial and Plaza, Bishop Park
- ✓ Log Cabin Grounds, Bishop Park
- ✓ BASF Park Landmark Sign & Grounds, Biddle near Pine
- ✓ The Gazebo Container Pots and Grounds, BASF Park - NOTE: All volunteer work at this site must be scheduled through the Recreation, Leisure, and Culture Department to avoid disruption of scheduled events.
- ✓ Settler's Statue and Memorial, BASF Park
- ✓ Wyandot Indian Statue and Memorial, BASF Park

3. Downtown Area Tree Boxes:

- ✓ These sites are all on a sprinkler system, but they can still get dry. The tree boxes can be adopted individually (in front of your business) or, preferably, in a group.

APPROVED PLANTING CONSIDERATIONS & SPECIFICATIONS:

NOTE: More information can be obtained from the excellent Michigan State University Extension on-line resource "Gardening in Michigan" <http://migarden.msu.edu/flowers> .

1. Planting of invasive or illegal plants is expressly prohibited.
2. You can plant annual, biennial, and perennial flowers, bulbs, other ornamental flowering herbaceous plants, and grasses commonly sold in metro Detroit-area nurseries and garden centers. The use of regionally-native flowering plants is encouraged. The Michigan Native Plant Producers Association web site may be helpful for you: <http://www.mnppa.org/> to locate native plant sources.
3. Please, no shrubs, trees, or other woody ornamentals. Also, no vining or climbing plants, please.
4. Plants should be hardy to USDA Zone 5. Tropical plants that are non-hardy in Michigan can be planted outdoors, but remember that you are responsible for digging them out before winter sets in. An alternative would be container planting of tropical species. That would be very attractive in many settings.

5. Your plants should be relatively drought-resistant and salt-resistant. Remember – you are responsible for watering your plants. Also, there is a lot of road salt applied during the winter, and it can get splashed up into your flower beds. Road salt is not friendly to fragile plants. Talk to your garden center experts!
6. Be mindful of the light requirements of your plants and where you are planting them. The plants can require full sun, light shade, partial shade, or full/dense shade from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Plant the flowers that are appropriate to your site, and the amount of light your site receives.
7. Do NOT use insecticides or herbicides in your flower bed. Pick and squish. We are encouraging the planting of flowers that are friendly to pollinators (bees and butterflies) and insecticides kill them.
8. The flower beds may need soil amendments. Use only pre-packaged garden soil and compost, with or without added fertilizer. Bringing in loose soil from outside sources is expressly prohibited.
9. Use fertilizers with SLOW RELEASE NITROGEN. Do not allow your fertilizer to spill outside of your planted area. It may be washed into the storm drains and can pollute our river water.
10. It is usually a good thing to mulch your flower beds to conserve water and to keep the soil moist for your flowers. Choose mulch that will complement your plantings. Note that dark mulch also helps retain heat, and that may not be good for heat-sensitive plants planted in full sun.
11. DO NOT plant flowers or grasses that will grow to excessive heights and block the welcome signs, or that might present a visual obstruction for traffic.
12. Have fun gardening, and let's all help beautify Wyandotte!

GENERAL FLOWER BED MAINTENANCE SCHEDULES:

- April: Evaluate over-winter damage; remove dead plants; rake and clean-up debris from beds; restore any edging that has shifted.
- May: Plant new annual and/or perennial flowers, as approved; mulch; water.
- June, July, August, September: Pull weeds and clean-up debris every 2 weeks; dead head flowers as needed every 2 weeks.
- October, November: Remove annual plants; cut back perennials; clean-up beds for over-wintering.

- INTERESTED? LET'S GET STARTED!

Visit the Wyandotte Beautification Commission web site at:

http://www.wyandotte.net/government/boards_and_commissions/beautification_commission.php
and download the Adopt-A-Spot In Wyandotte Program Flyer, and the Volunteer Application & Hold Harmless Agreement. Forward the completed Application to the Beautification Commission c/o the Mayor's Office, City Hall. Like Us on Facebook www.facebook.com/WyandotteBeautificationCommission .

If you have any specific questions, please contact the Beautification Commission by calling our Hotline: 734.324.7293, or contact us by email at beautification@wyan.org . Thank you so much for helping to beautify our community!