



# WEST END NEIGHBORS' GARDEN TOUR

WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> ST., ST. PAUL



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2014 MAP  
AND GUIDE  
BOOK

SAT.  
JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>  
10 AM  
to  
4 PM



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# Welcome

Gardening is healthy and fun! We are proud to present for you our free and 7th annual West End Neighbors Garden Tour. Our gardeners and the neighborhood welcome you. We want you to have a good time visiting the historic and beautiful West End of St. Paul and suggest you plan to spend the day with us. Please patronize our advertisers whose support enables us to offer the tour for free.

The beginnings of St. Paul are right here in our neighborhood along the river. We have 12 gardens available for tour that include front and backyard home gardens, boulevard gardens, community gardens and a business patio.

This booklet with centerfold map is your guide to our self-directed tour. Additional copies will be available at the Fort Road Federation parking lot, 974 W. 7th St., the day of the tour. The parking lot is also the site of our Plant Sale managed by volunteers of our West End Gardeners. Please have a look at our selection of inexpensive plants offered from neighborhood gardens.

You can walk, bike, drive or even take the bus to all 12 locations along West 7th Street also known as Fort Road, the original road leading from the St. Paul steamboat landings to Ft. Snelling. When you visit the plant sale, greeters will be available to get you started on the tour. Our gardeners also will be in their gardens to answer questions you may have about their gardens.

We hope you enjoy your visit, learn something that will help you with your gardening, and discover all the possibilities that are in our fabulous West End at the river.

Thank you, West End Gardeners

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## Garden #1



### 528 Harrison Ave.



When the new owner purchased this house last spring, there was no landscaping and the patchy grass did nothing to enhance the appearance of the home. A welcoming front patio surrounded by fruit trees and a colorful variety of blooms have transformed the yard. The boulevard has been planted with coneflowers, Russian sage, and other hardy perennials. New additions to the front gardens are planned and significant work will be under way in the fenced backyard where the focus will be on incorporating elements of permaculture. Apples and pears will be trained along cables incorporated in the fence to create an espalier. Raised beds will be home to seasonal fruits and vegetables.



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# Garden #2



## Dousman St. at W. 7th St.



This lively community garden requires no blueprint. Neighbors are free to participate in art projects, plantings, and any other creative activities that bring them together. Here are some projects you may find in the garden this year:

"No straw bales, maybe more raised mounds? We should do them with a theme, a raised bed game board, Candyland, no definitely Boggle. Remember that excavation for the fire pit? Taking apart the old brick foundation we found under the ground, we could build a brick oven, oh! - a new raised bed concept - we could excavate the stones and bricks and lower the ground instead of raising the beds. Definitely a picnic. I want to grow brussel sprouts. The kids could plan a show."





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## Garden #3



**317 Michigan Street**



Our garden has to be kid friendly with two little ones! We have fenced green space to play, nice shade to lay in and take a nap, and walls to practice walking along. A recent addition is our red "shed-house" (as our oldest refers to it) - play house by summer, shed by winter. We have some beautiful roses, peonies and a cherry tree that start us off in the spring. By fall our pumpkin vines have taken over most of the mulched space. In the front we have a small rain garden between our sidewalk and driveway - perfect use of space!



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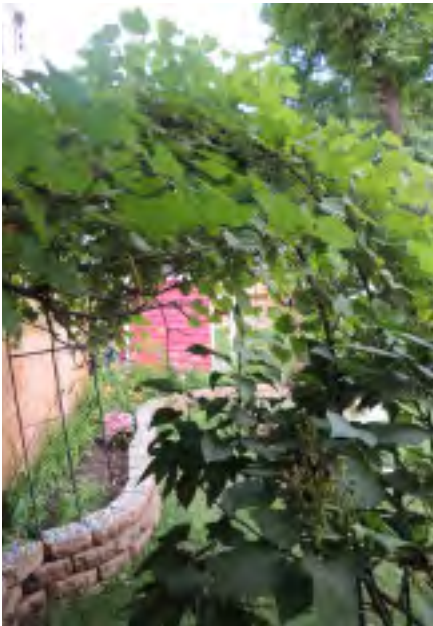
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# Garden #4



## 323 Michigan Street



Ours is a small, narrow lot which presents a challenge when attempting to plant flowers and keep a place for dogs to use. We've used landscaping blocks and old street pavers to create raised beds out of the dogs' path. Our garden changes throughout the season and although the early flowers will be gone, the air will be scented by thick helpings of many-colored irises and lilies. Ferns and hostas cover the ground. Boxes and baskets of brightly colored annuals are set around weaving brick paths, eclectic sculpture and bird feeders. The scents and sounds of summer provide the memories that get us through the winter. Before the snow came we added a dozen ever-blooming lilacs. If the day is hot, you may find some shade under our wild grape arbor in the corner.



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## Garden #5



**524 Superior Street**



Two raised-bed perennial gardens are  
 in the corner of this lot, with veggies in  
 straw bales on the east side and in  
 back. The oval garden along Erie Street  
 is about 10 years old and started out as  
 an 8' circle. It was enlarged for the 3rd  
 growing season. The round, 2-level  
 garden facing Superior was built a few  
 years ago following the  
 removal of a large maple. Both gardens  
 start early in the spring with crocus  
 and tulips. 2013 was the first year for  
 Straw Bales. Peppers, cucumber, beans,  
 pea pods, basil and lettuce thrived  
 through October.



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## Garden #6

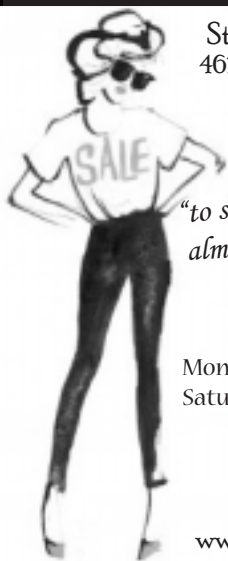


**529 Michigan Street**



Spring! After enduring the dreary gray skies and colorless landscape of winter, I look forward to the changes that Mother Nature brings. Because plants provide oxygen for our very existence we are attracted to them. Of course the beauty helps! I find that early in the morning the sun coming up is like a new life inspiring me. With the pace of life so hectic, the quiet time in the garden allows me to reflect on different aspects of life, temporarily blocking out the stressful moments. When in my garden I tend to concentrate on things of nature. I invite you to join me there.





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# Garden #7

## 384 Erie Street



This is a small boulevard garden. It is also a new garden only one and a half years old. The gardener is new to Minnesota gardening and finds it much more challenging than the gardens she had in England and then California. It is mostly perennials waiting to become more mature, so the gaps are filled with annuals. The beauty of having a boulevard garden is that it gives the passerby a moment of pleasure as they walk past. Most back gardens are not open to public view, so if all boulevards were planted with flowers it would make every street a joy to see.

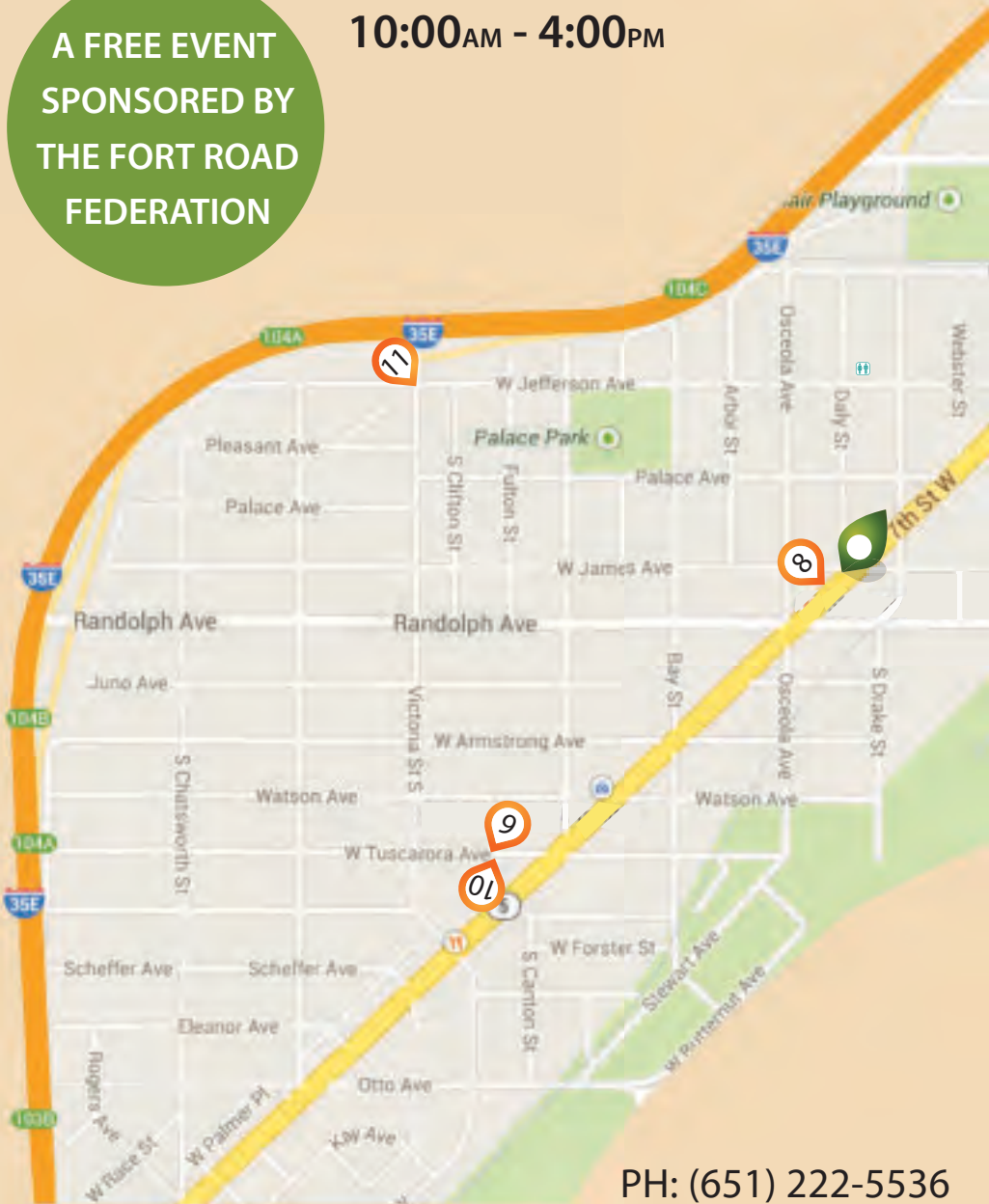
# WEST END NEIGHBORS' GARDEN TOUR

WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> ST., ST. PAUL

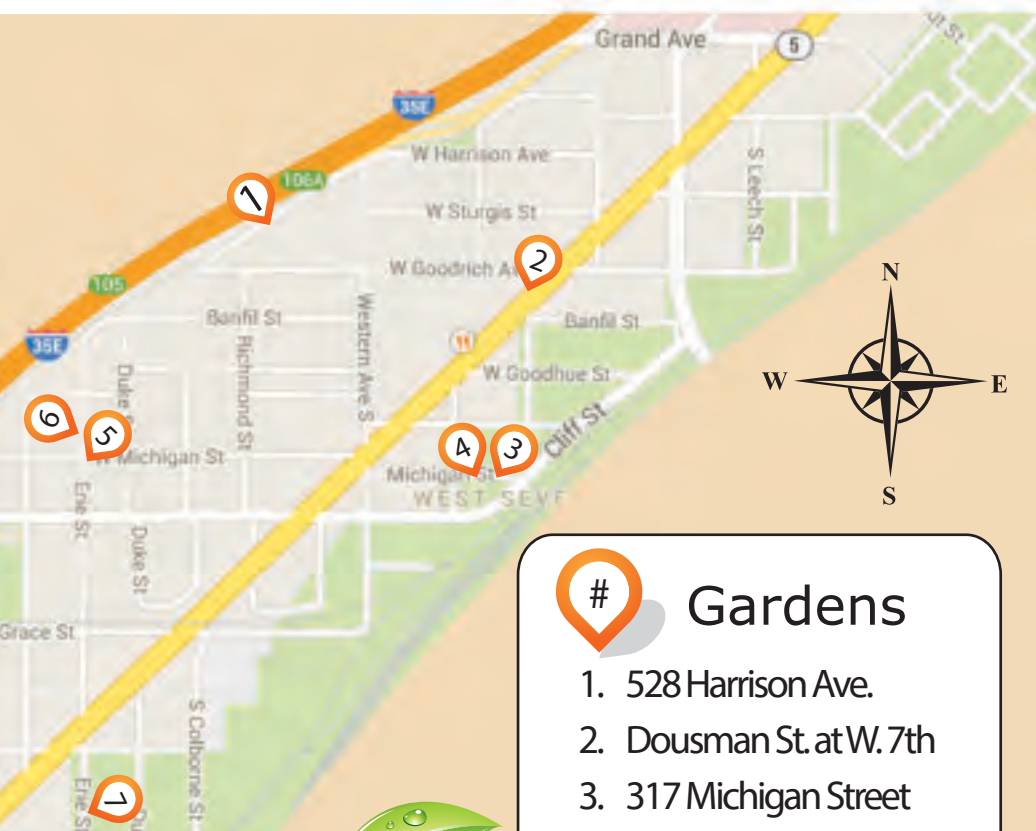
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## Plant Sale

Fort Road Federation  
974 W. 7th Street

Support the Garden Tour by purchasing seedlings, perennials, daylilies and houseplants donated by the gardeners.



## Gardens

1. 528 Harrison Ave.
2. Dousman St. at W. 7th
3. 317 Michigan Street
4. 323 Michigan Street
5. 524 Superior Street
6. 529 Michigan Street
7. 384 Erie Street
8. 967 W. 7th Street
9. 807 Tuscarora Ave.
10. 808 Tuscarora Ave
11. Fort Road Community Garden  
Jefferson Ave & S. Victoria St.



Restrooms are located at the  
Fort Road Federation  
974 W. 7th Street



# Garden #8



**Supatra's Thai**  
**967 W. 7th Street**



When we moved Supatra's from Lowertown to West 7th Street in 2007, we were so happy to be able to have a patio and garden. We envisioned a relaxing place for our guests to dine outside and also a place where our staff could take a break. Our garden features flowers, veggies, vines, shrubs and trees; the most asked-about by our guests are Tamarix (with the very distinctive pink flowers), Purple Hyacinth vine and Water Lotus (which very much reminds Supatra of her native Thailand). We also grow Thai Basil and Thai Chili on the patio!





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# Garden #9



**807 Tuscarora Ave.**



Only a decade ago, this yard was void of flowers, shrubs and landscaping. Each year, new gardens, paths and perennials have been added. Many plants started from splits provided by family and friends. Arborvitae and burning bushes provide a natural border on one side, while lilac and raspberry bushes fill in outer edges elsewhere. The centerpiece is a 15-foot climbing rose bush that regularly boasts 100 plus roses at a time. Alongside grows a wisteria vine of equal size. These provide a canopy over many flowering plants, including phlox, sumac, and bee balm.

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## Garden #10

**808 Tuscarora Ave.**



Our combination garden was developed little by little, year over year. We thinned and transplanted existing hostas, lilies, ferns and rambling rose bushes. Peonies, coral bells and iris were donated by family and we added shade tolerant hydrangeas and yews. A garage was built a few years ago and a brick patio was added so we could enjoy the outdoor space. The sunny south side of the house along the alley was converted into a small vegetable garden. Elbow grease combined with trial and error made our garden an inviting space.

  
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# Garden #11



**Fort Road Community Garden**

**Jefferson Ave & S. Victoria St.**



The Fort Road Community Garden was established in 2010 by community members and the Fort Road Federation. This garden has brought together people from a variety of backgrounds which is evident by the different gardening approaches and techniques. The majority of the gardener's grow vegetables in their plots.

The group has also established several flower beds. Our lovely garden has been the recipient of a Blooming Garden Award. Gardeners maintain the common areas and compost together. This organic garden consists of 26 twelve foot by twelve foot plots available for rental by area residents. The modest rental fee pays for water and infrastructure. The Fort Road Community Garden has provided great opportunity for members of the neighborhood to meet and grow together.



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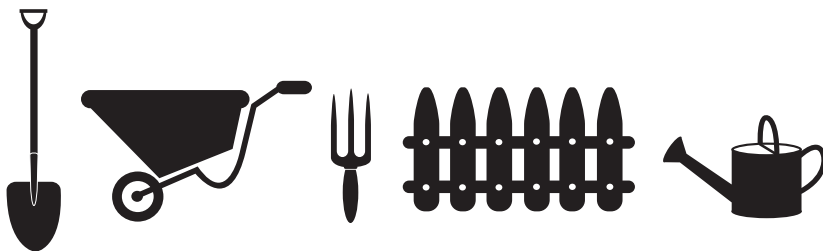
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