

{ May 2018 }

What's growing on

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

upcoming events

May 1: Gates Open for the Season;
May Day! May Day! • Volunteer
Event, 4-6 pm

May 19: Plant Sale and Gardening
8 AM to 12 Noon

May 6 - July 15: Down and Dirty™
Garden Clean-Up Sessions
Sundays from 3:30-5:30 pm

June 2 - September 7:
Fresh on Fridays Bouquet Sales

June 9-August 31: Kids BEE
Happy Children's Garden Activities
9-11 am

June 24: Summer Garden Party

July 18-12: "Down and Dirty" Garden
Clean-up Sessions Wednesday
from 3:30-5:30 pm

July 22-Sept. 9:
Picnics and Performances
5 pm-6pm

Central Gardens of North Iowa Plant Sale & Gardening Fair

Saturday, May 19, 2018 8:00 am - 12:00 noon
Central Gardens Activity Lawn & Courtyard Plaza
800 2nd Ave North, Clear Lake, IA 50428

- ♥ Hundreds of winter-hardy perennials with many plants from Central Gardens!
- ♥ Garden related vendors selling their goods
- ♥ New or gently used garden items for sale at bargain prices
- ♥ Planting in the Bee Happy Kids' Garden
- ♥ Education on recycling and the compost/mulch program at N.I Landfill
- ♥ Make a living wreath with Kayla Myers
- ♥ Drawing for a "gate prize"
- ♥ Food Trucks with goodies. Free coffee & water

We're looking for plants.
Thin out your gardens and bring
potted plants to donate to the
Activity Lawn Thurs., May 17 or
Fri., May 18 5-7 p.m.
Start plants 3 weeks in advance.
Label with plant name, color,
mature size and sun or
shade preference.



May Day! May Day!

Have an hour or two a week that you'd like to use to give back to the north Iowa community? We are always in need of volunteers! Join us on our opening day, May 1 from 4-6 pm at the Nature Education Pavilion to have refreshments and hear about how you can help out. Here is a (partial) list of opportunities at Central Gardens:

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| Labeling plants prior to the Plant Sale | Cutting flowers for Fresh on Fridays bouquets |
| Cleaning up after the Plant Sale | Arranging Fresh on Fridays Bouquets |
| Weeding, Trimming, | Staining Benches |
| Cleaning out dead flowers and plants | Cleaning up after Fresh on Fridays |
| Adding new plantings | Cleaning the Fountain |
| Adopting a Garden | Washing windows |
| Helping with Newsletter mailing | Vacuuming the NEP |
| Helping the Weekly Down and Dirty Work Crew | Serving at Summer Garden Party |
| Baking Goodies for Events | Helping with activities in the Kids
BEE Happy Garden |
| Opening Gates at Dawn | Cleaning Up After Summer Garden Party |
| Supplying Appetizers | Setting up for Picnics and Performances |
| Closing Gates at Dusk | Tearing down after Picnics and Performances |
| Greeting people at Events | |

The work can be as heavy or lightweight as you can give. If you can't make it May 1 but would like to know more, contact dreinsmoen@gmail.com

Shedding Light on the Subject

Thanks to generous grant awards from the Hanson Foundation and the Worth County Development Authority visitors to Central Gardens will see new lighting features added to the signature Hackberry tree and the three bridges that span the meandering stream that transverses the Gardens. This lighting will add a much-needed safety feature and add even more beauty to the grounds. We are grateful for these awards.

Hillside Irrigation Project

The northwest hillside beside the Nature Education Pavilion, home to our most recent sculpture, The Sentinel, will now be able to be irrigated, thanks to support from the City of Clear Lake. This sculpture presides over the Ceremonial Lawn at Central Gardens and attracts many visitors. Its surroundings will now be lush enough to compliment its beauty.

Snowed in South Gate

"We were going to open the gates for prom pictures on April 14, but Mother Nature had different ideas!"



A Word of Reassurance from the Winter That Never Quit
"Spring will come, and so will happiness. Hold on. Life will get warmer." ~ Anita Krizzan

Fresh on Fridays Children's Programming

The Kids BEE Happy Garden volunteers have built an impressive line-up of children's activities that begins in early June and continue through the summer months. Events occur from 9 am-11 am and are designed as interactive opportunities to learn about nature. Look for more details in our June newsletter, but mark your calendar now.

Fresh on Fridays Bouquet Offerings

The always-popular Fresh on Friday's bouquet offerings will begin June 2nd. Grab a bouquet of freshly cut flowers straight from the gardens at a reasonable price to grace your home, welcome visitors, or surprise someone with "just a gift." Look for the volunteers who will be sporting new Fresh on Fridays t-shirts, compliments of a generous grant award from 4Imprints. We are grateful for their generosity.

Cycle on Down

A new bike rack will be added outside the main South entrance this spring. The concrete is going to be donated by Yohns Ready Mix and the concrete work done by Shane Monson Construction and CGNI volunteers. We hope this feature will provide a safe spot for all the bicyclists who want to walk through the Gardens but need a place to lock up their bikes.



"Denim & Diamonds"
Summer Garden Party

SUNDAY, JUNE 24TH

6:00PM - 8:30PM

Corner of 8th St & 2nd Ave N - Clear Lake, IA

LIVE MUSIC

**APPETIZERS, BEVERAGES,
DINNER, LIVE AUCTION**

DOOR PRIZES

(Must be present to win)

Thank You for being part of this special evening.

*Central Gardens of North Iowa is a non-profit 501(c)(3)
organization and your contribution is tax deductible

**CENTRAL
GARDENS
of NORTH IOWA** **\$35.00
ADMIT ONE**

"Denim and Diamonds" Summer Garden Party

Mark your calendars now for the new and improved annual fund-raiser to be held on Sunday, June 24th from 6-8:30 pm. We'll have the usual features--appetizers, entertainment, food and drink, and an auction--and we're also adding some surprises. It's always a great time at a reasonable cost. Y'all Come!"

Autism Event

Central Gardens of North Iowa, in collaboration with One Vision's Children's Autism Center, is pleased to host a special event for autistic children and their parents/caregivers on Sunday April 29. While the gates don't officially open until May 1, we're welcoming this special group of people early to have a personalized experience of the Gardens.

Annual Report Available On Line

The CGNI Annual Report is now on our website: www.centralgardensnorthowa.com. You'll find a great summary of 2017's wonderful upgrades to the grounds, the many events we sponsored and hosted, lists of our generous donors and sponsors, and a breakdown of the sources of both income and expenses that make up our budget.

The Gifts That Keep On Giving

Looking for a lasting way to honor a special person in your life? Donations of honoraria and memorials are always used to enhance Central Gardens' grounds and events. We also offer bricks that can be purchased for \$250.00 and pavers for \$1000.00 that can be inscribed with a special message and placed in an appropriate spot on the grounds to commemorate special anniversaries, births, and loved ones. Call 641-357-0700 to place an order.