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**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS** SPRING • 2013

CWNA Spring Clean Up Saturday, April 20, 2013 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

You are invited to form a small group (2 to 4 people) of family, friends, and neighbors to join other residents of the Capitol West Neighborhood Association's area to clean up around the main arterials in its area--from 60<sup>th</sup> St, (Midtown) West to Hwy 100, and Center North to Hampton. Why?

- You will make our West Side safer, healthier, and certainly more attractive
- You will meet other people, like you, who are concerned about the area they live and work in
- You will help maintain the value of your property because your home will be in a neighborhood that looks good.
- You will make your area less attractive to criminals. Studies have shown that robbers and burglars tend to avoid areas that are clean and tidy because they believe that caring residents might just phone the police to report suspicious behavior.
- Last but not least you will have spent several hours outdoors doing physical activity which will have a beneficial effect on your health

On SATURDAY, APRIL 20, bring your group or just come as a concerned citizen to the parking lot at North Shore Bank, 7927 W. Capitol Drive to register and to get your bags and gloves and clean up assignment or call Kathy Grothe at 414-774-1898 to register.

At Noon, everybody stops working and heads to the FREE hot dog lunch being served to all volunteers at Covenant Lutheran Church, 8121 W. Hope Avenue. It's here that you'll get your coupons for free admission to various Milwaukee County attractions including the Zoo.

In these times of economic insecurity and government cutbacks, Milwaukeeans often feel helpless. Don't! Joining the Spring Cleanup is an opportunity to your quality of life. Just do it!!

# MMSD UNVEILS "GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE" INITIATIVE

The Metro Milwaukee Sewerage District is unveiling a new initiative that is aimed at enlisting property owners to assist in meeting the nation's first wastewater discharge permit which mandates "green infrastructure" that will collect and absorb storm water. The Wisconsin DNR has issued MMSD a new fiveyear pollution discharge permit that requires the Sewerage District to establish one million gallons of socalled "green" storm-water capacity each year. Sewer pipes, bedrock tunnels and concrete reservoirs cannot be used to meet this mandate.

The district must use a variety of means to comply with the storage requirement. These include such things as rain barrels, green roofs, planting rain gardens at the end of downspouts, installing porous pavement in parking lots that allow storm water to seep into the ground, creating landscaped swales along the sides of streets, protecting wetlands and floodplains and helping property owners prevent storm runoff

from their land. Use of this green infrastructure will cut storm water overflows to waterways, and reduce the risk of sewage backups into basements.

The purchase of an acre of open space in a wetland or a river floodplain, such as the MMSD's Greenseams conservation program is doing, will add between 65,000 and 651,000 gallons of storm water storage, depending on the soil. However no more than 75% of the one million gallons each year mandated by the discharge permit can come from new purchases of wetlands or floodplains. Therefore the District must work with municipalities and private property owners to achieve at least 250,000 gallons of green storage each year.

Each rain barrel holds 55 gallons. A green roof or rain garden can hold up to three gallons of rain per square foot. So the program is absolutely dependent on the participation of individual homeowners and property owners to achieve success. For more information check <a href="http://basementconnection.mmsd">http://basementconnection.mmsd</a>.

#### DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO VOTE?



Has your voting location changed with the recent redistricting of the city? Do you know where to vote? To find out: on your computer go to <a href="http://www.milwaukee.gov">http://www.milwaukee.gov</a>. At the home page, click "City of Milwaukee." Then on the left side of the next screen, click "Where Do I Vote?" That takes you to the Election Commission web site. Enter your address information and click "Submit". Your aldermanic district, ward and polling site for the next election will appear on the screen. You can also call the Election Commission at 414-286-3491.

#### S-A-V-E T-H-I-S D-A-T-E !!!!



Tuesday, August 6, 2013
Milwaukee Police Dept. Dist. #7
NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Enderis Park Playfield (Located between 70<sup>th</sup> & 72<sup>nd</sup> Streets, Locust North to Chambers)

### CWNA SUPPORTS NEIGHBORS AT BOZA HEARING

The Capitol West Neighborhood Association joined Alderman Jim Bohl in going to bat for local neighbors at the February 21 Public Hearing of the City of Milwaukee Board of Zoning Appeals. The issue was a request by a Capitol Drive childcare center to increase its hours of operation from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. to midnight. Neighbors across the alley behind the center objected because approval meant that parents would be using the alley to get access to the back entrance of the center to pick up children as late as midnight. After hearing testimony, the Board approved the request for a one-year period with several modifications. It moved the closing time to 11:30 p.m. and stated that parents must pick up their children at the front entrance of the center after 7:30 p.m. Testifying at BOZA Hearings on behalf of resident concerns is one of the ways in which CWNA tries to represent the problems of the people of the CWNA area with the folks down at City Hall.

#### CWNA TO HOLD

#### BEAUTIFICATION CONTEST

#### KICK-OFF EVENT

The CWNA, in cooperation with North Shore Bank and the Metro Milwaukee Sewerage District, will hold a kick-off event for the 2013 Beautification Contest. The event will take place on Saturday, May 18, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the parking lot of the North Shore Bank located at 7927 West Capitol Drive.



The event will celebrate North Shore Bank's sponsorship of the 2013

**Beautification Contest with** opportunities for area residents to learn about the Contest, speak with a Master Gardener from the County Horticultural Society about their yard and garden concerns, learn about the new MMSD "green infrastructure" initiative, get a free bag of Milorganite and register to become part of the group that conducts the annual Beautification Contest. CWNA will have flowers on sale at bargain prices. There will be drawings for a free rain barrel and other prizes. The Beautification Contest is open to residents of single and two family dwellings in the CWNA area that runs from Hampton Avenue on the North, 60th Street to the East, Center Street on the South and the City of Wauwatosa on the West. The objective of the contest is to recognize homeowners who beautify their yards and, in the process, add beauty to the



neighborhoods in which they live. The way it works is that in early June teams of area residents spread out to drive on every street in the CWNA area. These teams note the single and two family dwellings that stand out. They will nominate 60 dwellings for the contest. Each will receive a sign identifying them as a Nominee in the Beautification Contest. In August they will come back to take another look at the Nominee homes to choose the winners. Winners will receive a sign designating them as Winners in the Beautification Contest. They also will receive a certificate of recognition awarded at a banquet held in the fall to honor them. Winners are not eligible to participate in the contest for the next three years after they have won.

The first meeting of the 2013
Beautification Committee will take place at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 5, in the Parish Living Room of Mother of Good Counsel Parish, 6924 West Lisbon Avenue. Parking is available in the lot east of the church or on the street. Enter through the Office entrance.



#### UPDATE ON THE RESULTS OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM TESTS IN COOPER PARK AREA

Last summer the Metro Milwaukee Sewerage District and the City of Milwaukee funded a test of the effect of liners on the laterals running from individual homes to the sewerage lines in the street. Called the Cooper Park Project, the effort involved getting homeowner approval to place a liner inside the lateral leading from each of the 563 homes in the project area. They received consent from 526 or 93% of the homeowners in the project area. This great participation assures that the reliability of the test results will be excellent. The work was completed last summer. Now all the MMSD needed was rain to conduct the test. If you remember last summer, it became quite famous because of the lack of rain that put Milwaukee in the drought category. This made it impossible to complete the test last year. The MMSD is looking forward to rain this year in order to test the effect of the lateral liners on the amount of ground water seeping into the sewage system.

The City is starting a similar project this month that involves approximately 400 homes. It will take place in an area bounded by North Sherman Blvd., North 35<sup>th</sup> Street, West Capitol Drive and West Congress Street. For further information about either of these projects you can contact Jerome Flogel of the MMSD at <a href="mailto:Jflogel@mmsd.com">Jflogel@mmsd.com</a> or by phone at 414-225-2161. The contact for the City of Milwaukee private property projects is Zapar Yousuf who can be reached at <a href="mailto:zafar.yousuf@milwaukee.gov">zafar.yousuf@milwaukee.gov</a> or at 414-286-2467.

## ENERGY SAVING PROGRAMS STILL AVAILABLE

CWNA wants to remind its members and interested readers that these energy saving programs are still available – even in these times of government budget cutting. And, with the downturn in the economy, job loss, reduced work hours, increased health and pension payments, and forced early retirement, you might find that your household income has dropped enough to make you eligible for rewards.

#### Focus on Energy-Residential

Focus on Energy's Residential programs cover the entire State of Wisconsin that means that residents of Milwaukee's West Side are certainly eligible. These Focus on Energy Residential programs show home/duplex owners how to lower their cost of living by being more energy efficient by connecting them to information, discounted energy audits, financial awards, direct install measures, and product buy downs like on ENERGY STAR appliances. You can find out how you can save energy and save money by going to www.focusonenergy.com.

#### <u>Me2 = Milwaukee Energy Efficiency</u> <u>Program</u>

Milwaukee's Energy Efficiency program is a federally funded program to help City of Milwaukee homeowners pay for energy efficient upgrades to their properties. This Me2 program makes it easy and affordable to make energy savings upgrades such as insulation, air sealing, new heating

<u>www.milwaukee.gov</u>. Me2 is on the Home page.

#### 81<sup>ST</sup> STREET NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL UPDATE

It's not easy to form a successful neighborhood school so MPS, the staff, and the Cooper Park and Enderis Park Neighbors should be congratulated on the hard work and dedication that have gone into the first year of turning the "old" 81<sup>st</sup> Street School into the 81<sup>st</sup> Street Neighborhood School. Some notable successes:

- Integration of the Early Childhood Center that was transferred from the closed 68<sup>th</sup> St. School has gone smoothly, and enrollment in the K3, K4, and K5 program is almost full for the 2013-14 school year.
- MPS has approved of the gradual elimination of Grades 6, 7, and 8 over the next 4 years that will result in a K3-Gr 5 Elementary School.
- Our 81<sup>st</sup> Street Neighborhood School has been chosen to be one of only 3 schools in Milwaukee to participate in the Personalized Learning program that has been highly successful nationally. This program is innovative, tech-savvy, and has shown to increase test scores and achievement.

The MPS School Board also passed a \$500,000 budget for our new Neighborhood School which will include: 1) "greening" the playground, 2) technology improvements such as laptops for teachers and smart boards, 3) remodeling old spaces to increase the useable space of the building, and 4) moving the library from the basement to a larger room on the upper floor that has windows.

CWNA is proud to report these successes because it believes that our West Side area deserves to have the very best schools in the city. CWNA also believes its members should be aware of what is being done in the public schools in its area because good public schools are well worth neighbors' efforts – good schools with engaged students and parents raise the quality of life in a community as well as the property values.

#### Your CWNA Board of Directors - 2013-14

Kathy Grothe-President-from Enderis Park area

Betty Heiden-Vice-President-from Capitol Heights area

Cal McIntyre-Secretary-from the Nash Park area

Bob Grothe-Treasurer-from the Enderis Park area

Carol Herrmann–from North Shore Bank

Matthew Larson-from Capitol Dr./Appleton Ave. area

Savannah Sledge-from Morse/Marshall School for Gifted & Talented area

As you can see, CWNA Board members come from diverse neighborhoods. They understand neighborhood issues and are willing to help with your concerns. You can reach board members by calling **414-921-0912** and leaving a voice message. You can also find CWNA on social media sites:

Twitter - CWNAMilwaukee

Facebook – Capitol West Neighborhood Association

Web site – capitolwestneighborhoodassociation

Capitol West Neighborhood Association PO Box 18146 Milwaukee, WI 53218-0146