

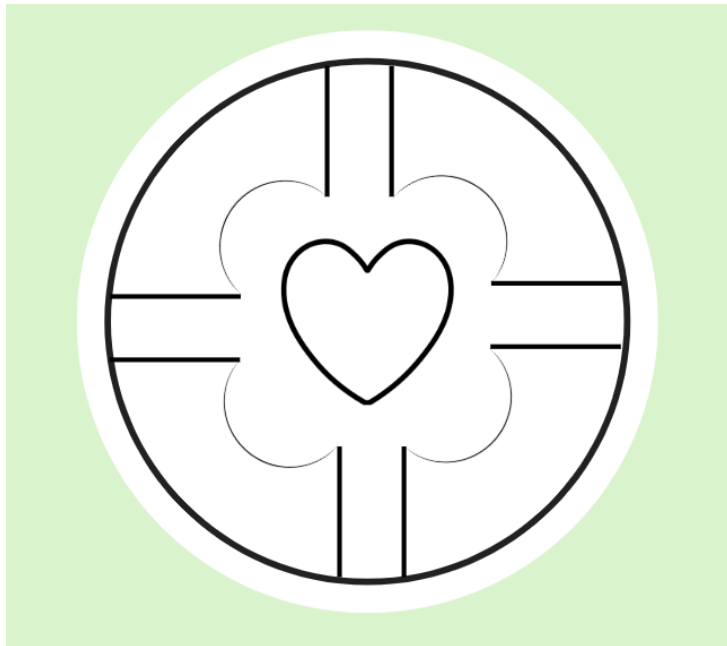
Proposal for Flower Garden at Community Park

Proposed by Alison Hollis

During the July 21, 2026 Parks and Recreation Meeting

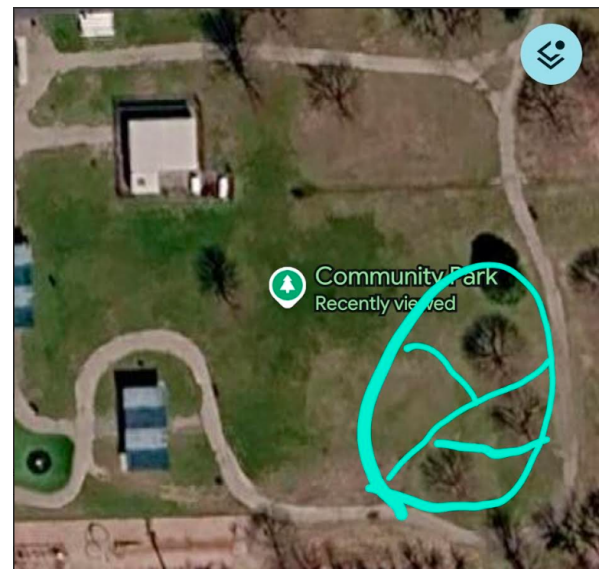
Proposal: A 50ft by 50ft flower garden located in Community Park on Havenridge. The addition of the flower garden would serve as an improved green space where community members can engage with the natural environment and a food source for local animals like butterflies.

Why: In an effort to help reduce the environmental toll of development, it is important that we as a society better utilize our green spaces for oxygen production and CO2 absorption, as well as provide a home for the animals we displace.

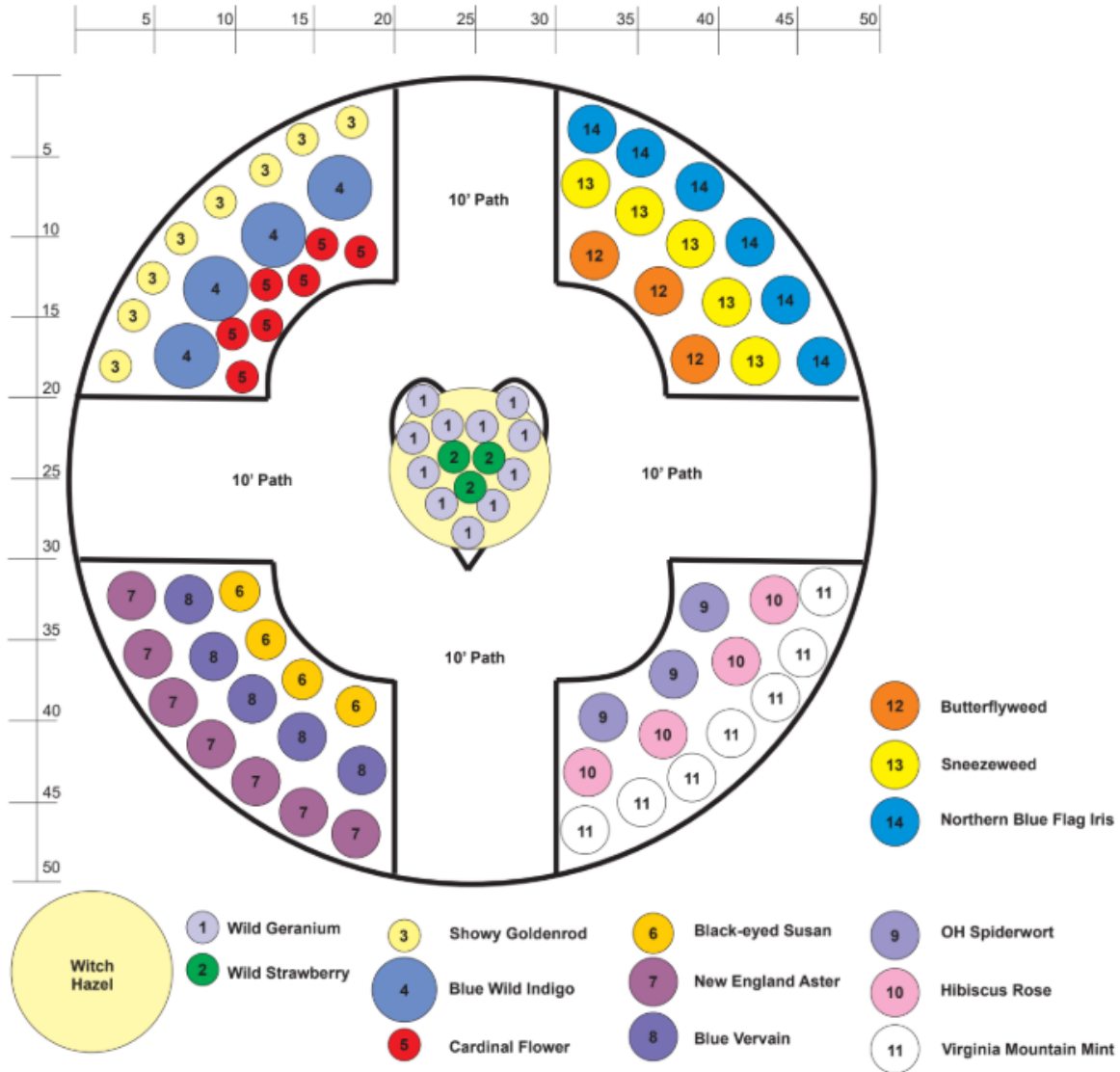


This image serves as the new design for the flower garden. The circular shape will make it easier for DPW to mow the surrounding grass, and the circle is a calming shape for the brain. I have opted to include a heart in the center to break up the similar shapes and act as the “heart” of the garden. There are also now 4 pathways for symmetry. I would like to include a paved walkway leading to the east entrance to make it handicap accessible.

The space circled on the map is the proposed location of the garden. I chose this location because I liked how it wouldn't be tucked away behind the basketball court and soccer field, so more people are likely to visit the site. Additionally, the trees could serve as an added source of shade during parts of the day.



Proposed Vision for the Site



[Link to Canva Presentation to View What the Flowers Look Like](#)

Total (Including Tax) (2026 Pricing): \$612.47

Name	Quantity	Per Unit Price (Pre-Tax)	Total Price (Pre-Tax)	
Witch Hazel	1	\$24.00	\$24.00	
Wild Geranium	11	\$9.00	\$99.00	
Wild Strawberry	3	\$6.30	\$18.90	
Showy Goldenrod	8	\$6.30	\$50.40	

Blue Wild Indigo	4	\$6.30	\$25.20	
Cardinal Flower	7	\$6.30	\$44.10	
New England Aster	7	\$6.30	\$44.10	
Black Eyed Susan	4	\$6.30	\$25.20	
Blue Vervain	6	\$6.30	\$37.80	
Hibiscus Rose	4	\$6.30	\$25.20	
Ohio Spiderwort	3	\$6.30	\$18.90	
Virginia Mountain Mint	7	\$6.30	\$44.10	
Sneezeweed	5	\$6.30	\$31.50	
Butterfly Weed	3	\$6.30	\$18.90	
Northern Blue Flag	6	\$6.30	\$37.80	

Proposed Budget: \$8,354.52

Community Garden Budget Proposal

Object	Quantity	Cost (USD)
Plants	79	\$612.47
Benches	4	\$1,084.91
Chicken Wire	100ft	\$24.37
6 inch Staples	150	\$18.01
Plaques	Varibale depending on donors and size Est. \$700	
Tiles	1,041 square feet	\$5,414.76
Emergency Fund	--	\$500
		Total: \$8,354.52

- The price of the flowers could be reduced if the village were to set up a wholesale account with the grower.
- The price could also be further reduced if the village were to go with concrete instead of tiles. I chose tiles because I feel they are prettier, but I recognize that they are a large portion of the total proposed budget. [Link to View the Tile on the Lowes Website](#)
- The chicken wire and staples would be used to protect some of the flowers for a season or two as they mature, so they can withstand wildlife grazing.
- The bench would be wood because the garden would be mostly in direct sunlight, and metal would get too hot. [Link to View the Bench on the Lowes Website](#)
- Below are pictures of the proposed tile and bench.



Fundraising Ideas

- Adopt a bench
 - People can donate the money to purchase both a bench and a plaque, which their name will be engraved into. I would say \$300 because it is a round number, and there would be money left to go to the rest of the garden.
- Adopt a flower
 - 78 flowers would be available for adoption, and people could adopt as many as they would like and have their name engraved on a plaque in the center of the garden (names listed in order based on who donated the most and alphabetically). The cost to adopt a flower would be \$15.00.
- Adopt a tree

- 1 person could adopt a tree for \$50.00 and have their own plaque in front of the tree saying they donated it.
- Adopt a flower and adopt a tree profit margin
 - The following total would be based on the retail price, so if we could set up a wholesale account and receive the plants at a lower cost, we would have more money to spend on different aspects of the garden. Profits from the flowers would be \$592.04 and from the tree would be \$24.56, bringing the total to \$616.60, which would be used to buy the plaques, plaque stands, and pay for the engraving. Any leftover money would be used for buying ground cover, which, as of currently, would be taken out of the emergency fund as we figure out the spacing after the plants are placed, or it could go towards paying for the informational plaques in the garden.
- Vote for ground cover
 - After the garden is approved, we could release a form entailing what flowers will be included in the garden and a list of possible ground covers that could be used. People could pay \$1.00 to vote for which ground cover they want, and if they think there should be 1 for the entire garden or each section should have its own. This fundraising idea would not only pay for the ground cover, but also raise awareness for the upcoming garden installation, which could also help with sourcing volunteers for the planting and minimal upkeep of the garden. People could either Venmo in a dollar with their answer or bring in a dollar with their written answer. If not enough money is raised through this process, the ground cover would be paid for from the leftover profits of the adopt-a-flower and adopt-a-tree.

Special Program

- The garden will include signs informing people about the importance of planting native plants and the 15 different species of plants in the garden. By including the informational aspect to the garden, it will both provide community engagement and allow the garden to count as an MSU Extension Master Gardener volunteer project.
- Additionally, I would like to make the garden qualify for a Native Garden Certificate, and so I would like to work with the Parks and Rec Council to determine which practices would be feasible. The certificate is from the [Six Rivers Land Conservancy](#) organization.

Choose at least 3 of the following (from their Website):

Reduce pesticide use with Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Chop and drop plant material to feed soil naturally

Use a broom or electric blower instead of gas-powered tools or hose

Install drip irrigation or a soaker hose instead of sprinklers

Use a rain barrel to capture and reuse water

Install a rain garden to manage stormwater runoff
Limit impervious surfaces (like concrete or pavement)
Mow high and leave grass clippings on the lawn
Compost garden and kitchen waste
Test your soil before applying fertilizer
Manage or remove invasive species
Install motion-sensing lights to reduce light pollution
Add a bat house to support natural pest control
Volunteer at a Six Rivers Stewardship Day

- Another aspect I would like to include in the project is a winter sowing event, which its location is to be determined. The event would serve as a place where people can become aware of the garden and volunteer if they would like, as well as learn about the benefits of native plants. Winter sowing makes the seeds hardier by acclimating them to harsh temperatures; additionally, it can be a way to save money when buying the plants, as seeds are cheaper than buying fully grown plants.

Site Preparation/Timeline

- Scalp as low as possible with a mower
- Top with 8" of arborist woodchips
 - Woodchips can be sourced for free from local tree trimming companies or a website called Chip Drop.
- Let the woodchips work over the winter to suppress weeds and retain moisture in the soil.
- When the ground thaws, start working with volunteers to lay tile and create the flower bed space.
- Start planting in May.

Partner

- I have been working with Macomb County MSUE Master Gardener Jean Persely to design all aspects included in the proposal. Ms. Persely is a landscape designer and has been a part of projects like the April Milsap Memorial Garden in Armada. Currently, she is working on the rain garden at the Armada Senior Center and revamping Armada's pocket park.