

Jordan Community Garden
Garden Maintenance and Upkeep Plan 2005

“Our mission: beautify the neighborhood, promote cross-cultural interaction, connect youth with their food source, provide a watchful eye, and demonstrate landscaping possibilities to our community.”

The Jordan Community Garden represents the hope of this community to take back its streets. Residents of Jordan have been gardening together for the past three years. Many people came together and braved the threats and taunts of the drug dealers who had “owned” that corner for some time. One of those people was shot with a pellet gun, and another was threatened by a child with a handgun. Despite the danger, the citizens of Jordan persevered. They have transformed a once vacant lot into a community gathering place, a focal point for neighborhood aspirations, and a positive statement of community. As a result of their efforts, the corner at 26th and Knox transformed. Last summer, there was virtually no presence of dealers on that corner.

Below please find our garden maintenance and upkeep plans. Although we are aware that a maintenance plan is not usually submitted with lot purchase arrangements, we are happy to provide the City Council with this additional information.

Garden work is overseen by the Jordan Area Community Council environmental committee, which consists of Jordan residents and a JACC staff member. We currently have over a dozen committed gardeners and over 40 volunteers, making it easily one of Jordan’s most successful community programs. The Community Garden is also included in our NRP Phase II plan.

From April until snowfall, volunteer gardeners and JACC staff members have committed to working in the garden at least once a week on Saturday afternoons – planting, watering, weeding, cleaning, mowing, and any other necessary work. JACC staff work hard to maintain and increase the garden volunteer base. Our recent award of a Fiskars Orange Thumb Community Garden grant will no doubt increase participation in and commitment to the garden, magnifying the garden’s positive role for residents of Jordan. Additional garden perimeter clean-up will be conducted while residents and staff are on their regular Friday afternoon neighborhood patrols. The Environmental Committee has also made plans for special educational gardening programs for Jordan youth. During the winter months, if JACC purchases the property, we will follow Minneapolis property-owner regulations such as shoveling snow, cleaning.

Please feel free to contact JACC staff if you have any further questions.

Respectfully,

JACC Staff