The Fountains

The Phelps Fountain was donated in 1915 by then Park Commissioner E.J. Phelps. It was moved from its original site at Gateway Park in downtown Minneapolis and installed on the east end of the newly created Perennial and Annual Display Garden in the early 1960’s. The marble and bronze piece includes the cast faces of many historical figures. Test your knowledge of a few of the local characters that made Minneapolis and the surrounding communities what they are today!

The Helfferich Fountain that graces the upper portion of the Rose Garden was donated in 1944 by Frank T. Helfferich. Originally from Italy, the bronze and marble fountain was designed and built for the Villa Montalto in Fiesole. The Greco-Roman characters featured include a central figure that suggests the sea god Neptune. Cherub-like figures known as putti rest on the edge of the upper basin and winged satyrs are found on the pedestal base. Notice the age progression of the satyrs as you circle the fountain.

Please note: For your safety, do not allow children or pets to drink or play in the water. Wading by visitors and their pets is strictly prohibited and can damage the lining of the fountains.

Pathway to Peace Cairns

From West 40th Street and Bryant Avenue South to Lyndale Park along Roseway Road, a series of seven stone sculptures connect the East Harriet neighborhood to the Peace Garden. Each cairn contains words representing the community’s feelings about the meaning of peace.

Rose Garden

Constructed in 1907 and planted in 1908, this garden was the vision of Theodore Wirth. Determined to prove that Minnesotans could grow roses, Lyndale Park’s Rose Garden is the second oldest public rose garden in the United States.

Today, the Rose Garden consists of 62 central beds and border beds along the interior and exterior perimeter. The first peak of blooms typically occurs in mid to late June with flowers continuing into early October. Colors are enhanced by cooler weather, making September an ideal time to visit.

Maintenance efforts for the central beds include disease and insect monitoring and the application of plant protectants. Routine fungicide applications reduce the occurrence of Black Spot and Powdery Mildew.

Japanese Beetles have become one of the greatest challenges we face. However, our beneficial insect populations and our proximity to Lake Harriet limit what we can use to control the damage they inflict while feeding.

When populations are low, we hand pick the beetles and submerge them in detergent water; when high, we apply a systemic insecticide.

At the end of October, all non-hardy roses are fenced in and thoroughly covered with mulch for the winter.

Photography, Weddings and Events

Lyndale Park is the perfect place to get married, take family portraits, or host large get-togethers. Please note that permits are required for these and other professionally-coordinated events. Contact our Customer Service Department at 612-230-6400 to obtain your permit.

Volunteering

Many opportunities exist for volunteers at Lyndale Park. MPRB staff need dedicated people to help deadhead roses, weed garden beds, plant annuals in the spring and bulbs in the fall, and anything else you would be interested in learning. Please contact our Volunteer Department at 612-230-6434 or email volunteer@minneapolisparks.org and tell them you want to join us at the Gardens at Lyndale Park!

Resources — For more information:

- All American Rose Selections  
  www.rose.org
- All-America Selections  
  www.all-americaselections.org
- University of Minnesota’s Plant Trait Website  
  www.facts.umn.edu
- Men’s Garden Club of Minneapolis  
  www.mgcmn.org
- Minneapolis Parks Foundation  
  www.minneapolisparks.org
- North American Rock Garden Society  
  www.nARGS.org
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board  
  www.minneapolisparks.org

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Welcome to Lyndale Park

This area was first proposed as a garden of trees, shrubs and flowers in 1907, by then Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Superintendent Theodore Wirth. The Lyndale Park Arboretum now houses a collection of over 350 woody plants well-suited to inspire gardeners to practice the art of enduring landscaping.

Although the idea of the Arboretum was first proposed in 1907, it was not until 1910 when the first trees and shrubs were planted. By 1915, the bulk of the collection was installed.

In 1974, the Minneapolis Municipal Hiking Club (MMHC) began planting a grove of crabapples east of the Rose Garden, with yearly contributions continuing to honor members no longer walking the trails. Additionally, the Men’s Garden Club of Minneapolis (MGCM) has sponsored Arbor Day plantings since 1982 to build the Arboretum’s collection. Memorial trees and benches are also popular at Lyndale Park. To purchase a tree for loved ones or cherished events, please call the Minneapolis Parks Foundation at 612-822-2656 for more information.

AAS Display and Hummingbird and Butterfly Gardens

At the northwest corner of Lyndale Park, one will encounter the Hummingbird and Butterfly Gardens. Past and current All-America Selections (AAS) winners are planted by neighboring schools’ students. Additional annuals and perennials have been selected to provide food and habitat for these interesting creatures. AAS honored this garden in 2009 with an Exemplary Education Award for MPRB’s continuing work with children interested in gardening.

Perennial Trial Garden

Continuing east through the park toward Roseway Road is the Perennial Trial Garden, planted and maintained by MGCM. Once designed as a perennial garden border by Theodore Wirth and then Horticulturist Louis Boeglin, it now serves as one of Minnesota’s three public perennial trial gardens. A cooperative project with MPRB, the University of Minnesota’s Department of Horticultural Science and MGCM, plants are evaluated in these beds for three years to determine hardiness, flowering potential, and disease and insect resistance. The data collected from five sites in the state is published on the University’s Plant Trial website.

Perennial Mixed Border

Located behind the Trial Garden is a spacious border area backed by large evergreens. The MGCM designs the area and donates new varieties of low maintenance and hardy perennials, shrubs and ornamental grasses that homeowners can dependably grow in their own yards.

Peace Garden

In 1998, the Rock Garden was formally renamed the Peace Garden, and designated an International Peace Site on May 3, 1999. Exhibiting unusual conifers and alpine plants from some of the most peaceful places on earth, some of the more popular displays include Pasque Flower in March, Creeping Phlox in April and May, Delphinium and Callirhoe during the summer, and asters in the fall. Snow accentuates the texture and form of the evergreens making the Peace Garden enjoyable all year long.

The Perennial and Annual Display Garden

Originally an addition to the Rose Garden in 1963, citizens and park staff deemed it important to expand the show of perennial and annual plants in the park giving them a prominent display area. The perennial plants in the border are semi-permanent, however the annual displays are newly created each year. Exciting annual varieties, as well as color combinations, designed by the Horticulture staff contribute to the dynamic atmosphere of the garden.

Art and Structures in the Peace Garden

Because the Japanese believed that evil travels in a straight line, the peace bridge guides visitors into changing direction. Inscribed stone pillars from Hiroshima and Nagasaki are located at each end. Two Peace Poles located just north of the bridge, and near the Roseway Road sidewalk on the east side of the garden road, “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in several different languages.

In 2006, the Spirit of Peace sculpture was added to illustrate the ancient craft of origami. The 14-foot bronze standing crane sculpture honors Sadako Sasaki, a girl who developed cancer from the radiation of the bomb at Hiroshima. Japanese legend tells us that those who fold one thousand paper cranes will be granted a wish.