Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Parks & Recreation Adopt-a-Garden Program

What is the program?

The Adopt A Garden Program is a cooperative venture between Orion Township and its residents, businesses and local organizations. Through an agreement with the Township Parks & Recreation Department a group, individual, business, club or organization assumes responsibility for assisting in the design, care and maintenance of a garden on park property.

What was the program created?

The program was created after local citizens, clubs and organizations expressed an interest in creating new gardens and also assisting with the existing beds in the Township park system.



What are the program goals?

- To educate participates on the basics of horticulture and garden maintenance.
- To beautify the Township and empower its citizens.

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To encourage the adoption of existing gardens on Township property.

- To design and maintain new gardens.
- To promote the use of plants that are appropriate for a particular site.

How do residents, businesses and clubs benefit?

You or your business, club, or organization will benefit through an increased sense of ownership of your community and through the satisfaction of volunteering. Also, a sign bearing the adopting group, club, business, organization or individual's name will be placed in the garden.

In addition, your name will be put on our website as an Adopt-a-Garden Sponsor or Volunteer. Materials, including gloves, bark, mulch, tools, and trash bags will be provided by the Township. The flowers, bulbs, shrubs and trees will be purchased through our Adopt-a-Park sponsors. All garden designs, purchase of materials and plants, trees or shrubs must be approved by the Parks & Recreation Department.

What do I need to do?

- Pick up an Adopt-a-Garden <u>application</u> at the Parks & Recreation office (or print it from here).
- Adopt an existing garden and install new seasonal plantings. Keep the garden weed-free, mulched and watered. Remove litter or debris. Maintain the garden as needed through the spring, summer and fall.
- Report dead, damaged and diseased plants, shrubs or trees.

• If an individual, group, business, club or organization wishes to create, develop, expand or modify a garden, please contact the <u>Community Programs Director</u> for a meeting, fill out an Adopt-a-Garden <u>application</u>, and submit a plan to the Director.

How do I apply for the Adopt-a-Garden program?

First, submit an <u>application</u>. If approved, the Department will set up a meeting with you or your group, club, business, or organization. The Department will finalize a yearlong commitment for the garden that is being adopted or newly created and have you sign an Adopt A Garden Agreement. Next - start gardening!

For more information for you, your family, or local businesses to participate in our Adopt a Garden Program, please contact Parks & Recreation at (248) 391-0304, ext. 143.

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