

**Memorandum
Community & Economic Development Department**



To: Thomas Thomas, City Manager
Subject: Rain Garden & Community Garden Awards
Date: October 28, 2015

The Beautification Commission is pleased to announce this year's awards for "Best Rain Garden" and Community Garden recognition for City Council's November 2nd meeting. Mayor Pauley will say a few words about each award and call the winners forward and Beautification Commission Chairman Bob Towler will congratulate them and present them with a certificate. Afterwards, a group photo will be taken of all the winners.

This is the 10th annual "Best Rain Garden" contest. The purpose of the contest is to recognize citizens who show pride in their properties and their neighborhoods by keeping remarkably neat and well-maintained rain gardens. Pictures were taken of each rain garden and Commission members voted on the most outstanding rain gardens of 2014-2015. A list of recipients' names and addresses are listed below; many are expected to attend the November 2nd Council meeting.

2014-2015 Rain Garden Awards

1st Place: Kai & Jennifer Swanson at 2514 – 22½ Avenue
2nd Place: Marvin & Judy Neely at 1208 - 19th Street
3rd Place: David Round at 1840 - 17th Street
Honorable Mention: Jordan Catholic School at 2901 - 24th Street

The purpose of the Community Garden Awards is to recognize citizens and organizations who show pride in their gardens and their neighborhoods by keeping remarkably neat and well-maintained community gardens. Pictures were taken of twenty-seven community gardens located on City-owned lots and the Beautification Commission members voted to commend all Rock Island Community Garden supporters and participants with a certificate. An overall winner is not chosen, nor are winners ranked; rather, the Beautification Commission recognizes the top three community gardens, as well as an honorable mention. A list of recipients' names and addresses are listed below and many are expected to attend the November 2nd Council meeting.

2015 Community Garden Awards

Odell Hickman garden at 1040 - 16th Street
Sheila Solomon, 6th Avenue Neighborhood Block Club garden at 1323-25 - 6th Avenue
David Popp, 15th Avenue Christian Church garden at 1523 - 36th Street
Honorable Mention: Denkmann Elementary School garden at 4101 - 22nd Avenue