

# SHOW US YOUR GREEN THUMB!

## Join us to create neighborhood gardens in Stevens Point!

One more site was added in 2009, the second year of this project, bringing the total to three: "Franklin Street", "Third Street North", and "Cornell & West Whitney".

Gardeners must submit registration applications to Golden Sands RC&D by the due date indicated. All sites, except Third Street North, offer 4' x 12' raised beds with a limit of 2 per gardener. 20'x20' plots or half-sized 10'x20' plots will be assigned at the Third Street North site. Gardeners in the immediate neighborhood are given priority. Gardeners can expect to start planting on these "ready to go" sites by May 1st, weather permitting.

Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, Inc. was established in 1972. Our primary concern is to improve the area's economy, while conserving its natural resources. We are an independent, not for profit 501 (c)(3), non-partisan group.



**Golden Sands**  
Resource Conservation  
& Development Council, Inc.

1100 Main Street, Suite #150  
Stevens Point, WI 54481



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## Stevens Point Area Neighborhood Gardens

*Sponsored by: The City of Stevens Point and Golden Sands Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D)*



**PLACES TO GARDEN AND GATHER**

**(715) 343-6215**

**[www.goldensandsrccd.org](http://www.goldensandsrccd.org)**

Golden Sands RC&D and its partners prohibit discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status

# Multiple Benefits of Neighborhood Gardening

Neighborhood Gardens:

- \* are economically beneficial to local governments. Developing and maintaining garden space is less expensive than parkland area.
- \* provide a place to retreat from the noise and commotion of urban environments. Exposure to green space reduces stress and increases a sense of wellness and belonging
- \* have been shown to increase property values in the immediate vicinity where they are located.
- \* add beauty to the community and heighten people's awareness and appreciation for living things.
- \* allow families and individuals without land of their own the opportunity to produce food.



Studies have shown that gardeners and their children eat healthier, more nutrient rich diets than do non-gardening families.

Local agriculture conserves resources by shortening the commodity chain, reducing fuel demanding transportation and packaging.

## The Project

The Stevens Point Area Neighborhood Gardens (SPANG) project started in December 2007 with a small group of interested citizens from the City of Stevens Point, Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D), University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Sustainable Agriculture in Communities Society (SACS), Interfaith Community for the Earth (ICE), and Portage County Master Gardeners.

Gardens will initially be established on City properties. Plots will be rented to residents for a small annual fee, with preference given to those living nearby.

Our mission is to strengthen our community by providing common ground for neighbors to garden together and get to know each other.

For new gardens, registration materials will be delivered in opportune neighborhoods in early April. A meeting will be scheduled near the new garden site by mid-April to get interested gardeners together and answer questions. Neighbors will register for plots by May 1 and will be notified of their garden plot assignment by mid-May. Plots not rented by neighbors will be opened to other City residents by mid-May.

Plot fees go towards expense of establishing and mentoring the gardens. Gardens will have an appropriate perimeter fence, composting area and water barrels. A tool chest with some garden tools to share may also be provided.

Experienced gardeners will be asked to "mentor" new gardeners, and returning gardeners will have first preference on renewals.

Group activities will be encouraged such as a harvest festival and clean-up at the end of the season.

Site Captains or Golden Sands RC&D will help organize events, provide advice, and assist with any questions.

Golden Sands RC&D is the sparkplug that gets these gardens started, after that, the gardeners and volunteers provide the fuel to keep them going.



## The Gardeners

Participating gardeners are asked each year to agree to some simple rules, which include:

- \* I will maintain my garden on a regular basis of at least once per week; including planting, watering, weeding, and harvesting. I will keep weeds down and maintain the areas immediately surrounding my plot.

- \* I will respect the rights of those filling water barrels and will not help myself to their hose, unless allowed to.

- \* I understand that this is a neighborhood garden and in order for it to succeed gardener support is needed to maintain the site, manage compost, take care of equipment, plan and execute produce giveaways, help keep site free from debris, participate in work parties, and plan celebrations.

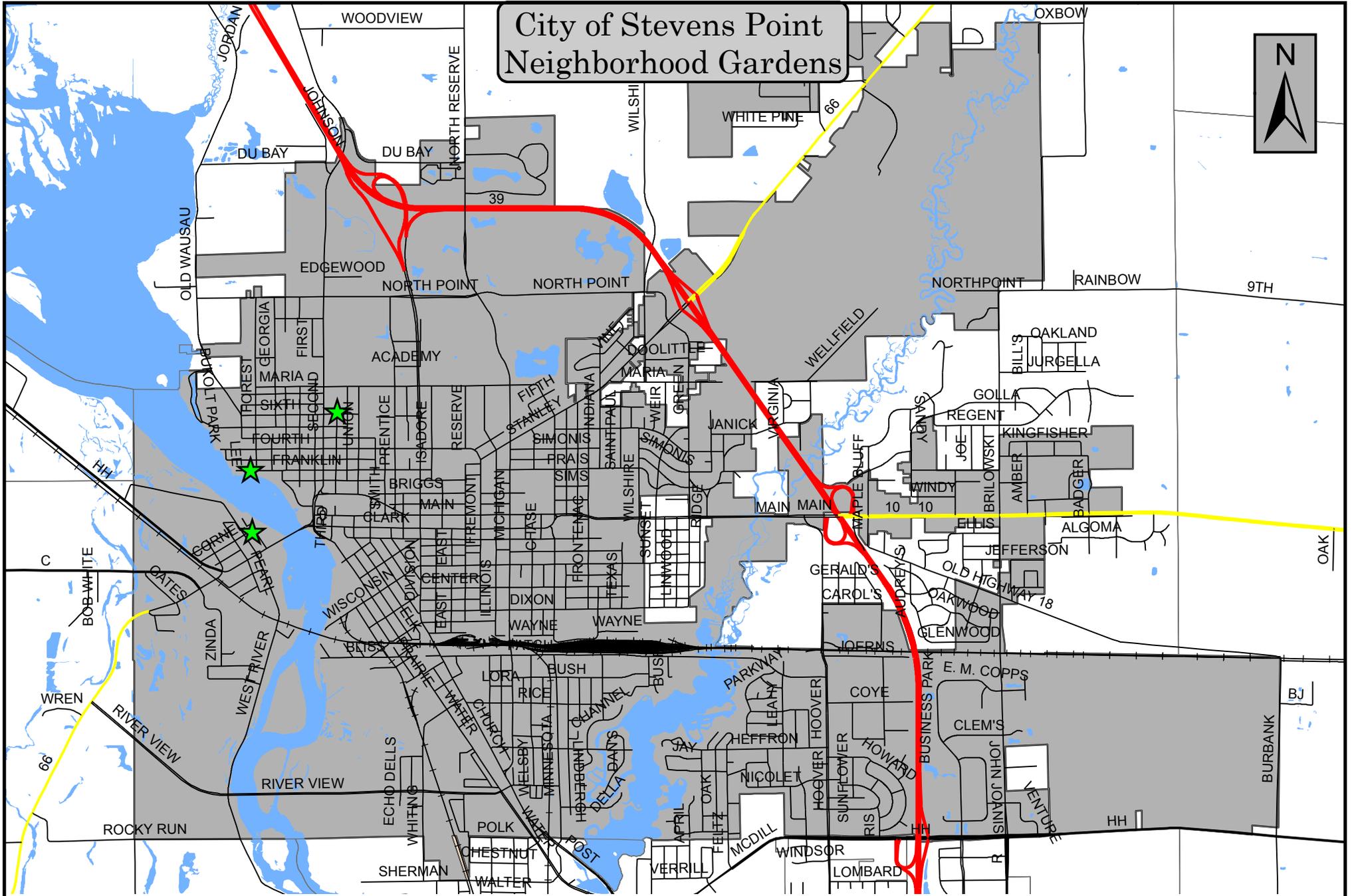
- \* I commit to using organic gardening methods and will not use synthetic chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides, etc.) in or near the gardens.

**For more information contact:**



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# City of Stevens Point Neighborhood Gardens



1 in = 1 miles

City of Stevens Point  
Community Development Department

- ★ Neighborhood Gardens
- Stevens Point
- Interstate 39
- Highways

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