

Westcott Neighborhood Bulb Planting Project

“adding lasting beauty to the Westcott neighborhood area since 2003”



The Westcott Neighborhood Bulb Planting Project started in 2003.

Initially inspired by a springtime hike, our project is based on the belief that spring-flowering, perennial, naturalizing bulbs – which will multiply over time and come back for many years – will add lasting beauty to the Westcott neighborhood area. With the help of residents, community groups, local foundations and neighborhood businesses, we raised funds with which to purchase thousands of bulbs for distribution to neighborhood residents. The Bulb Project has distributed these bulbs free of charge, on the condition that they be planted in the Westcott neighborhood in places where they were visible from the street so they could be enjoyed by all passing by.

In 2003 – our first year – we raised funds to purchase 2,300 bulbs, and the following year we were able to purchase and distribute 4,100 bulbs. In 2005, over 200 neighbors came to the Westcott Community Center to pick up bulbs, and community groups did plantings at schools, churches, libraries and other public spaces. Altogether, the Bulb Project contributed 8,500 bulbs for planting in our neighborhood in 2005.

*In 2006, between people showing up for the bulb give away and volunteers planting at schools and public places, we were able to get 10,000 bulbs planted in the neighborhood. **In 2007 300 neighbors showed up at the Westcott Community Center to pick up 5,400 bulbs and an additional 3,000 were planted by schools and community groups. By 42,000 spring blooming, perennial bulbs have been planted in the neighborhood.***

We purchase our bulbs wholesale from a representative from Van Bloem gardens. In addition to bulbs, we make free com-post available, courtesy of Toad Hollow Compost (315.345- 5451, www.toadhollowfarms.com), and provide planting instructions to residents of the neighborhood. Neighbors, students, teachers and volunteers provide the labor.

We see the project as a way to promote our neighborhood as a caring place and in the process make some new friends! In addition to 300 homes in the neighborhood, crocus and daffodils bulbs were planted at the following locations: In the tree pits along Westcott St. and Harvard Place in the business district; Petit Branch Library on Victoria Place; Westcott Community Center, (corner of Euclid & Westcott. St.); Levy Middle School in the Levy Habitat Garden; Sumner School on S. Beech; Ed Smith School on Lancaster; Nottingham High School; and Berkley Park Median.

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How You Can Help

For more information and photos, visit the Bulb Project web page at: www.bulbproject.org

1. Come to the Bulb Give Away - Garden Extravaganza at the Westcott Community Center on the first Saturday in October between 10:00am and 2:00pm. Residents from the Westcott neighborhood can pick up a bundle of bulbs to plant in the front of their house where they will be visible for all to see. Bulbs available on a first come basis. For information call the Westcott Community Center at **315.478-8634**.

2. Get a group together and volunteer to help plant bulbs at a public space in the neighborhood. In the first four years bulbs have been planted at schools, libraries, churches, parks, along Westcott St., at the homes of senior citizens, etc. If you have a bulb planting project in mind for the Westcott neighborhood submit a proposal with your plans and the number of bulbs you want and email the Bulb Project at info@bulbproject.org or call 315.476-3396.

3. Make a contribution. We need your help to continue to enhance the natural beauty of spring in the Westcott neighborhood. Tax-deductible contribution checks should be made out to Westcott Community Center. For the funds to be properly credited to the Bulb Project account, it is important for you to write Bulb Planting Project in the memo line of your check. Send your check to: **Westcott Community Center 826 Euclid Avenue, Syracuse, 13210.**

4. Buy or sell Bulb Project Raffle tickets. The raffle is a key component of our yearly fund-raising efforts. Tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5 or 15 for \$10. Tickets can be purchased by emailing Jane Tretler at jtretler@verizon.net or calling 315.637-0331.

This year we have seven prizes valued at \$350 donated by the following generous supporters:

* Four specialty packets of 150 perennial bulbs each from Pat Koloski, sales rep for VanBloem Gardens. Value \$45 each.

* \$50 gift certificate donated by: Watson's Garden Center -Lafayette, NY -315-677- 0286,
www.watsongreenhouse.com

* Gardeners Gift Box donated by: Syracuse Soap Works - Gardener's liquid soap, hand soap bar and hand cream. www.syracusesoapworks.com, 1153 West Fayette St., Syracuse, NY, 315-479-0400. \$25 value

* Large wooden flower box with assorted garden delights - \$100 value! Eileen Heagerty, Heagerty's Home & Garden Store