

FAIRGROUNDS EDUCATIONAL GARDEN

Marshfield

2022 was the Twentieth Anniversary of the Fairground Educational Garden.

Located at 513 E. 17th Street in Marshfield Fairgrounds Park, it is a charming addition to the Park and a favorite attraction for visitors during the annual Central Wisconsin State Fair in August.



Eleven themed gardens surround a gazebo, designed by Ron Meyers and Pat Watson, which was erected in 2001-2002 with the help of the Fair Ground Committee. A team of Wood County Master Gardeners and local volunteers designed the garden at its inception and continue to update and care for the gardens today. Education is the primary goal of the garden, although many people stop by just to relax and enjoy the view. Themes include a Rose garden, daylily garden, cut-flower garden and bird sanctuary. Other gardens demonstrate how to design a deer resistant garden, butterfly garden, alpine rock garden, herb garden, and a quilt patterned garden using low maintenance sedums. Hosta, hibiscus, and grasses are the focus of other garden plots.

Financial support of the garden originally came from the Bette Adler Family, Wood County Master Gardeners, and the Fairground Committee. In addition to WCMGA, continued support comes from citizens and businesses in the Marshfield area, the City of Marshfield, The Fairgrounds Committee, and the Marshfield Parks Department.

Those involved in the original design of the garden include Joy Close, former Wood County Extension Horticultural Advisor and charter member of WCMGA; Roger Schalow; Harry Nienaber; and Joyce Fischer. Joyce, the longtime Team Leader is now a Retired MG serving with the current MG Team. Local craftsman, Clyde Winnia donated the large steel pot located behind the gazebo that is planted with annuals using a different theme every year.

The garden is open for visits year round. It is located next to the Curling Building.

*“A Garden is not
a place; It’s a
journey”*

