



Dear Sheffield Neighbor:

Planning is underway for this year's 50th Annual Sheffield Music Festival & Garden Walk (SMF&GW) to be held on July 21 and July 22. We are hoping that YOU, our Sheffield neighbors, will support this milestone event by showing your gardens. It is hard to believe this event started in 1969 with approximately 15 gardens and a greater number of garage sales. This event might have been the impetus for the gentrification and growth of our fabulous neighborhood. Since 1969, the proceeds from this festival have been reinvested in the Sheffield neighborhood helping our schools, parks, beautification, and other social service organizations. Additionally, the proceeds also have supported the efforts of the Sheffield Neighborhood Association (SNA) through its work in planning and zoning, community safety, concerts and movies in the park, the *Sheffield Neighborhood News* publication, schools, and many other neighborhood activities. The SNA has continuing interaction with the aldermen that serve our neighborhood. The Garden Walk is the fundraiser for the SNA.

Sheffield Neighbor, this is where we need your help. There are many beautiful gardens in the Sheffield neighborhood, including your garden. Please take this opportunity to show off your garden and demonstrate why the Sheffield neighborhood is such a great place to live. It is free and easy to be a part of the SMF&GW. If you are a prior exhibitor or are planning to show off your garden for the first time, we look forward to your participation. You can display either the front, back, side, or all of your garden. We welcome multi-unit condominiums, apartment buildings, and homes. The gardens will be open both days from noon until 5:30 p.m. It is not necessary to be home; however, it would be nice for you to visit with the garden guests. Before the SMF&GW, you will receive a SMF&GW poster for display in your window, a free guidebook, and a garden number sign. The variety of garden settings that people create and share are part of what makes this neighborhood so attractive and unique.

This year the SNA is bringing some exciting ideas to the SMF&GW. There will be the 7th Annual Craft Beer and Wine Festival on Saturday and Sunday afternoons in the St. Vincent's parking lot. There will be north and south stages on Sheffield featuring some incredible Chicago groups, including the Buckingham's, Ides of March, Shadows of Knight, New Colony Six, Freddy Jones Band, and other current and nostalgic music entertainment. As always, there will be a fun Kids' Corner as well as a kids talent show.

Please take a minute to include your garden by completing the enclosed registration form or online at sheffieldgardenwalk.com. The deadline for entering is June 18. If you need help with your description or with ideas for your garden, please contact Laury Lewis, Garden Search Chairman, at lbl1948@yahoo.com. Remember...every garden is beautiful, and our success depends on you! A special thanks to this year's garden exhibitors sponsors, Jennifer Mills Klatt and the Home Discovery Team at Jameson Sotheby's International Realty.