

Work crews from Hartman Construction prepare to pour a new raised lip on the spillway at the west end of Lake Drummond, part of an effort to control erosion. See story on page 3.

Spillway and Ozarks Greenways get facelift

Vehicle count helps measure use of botanical gardens

Short of counting every person who walks, rides or drives through the various entrances, perhaps the best indicator of just how many people really utilize the Springfield Botanical Gardens can be measured by the number of cars that move in and out of the park each year, and by taking stock of those who pay to use the park for special events, such as weddings.

Thanks to a traffic counter installed at the only official entrance to the park, the number of visitors to the park in 12 months can be calculated at roughly 275,000 vehicles. That doesn't include bike riders and walkers who enter by the Ozarks Greenways South Creek Trail or the backdoor entrance on Austin Street that attracts lunch visitors.

Assuming an average of two persons in each vehicle, that's 550,000 visitors in private vehicles. However, a school bus full of students visiting Gray-Campbell Farmstead counts the same as a bicycle, so to suggest this number is on the low side may be an understatement.

Other statistics and head counts give further evidence to confirm that the gardens are a popular destination for weddings, family reunions, school gatherings, races and our own events.

"This information is based on paying customers, so it does not include FOG, MU Extension/Master Gardener, or other park partner programs or events," says Katie Steinhoff, who assembled these numbers.

The parks hosted more than 40 wedding events plus over 300 additional birthday parties, anniversaries, business retreats, church picnics or other types of gatherings.

"With parks staff and volunteers, we hosted more than 80 educational workshops, guided programs or groups with over 3,500 participants," says Steinhoff. "These include butterfly house tours, botanical drawing and painting classes with Peter, Gray-Campbell 5th grade programs, tram tours, co-sponsored herb and photography classes."

Note these totals do not include Extension or park partner regular meetings, which occupy the meeting rooms almost nightly in season.

"We estimate that more than 20,000 visitors participated in Park co-sponsored events such as the Cherry Blossom Kite Festival, Master Gardeners Plant Sale, Butterfly Festival, Japanese Fall Festival, Orchid Show and Young Sprouts to name a few..."

Every weekend from April – October, visitors have enjoyed a free tram shuttle from 1-5 p.m. Despite only operating for eight hours/week for six months, we estimate to have served nearly 6,000 riders. This is a tremendous asset for making this very large garden park accessible for all people.

While we're counting, you may have noticed that 1,500 plant identification signs have been placed in the gardens in the past year, thanks to the many volunteers who make and place the signs.

If you're reading this newsletter online, many items are hyperlinked to the Internet for further information.

**VISIT FOG
ONLINE
CLICK HERE**



Profile: Deanna Armstrong
Page 2: When she's not in a Marketing Committee or board meeting, she's behind a wheelbarrow or her camera.



Spillway makeover

Page 3: Work crews pour a concrete lip that will restrict water flow from the spillway. A new pedestrian area is across Scenic.

AboutFOG

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P.O. 8566, Springfield, Mo. 65801

Friends of the Garden is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation founded in 1999 to develop the Close Memorial Gardens, located at 2400 South Scenic in Springfield, home of the Botanical Center. We seek a dynamic relationship with other organizations working to benefit the park gardens. This newsletter is now published five times a year in print through GREENE Magazine and delivered online as well to members. Past issues and other information can be found at www.FriendsoftheGarden.org.

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Our Mission:

To inspire the discovery, understanding and appreciation of nature, by creating and maintaining the Springfield Botanical gardens at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park and by supporting the mission of the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center and Park Board.

Deanna Armstrong wields the Hosta Garden Wheelbarrow during spring cleanup with other volunteers.

Profile: Deanna Armstrong

As a FOG Board and active volunteer, Deanna holds her own and often records activities with her camera.

Deanna Armstrong has never been content to do just one thing. When she's not doing chores around the Hosta Gardens, she's just as likely to be sharing her thoughts during a Marketing Committee meeting. Or, during the past few weeks, painstakingly photographing construction crews at work on the spillway and Ozark Greenways South Creek trail.

No one person can be aware of everything that's going on in the park, let alone make the commitment of time and energy to slog around a muddy construction site in search of a better angle to tell the story. Deanna does that, and on this project, did it time after time, reporting such incidents as this one:

"I always let the workers know I am there and stay away from where they are actively working (zoom lens). I do not stay long so they do not have to keep watching me and can stay focused on their work.

"I asked if one of the construction trucks accidentally ran into the short metal posts and heavy wire guard fence running along the west side of Scenic where the road starts to curve east under

"She's been a regular observer of the construction project, recording the progress so we can all get an idea of what will soon be a much improved area of the park."

— Lisa Bakerink,
President, Friends of the Garden

the railroad tracks.

"He smiled and said no – a week ago a woman was driving too fast and hit one of the large yellow and black arrow signs. She then preceded to take out the guard fence wire and all. Bent a couple of the metal guard posts. She got out of the car and walked over to the guys working on the trail and asked to borrow one of their cell phones to call a taxi for a ride home.

"One of the guys saw a police car driving toward the wreck. He told her not to worry about a ride home; her transportation had already arrived.

"I certainly hope they will put a very large heavy wall to protect all of the Greenway Trail walkers, joggers, bikers and children."

— George Freeman



Members of the Hosta Society during a work day before being named one of only 18 'display gardens' by the American Hosta Society.

Long-planned park enhancements will control water erosion under Scenic serve both hikers and bikers

You can hardly miss the scene that greets careful drivers along South Scenic in Springfield on the way to the Springfield Botanical Gardens. Construction crews are at work on both sides of the road.

On the west side, a major improvement to the Ozarks Greenways bike path will make for smoother riding and a rest area suitable for pedestrians. Meanwhile, the spillway at the downstream end of Lake Drummond is being upgraded to stop erosion on both ends of the dam.

The \$1.1 million Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park Spillway Enhancements Improvement Project includes stabilization and beautification of the spillway of Lake Drummond to address erosion. The project includes new water features and improvements to the South Creek culvert under Scenic Avenue, and to the South Creek Greenway Trail.

The project cost include \$900,000 for construction and an additional \$100,000 for design costs. Hartman Construction is the contractor for the project. (For a map and more photos of this project by



photographer Deanna Armstrong, turn to page 3 of this newsletter.

“Once those projects are complete, the funding source for waterways improvements in Springfield will have essentially dried up,” says Todd Wagner, P.E., of the City’s Public Works department.

Both the Ward Branch and Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park projects involve the removal of a number of trees at each location. The City is preserving as

many existing trees as possible, and will also improve the overall tree canopy along the future creek corridor. The City had professional tree canopy evaluations at both locations, which were used to guide final project design to minimize tree loss. Trees removed will be replaced at twice the loss rate at these sites or at other locations along Springfield waterways and public properties.

The estimated completion date for both projects is spring 2014.

Photos by Deanna Armstrong



Garden Notes

other good stuff

Celebrate the holidays with one of these unique garden gifts

If you were a visitor to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, or enjoyed the 17th Annual Japanese Fall Festival, you understand the challenge of properly describing to others this serene place for meditation and, well, strolling perhaps.

Words alone just aren't enough, which is why Friends of the Garden and members of The Southwest Missouri Camera Club combined to produce a limited number of 2014 calendars to cast the garden in a different light for each month of the year. All funds will be used to improve and maintain the stroll garden. Special thanks to Nancy and Don Schmidt for developing the calendar, and to the camera club photographers. The oldest garden in Nathanael Greene Park may be closed for the season, but you can still share it with friends or purchase one for yourself to enjoy while you await the garden reopening next April.

Cost of the full-color calendar is \$20, and the supply is extremely limited in the Botanical Boutique, located in the botanical center atrium, along with a selection of other useful gifts.

The stroll garden is one of the most recent inductees to the newly organized North American Japanese Garden Association (NAJGA), a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement and sustainability of more than 250 Japanese gardens throughout the U.S.



The Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden Calendar (\$20) is available in the Botanical Boutique. Gift cards are also available to help you notify the recipient of a gift membership.

From the president:

Membership in Friends of the Garden: The perfect gift that grows all year long

The perfect gift! This is something just about every one of us will be in search of very soon this holiday season. Maybe you have already.

What if I told you about a gift that grows all year long?

One that is affordable and provides free admission and great discounts both locally and across the U.S.? One that gives back to the local community? A membership to Friends of the Garden is the perfect gift and here is why:

- Affordability – starting at just \$25, a membership can be given to more than one on your gift list
- Value – a FOG



Lisa Bakerink

membership provides all-season admission to one of our local treasures, the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden

•More Value – free or reduced admission to 270 public gardens across America including Powell Gardens in Kansas City and Missouri Botanical Gardens in St. Louis

•GREENE Magazine – one year subscription, including this newsletter.

•Savings – discounts at local businesses including the Botanical Center gift shop

•Partnership – membership dollars build & maintain gardens and are fully tax deductible.

You can see why a Friends of the Garden membership is the perfect gift for just about anyone on your list! To purchase, look for the gift membership section in our newsletter, or enjoy the convenience of shopping online at www.friendsofthegarden.org.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support of Friends of the Gardens and the Springfield Botanical Gardens. It is our mission to inspire the discovery, understanding, and appreciation of nature. We value your partnership in this

endeavor! It is because of people like you that we can offer the “perfect gift” this holiday season.

Lisa Bakerink is 2013 president of FriendsOfTheGarden.org. You can “Follow” Us on Twitter – @Friends_Garden, on Facebook, or call us at 417-891-1650.



Board members met around an autumn campfire at the cabin of Bob and Barbara Kipfer near Bull Creek during a retreat to consider priorities for the coming year.

Enhancements provide a guide for what is to come

By **KATIE STEINHOFF**

The Springfield Botanical Garden strives to be a destination attraction; accessible and educational for all. We are embarking in an exciting era of designing the garden experience and master planning. The efforts we make now will be beneficial for the comfort and convenience of garden volunteers we depend on, as well as attracting new visitors and investors into future developments.

Here are some of the recent gardens enhancements:

- The Dr. Roston Native Butterfly House now has a brick paved surface floor. By replacing the pea-gravel, walkers and wheelchairs can more easily navigate through the Butterfly House.

- The well-worn foot path in the grass lawn between the Close Memorial Parking Lot and the White Garden was replaced by a concrete sidewalk and mosaic garden designed by local artist, Christine Schilling and funded by Ruth Kelley. Plantings around the mosaic were added in spring of 2013, making the Mosaic Garden an attractive patio for meet-ups, or a pleasant place for garden viewing with convenient parking. A bench was donated for this location by Springfield High School Class of 1953. Three additional benches are still needed.

- Bridges and ramps in the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden were replaced and repaired in spring of 2013. The fence on the entrance side of the garden and the stone bridge will be replaced this winter.

- Over 1,500 additional plant identification signs have been added to the gardens in the last year alone. The plants are labeled in compliance with the American Association of Museums (AAM) standards for accreditation. The Greater



**A Parks
Perspective
Katie
Steinhoff**

Ozarks Hosta Society and the Ozark Daylily Club recently earned national recognition from their governing institutions for their plant collections, having properly identified the different cultivars.

- In addition, a special Guide-By-Cell audio tour was created for the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden and the Master Gardeners of Greene County have added more Guide by Cell stops as well as quick response (QR) codes for smart phone users. Now you can listen to someone tell you about the gardens anytime by entering the phone number (417-213-3016) and prompt #, or be directed to a website for more information when you encounter these signs in the garden.

- The foundation is in place for bringing the Liberty School to the Gray-Campbell Farmstead complex. This will enhance the 5th grade Missouri living history experience as well as serve as an important feature for interpreting life in the 1860s. A touch-screen kiosk is on site for visitors to use when volunteer docents are not available and for ADA requirements.

If the legacy you hope to leave for the next generation includes building permanent gardens that truly connect all people with nature, the plants we love and the plants we eat, please consider investing in the Friends of the Garden. In 2014, we hope to begin phase 1 of the Sensory Garden and Kitchen Classroom. This proposed, interactive garden will be an important stage for hosting larger wedding and special event parties as well as serving as a living classroom for important food preservation and horticultural therapy classes that will be offered by the University of Missouri Extension and the Parks Botanical Center staff. In addition to the sensory garden capital campaign, we hope to diversify the arboretum in 2014. A "30 Trees for 30 Years of Attractions" campaign celebrates the ground-breaking of the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden and development of the Gray-Campbell Farmstead that began in 1984. We hope individuals or groups will sponsor planting a new tree species with the 114-acres. In addition to the developing gardens, there are programs available for all kinds of groups plus events and activities that celebrate all of our wonderful attractions.

Katie Steinhoff is Botanical Center Coordinator at the Springfield Botanical Gardens, one of more than 100 public parks maintained by the Springfield-Greene County Park Board; and an ex-officio board member of the Friends of the Garden board.



Residents of the Good Samaritan Boys Ranch during one of their weekly work sessions.

Grow With Us! Become a Friend of the Garden

We're individuals & families who support the **Botanical Center & Gardens** in its mission to provide outstanding botanical, horticultural and environmental education opportunities for people of all ages. Anyone with an interest or appreciation in nature who wishes to support

the progress of the gardens is encouraged to join. Your interest in being a member is the first step in making a lasting difference in the ongoing development of the **Botanical Center & Gardens**. As a member, you're a partner in the future of the gardens.

membership levels

- ☐ \$ 500 Benefactor
- ☐ \$ 250 Patron
- ☐ \$ 100 Sponsor
- ☐ \$ 50 Contributor
- ☐ \$ 25 Friend
- ☐ **renewal**
- ☐ **additional donation**
\$ _____

gift memberships available at all levels

- ☐ wedding ☐ birthday ☐ in honor of *
- ☐ holiday ☐ anniversary ☐ other *

corporate sponsorship

- ☐ \$1,000 Platinum
- ☐ \$ 500 Gold
- ☐ \$ 250 Silver
- ☐ \$ 150 Bronze

lasting dedications

- ☐ \$800 Four Foot Bench*
- ☐ \$500 Tree* ☐ \$250 Shrub*
- ☐ \$100 Engraved Brick, *Butterfly House**
- ☐ \$ 50 Engraved Brick, *White Garden**

*specify person or event, email for details

receive newsletter via: ☐ Snail Mail ☐ Email

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address _____

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8.2013

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Mail & Payable to: Friends of the Garden | PO Box 8566 | Springfield MO 65801



I'd Love to Volunteer!

- ☐ in the gardens
- ☐ in the FOG office
- ☐ festivals & events: FOG booth
- ☐ festivals & events: activities
- ☐ children's activities
- ☐ butterfly house docent
- ☐ marketing & development
- ☐ hardscaping & construction
- ☐ tell me what you need!
- ☐ I have a special talent:

Member Benefits:

- Friends of the Garden Membership Card
- Free Season Admission for Two into the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden (excluding the Japanese Fall Festival)
- 10% off at Smiling Sun, Garden Adventures Nursery and the Botanical Center Gift Shop • Volunteer Opportunities
- Ongoing Learning • Fully Tax Deductible
- Subscription to the Friends of the Garden Newsletter
- Special Invitations to Friends of the Garden Member Events
- Form Lasting Friendships • Give Back to Your Community
- Events: Butterfly Festival, Monarch Tagging, Santa & Friends
- 10% off at O'Quinn's Water Gardens on plants & fish
- FOG members have access to a wide array of botanical gardens, arboreta, and conservatories throughout North America offering special admission privileges and many other benefits.

http://www.ahs.org/events/reciprocal_events.htm

12/2013

New and renewing* members, memorials, tributes, garden donations

Memberships

Anderson, Laura*
Arrowood, Cindy & Max*
Awbrey, Diane & David*
Baker, Paul & Jennifer*
Bakerink, Jack & Fran
Bakerink, Sarah
Bennett, Eleanor*
Biggs, John & Marcia
Bisby, Ruth*
Buckner, Jo Ann
Carson, George
Chaffin, Kim
Chesbro, Craig & Charlene
Clarke, Michael*
Cook, Ken
Copeland, Ada
Corbett, Patsy*
Daugherty, Susan & Kevin*
Denouden, Tom & Beth*
Donnelly, Phyllis & Ian*
Duffey, Jeanne*
Duncan, Chris
Duncan, Sonya
Easterly, Rex

Easterly, Melanie
Frank, Susan*
Funk, Lonnie & Leslie*
Garland, Cliff*
Garrels, Kathleen*
Gerhart, Carol & Gerry*
Grayless, Jeff*
Greene, Laura*
Halford, Linda
Harris, Carolyn*
Hartley, June*
Haynes, Rick & Sherry*
Helter, Jeanette
Hillbilly Garden Club*
Hilton, Dorothy*
Hinck, Susan*
Hubbard, Sally
Johnson, Jackie
Johnson, Marcia
Johnson, Pamela*
Karhu, Vicky
Keagy, Buck*
Keith Jr., Elvin & Carrie*
Kelly, Margaret & Clark*
Kittle, Steve & Linda*
Klein, Arvin & Norma

Kristi Kittleson &
Tom Cornett*
McCabe, Nancy
McGowan, Brent & Kelly*
Meadows, Sammie
Mee, Virginia
Morris, David & Sharon*
Myers, Kay*
Pearl, Tom & Peggy*
Pollard, Paula
Reynolds, Linda*
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Schuble, Sue*
Schwartzkopf, Carol & Mark*
Scott, Yuriko Mizumoto*
Shade, Mike*
Shaver, Gary
Sheets, Doris*
Shepherd of the Hills
Garden Club*
Shifrin, Craig*
Simkins, Linda
Smith, Sally & Donald*
Steketee, Ann & Craig*
Sturdevant, Mary & Dave*

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Thomas, Jean*
Thompson, Tim*
Toll, Marty*
Touhey, Terry Ann*
Tourville, Liz*
Uckele, Albert & Imogene
Ward, Joy
Weimer, Jack*
Wheeler, Judy
White, Angela
Whiting, Dow & Linda*
Wienkowski, Louise

Bricks

Boulton, Mary &
Pallotto, Eileen
Cohu, Barbara
Cook, Charles
Crocker, Sherry
Ernest Braswell Memorial
Fowler, Tommy
Goodin, Monica
Grissum, Mary
Waeltz, Kristi
Whitaker, Dylan & Anna

Business memberships

Golden Corral*
HyVee*
Wild Birds Unlimited*

Benches

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SHS Class of 1953
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Arneson, Ruth
Close, Major & Marthe
Kipfer, Barbara & Robert
Obert, Sue
Wooten, Jan & Michael

Memorial Donations

Buchanan, Roy & Mamie
Powell Curry Jordan DSS
LLP
Richards, Wayne & Paula
Santer, Lois Ann

Japanese Stroll

Garden Donations

Tek-Know, LLC
Speaker's Gift
Delta Kappa Gamma

*Since the last newsletter. If you see an error, omission or correction, please bring it to our immediate attention at News@FriendsOfGarden.org.

Thanks to these sponsors & partners for their support of the 2013 Butterfly Festival

Our Sponsors

Ozarks Screen Printing
Palen Music Center

Special Thanks

Allison Steiner Violin Studio
Andy's Frozen Custard
Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks
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The Butterfly Palace and
Rainforest Adventure
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Cindy Tucker and the Daisy
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Robin's Nest Stained Glass
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Upcoming Events* at the Springfield Botanical Gardens

- Dec. 1-30: Outdoor Garden Railway Society Christmas display in Atrium feature Thomas the Tank engine and visits by Santa.
- Jan. 18: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Bridal Fair; meet local caterers, stylists and vendors who can help you plan your event at the Springfield Botanical Gardens. The public is welcome to come in and browse the various vendor booths that will be on hand, designed to assist couples in making their wedding plans. Door prizes range from wedding veils, jewelry, tiaras and a variety of other items donated by vendors. Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions regarding peak blooming seasons for the particular gardens available for weddings and other events. A tram tour is scheduled at 3 p.m. (weather permitting) for anyone interested in seeing the gardens.
- Dec. 5: 10:15 a.m., FOG Marketing Committee.
- Dec. 12: 5 p.m., FOG board meeting, followed by board banquet honoring Bob Childress, retiring garden committee chair.
- Dec. 14: 3-5 p.m., Ozarks Daylily Society Holiday Celebration and Dinner.
- Jan. 2: 10:15 a.m., FOG Marketing Committee
- Jan. 9: 4 p.m.: Park Partner meeting just before the FOG annual meeting at 5 p.m.
- Jan. 15: 6 p.m., Presentation by Peter Longley, horticultural interpreter, on the Desert Gardens of Arizona.
- Jan. 18: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Bridal Fair; meet local caterers, stylists and vendors who can help you plan your event at the Springfield Botanical Gardens. The public is welcome to come in and browse the various vendor booths that will be on hand, designed to assist brides in making their wedding plans. Register to win door prizes ranging from wedding veils, jewelry, tiaras and a variety of other items donated by vendors. Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions regarding peak blooming seasons for the particular gardens available for weddings and other events. A tram tour is scheduled at 3 p.m. (weather permitting) for anyone interested in seeing the gardens. If you are interested in being a vendor, our space is limited. Please contact the Botanical Center at 417-891-1515.
- Feb. 6: 10:15 a.m., FOG Marketing Committee meets.
- Feb. 13: 5 p.m., FOG directors meet.
- Feb. 12: 6 p.m., Tablescape with Peter Longley; theme is Valentine's Day Dinner (\$10 per person)
- Feb. 14: 10 a.m., the essence of a landscape by using light and shadows in oil paint. Pre-registration required (\$8 per person).
- Feb. 20-April 3: 5-9 p.m., Master Gardener class (18 years and up); fee to be announced. For more information, call 881-8909.
- Feb. 22: 4-6 p.m.; Greater Ozarks Hosta Society; locally grown hostas for sale; great food; join the GOHS and learn about events for 2014; Botanical Center 891-1515
- Feb. 26: 6 p.m.: "A Taste of Things to Come"; Peter Longley looks ahead to the beauty of the Springfield Botanical Gardens in a reflection on the gardens from Spring to Fall in 2013.

* Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Springfield Botanical Center. Reach us by e-mail at News@FriendsOfTheGarden.org, or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Newsletter produced and donated by FOG board member George M. Freeman, editor of GREENE Magazine.com



Guide to the gardens

1. Master Gardener Demonstration Garden
2. Winter Garden
3. Freedom Garden*
4. Viburnum Garden
5. Flowering Shrub Garden
6. Entrance Garden
7. Rose Garden
8. White Garden
9. Hosta Garden
10. Sensory Garden*
11. English Garden
12. Victorian Garden*
13. Ornamental Grass Garden
14. Terrace Garden*
15. Iris Garden
16. Daylily Garden
17. Peony Garden
18. Lily Garden
19. Butterfly Garden
20. Columbine Garden
21. Wildflower Garden
22. Rain Garden
23. Bulb & Tuber Garden*
24. Native Shrub Garden
25. Magnolia Garden*
26. Japanese Maple Garden*
27. Cercis (Redbud) Garden
28. Dogwood Garden
29. Kickapoo Edge Prairie Garden
30. Flowering Tree Garden*
31. Pendula Garden*
32. Rock Garden*
33. Dwarf Conifer Garden
34. Conifer Garden*
35. Perennial Garden*
36. Wetland Garden*
37. Woodland Garden
38. Fragrant Garden*
39. Fern Garden*
40. Secret Garden*
41. Federated Garden Clubs Garden
42. Biblical Garden*
43. Azalea Garden
44. Heritage Garden
45. Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden
46. Ethnic Tree Trail Memorial Garden

*Planned gardens

Take the right turn to get to the gardens

Visitors to Springfield Botanical Gardens often describe the experience as an unexpected adventure. But of course you've got to get there to enjoy it. This aerial map will help you get around Nathanael Greene Park and the adjoining Close Memorial Gardens, located at 2400 S. Scenic. You can locate each garden numerically at right. Those with an asterisk* are planned but not yet under construction. A "Guide By Cell" tour of the garden parks is available by calling 417-213-3016. After a brief introduction, callers may dial a garden code on each sign followed by the # key (For example, 35# is the Hosta Garden) for information on various gardens. Introductions for every garden have been recorded, with signage in place listing the corresponding numbers to hear about each garden.