



2018 Annual Report



We celebrate our accomplishments after another year of hard work by our volunteers and of generous gifts from our donors. We remain motivated by our commitment to beautify the jewel of our downtown Minneapolis neighborhood. Since our first major planting day in 2009, we've continued to make improvements each year. Now we have a greater diversity of plants, many more perennials, redesigned garden areas and new trees. We've also built stronger relationships among all of the residential buildings on the Loring Greenway and have benefited significantly from our partnerships with the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis and Target Corporation. We continue to work with Minneapolis Public Works on infrastructure improvements.

While we have a dedicated core group of volunteers, we need and welcome new volunteers. We invite new gardeners, as well as volunteers with administrative skills, to join us for a fun and rewarding 2019.

The Loring Greenway Association (LGA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and a shining example of public-private cooperation.

Partners

Target Corporation and the Target Volunteer Council donated funds for perennials and native plants and provided 80 gardening volunteers on one day in May. The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis provided lunch and facilities for staging that event, and also sponsored the LGA annual meeting and recognition event for volunteers and donors.

City of Minneapolis Public Works employee Mark Clark mows, sweeps, clears leaves and snow, removes trash, replaces light bulbs, completes other City of Minneapolis tasks, and contributes assistance as requested by the LGA gardening team. In addition, he provides a positive presence and enhances security on the Loring Greenway. City of Minneapolis plumbers maintain the fountains and the irrigation system. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) provides tree removal and pruning services.

The following landscaping services were contracted by LGA:

- Hand and Hoe Garden Care prepared landscape designs and garden maintenance services.
- Rainbow Tree Care fertilized trees and treated the ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer.
- A landscape contractor provided landscape features.

2018 Accomplishments

Gardening. The Loring Greenway received a Downtown Improvement District Greening Award for the ninth year in a row, again voted the Best Large Green Space in the City of Minneapolis. Reasons for its recognition include the following:

- Implementation of new designs to attract pollinators
- Enhancements and replacements to the native shade garden, aspen glade garden, 110 Grant gardens, Grant Street gardens, Nicollet Lane gardens, Lasalle bridge area, Loring Green West fence garden and Greenway Gables gardens
- Re-design of the pergola pyramids and fountain pyramid gardens and berms
- Installation of the playground garden design
- Installation of a gardening shed
- Installation of hoop fencing to protect sensitive garden areas
- Coordination of monthly Saturday volunteer workdays
- Development of the Adopt-a-Garden Program for maintenance throughout the summer
- Work by volunteers dedicated to watering and weeding gardens during the week all summer
- Organization by section coordinators
- Advisement on native plants, tree health and diversification
- Coordination of tree donations

Tree maintenance. MPRB staff continues to monitor the large locust in the shade garden on the north side of Loring Way. It has a split and will probably come down within a few years. MPRB staff trimmed trees on the east side of Loring Way to accommodate construction and examined two river birch trees with crown dieback on the Grant Street branch that may have to come down in spring 2019.

Memorial trees and plaques. Four new Autumn Brilliance serviceberries were planted. One of these replaces Marsha Weidenhammer's magnolia, which never grew after being planted two years ago. The other three were memorial trees with plaques that read as follow:

From Betty Goldberg:
In Memory of Homer Goldberg

From Merry Keefe and Fred Aden:
For Donovan Brausen,
from his Greenway friends

From Hope Hensley:
For Rick, Gone but never forgotten,
Your family, Hope, Jennifer, Brian and Christy

An additional plaque was installed in the pyramid garden on the north side of the fountain for Guy Mueller from Loring Greenway Association:

In appreciation to Guy Mueller
for his beautiful garden designs
2015-2018

Native plants and the shade garden. Rabbits got into the shade garden at mid-summer due to a hole in the fence caused by Loring Way construction, but damage was limited to about one-third of the garden. Overall, the lushness of the garden improved greatly during 2018, with many species becoming well established.

Temporary fence remains in place across the back because Loring Way construction is not quite finished—balcony railing installation will be done in spring 2019. After that, we will likely remove the fence along the back and bring the side fences tight to the building so that rabbits can't get in.

A large proportion of the ostrich fern was removed, and more will be removed during 2019. They served as a good cover plant to get started, but will be either minimized or removed by the time the garden is mature, as they are very aggressive. Almost all of the hostas were removed from the shade garden and transplanted to other parts of the greenway.

This year several new species were added to the shade garden: short's aster, large-leaved aster, zig-zag goldenrod, poke milkweed, and sweet cicely. White snakeroot, sweet bedstraw and blue wood violet appeared on their own.

Loring Way approved a plan to plant large cranberry bushes (3 to 4 feet tall) in the gravel near the building behind the shade garden. This will provide a good visual background. It has not been decided if this will happen in 2019 or 2020. Several new native species will also be added to the shade garden during 2019.

Infrastructure. The LGA maintains bistro furniture that provides welcome seating along the Loring Greenway spring through fall. We ended the 2018 season with 16 tables and 62 chairs, having experienced minor attrition during the year. A long-awaited garden shed that provides easy access and organization of the association's gardening tools and equipment was installed mid-summer. Enhancements to the shed's surrounding landscape and hardscape are planned for 2019.

Little Free Library. One of the successes of the Loring Greenway, in addition to the beautiful plantings, is the Little Free Library. Monitored and replenished by the Loring Green East book club, the supply is eclectic, ranging from mystery paperbacks to a book about engineering infrastructure in Japanese. One browser said recently that she was delighted to find a book in German about the origins of the custom of half-timbered homes that began in her Alpine hometown. Especially popular are cookbooks and travel books. Please keep the Little Free Library in mind for book donations.

Events. In February the LGA hosted a "Thank You to Donors and Gardeners" event at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, which graciously provided a delicious selection of appetizers and house-made honey from its hives. The program included a running slide show of the Loring Greenway and its lovely gardens, a summary by Mary Maier of future gardening plans, and an enlightening talk on native plants in the shade garden by Lee Frelich. Informational literature and gardening sign-up sheets were also on hand. In early September we sponsored, also with the help of the Hyatt, a well-attended Happy Hour on the Loring Greenway. Lakes & Legends Brewing Company offered a beer-tasting opportunity, and the Hyatt provided discounts on draft beer, wine and delicious chef-made-to-order sliders.

Financial Support. 2018 was an excellent year for contributions from our neighborhood. Individual giving was at an all-time high; residential building associations on the Loring Greenway and local businesses—especially Target and the Hyatt Regency—gave generously. Individual contributions make up the major part of our funding. Contributors are listed in this report and are treasured by the many daily users of the Loring Greenway.

2018 Board of Directors and Officers

Richard Anderson

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Nicholas Deacon, Vice President

Lee Frelich

Gillian Frothingham-Gordon

Merry Keefe, President

Mary Alyce Krohnke

Susan Lasoff

Linda Luksan, Secretary

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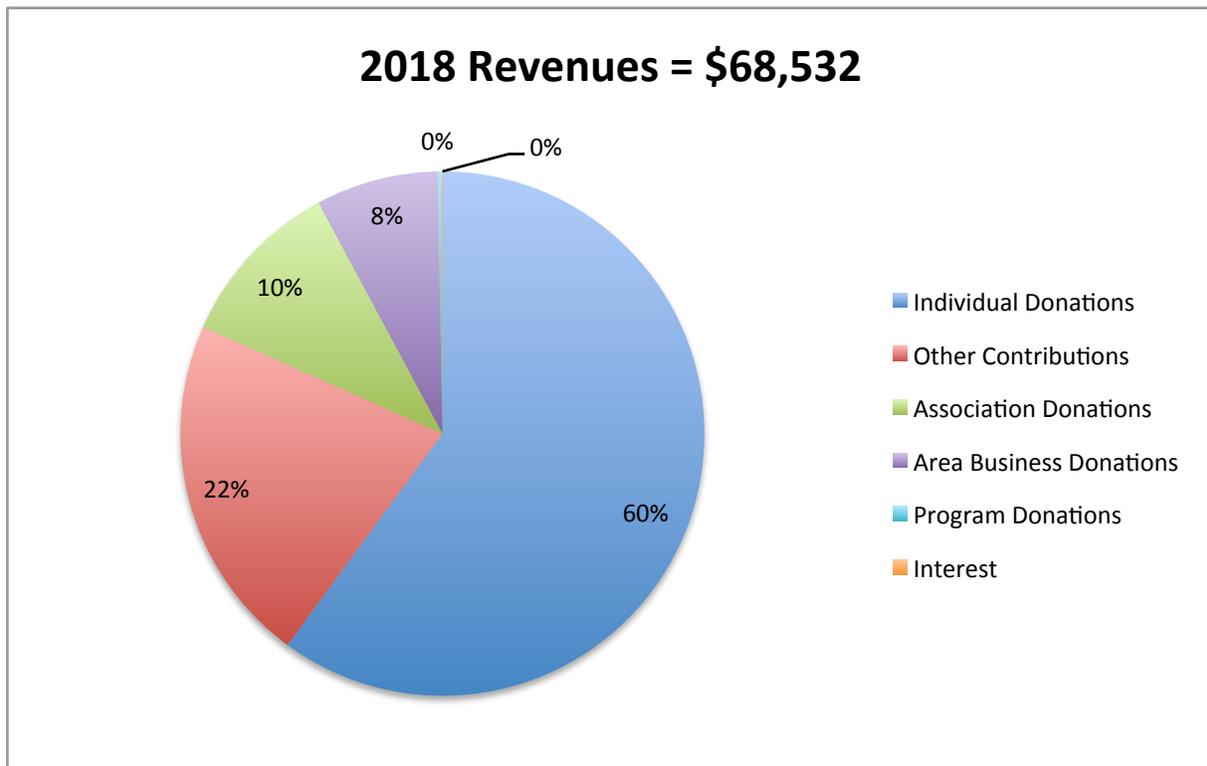
John Van Heel

2018 Gardening Committee

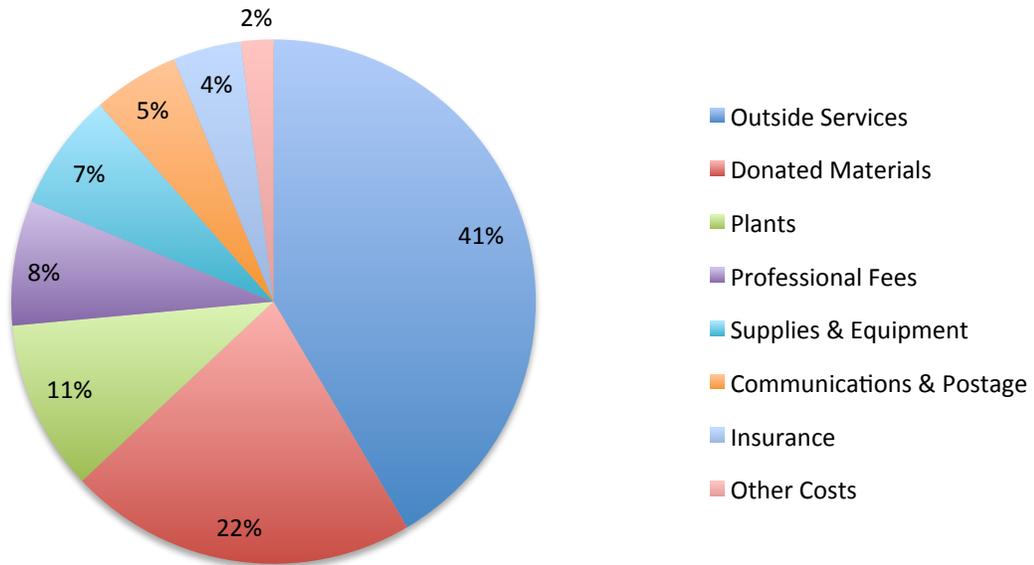
Fred Aden	Center Section Coordinator
Richard Anderson	West Section Coordinator
Nicholas Deacon	Native Plants Advisor
Lee Frelich	Native Plants and Tree Advisor; Tree Donations Coordinator
Bette Greenberg	Adopt-a-Garden Program
Rebecca Gross	Professional Gardener Contractor
Merry Keefe	Saturday Gardening Day Coordinator
Mary Alyce Krohnke	Garden Designer
Peggy MacRae	Saturday Gardening and Adopt-a-Garden Coordinator
Mary Maier	Chair
Claire Selkurt	Garden Designer
Marsha Weidenhammer	East Section Coordinator

2018 Financial Report

Thanks to generous donors in 2018, revenues exceeded expenses by \$10,483.



2018 Expenses = \$58,049



2019 Goals

- Enhance plantings in several gardens
- Add directional and accessibility signage
- Encourage social gatherings on the Loring Greenway

2018 Volunteers

The Loring Greenway Association appreciates the efforts of its tireless volunteers, who help make the Loring Greenway such a beautiful and welcoming space. In 2018 at least 204 individuals from the nine buildings along the Loring Greenway and from corporate volunteer groups contributed more than 3,518 hours to gardening, maintenance, administration and events. Not everyone who volunteered signed in, so only a partial list of volunteers follows:

Mike Addy	Karen Lund-Brust
Fred Aden	Peggy MacRae
Richard Anderson	Nancy Maczka
Nettie Andrews	Helmut Maier
Judy Blaseg	Mary Maier
John Buck	Sally Martineau
Don Buckley	Monica Marx
Hal Chader	Laura Mattson
Sean Costigan	Tim Miley
Don Davies	Guy Mueller
Pat Davies	Jane Nelson
Nick Deacon	Ed Newman
John Engelen	Laura Nolan
Pam Fechter	Mike Orum
Maryfaith Fox	Don Ostrom
Lee Frelich	Jon Qualley
Gillian Frothingham-Gordon	Mark Ring
Gregory Gaut	Don Rudrud
Julia Glen	Ann Sargent
Elizabeth Goldberg	Claire Selkurt
Elly Haidos	Bill Soth
Hope Hensley	Joe Sullivan
Steve Hillestad	Marcia Sullivan
Janet Hughes	Target Corporation Volunteers
Carol Johnson	Margaret Troje-Meade
Jette Johnson	Maria Ulrich
Kevin Johnson	Diana Ursin
Sue Jones	Tom Ursin
Ellen Just	John P Van Heel
Merry Keefe	Hella Wartman
Jeff Korsmo	Paul Wartman
Jennifer Korsmo	Kurt Weidenhammer
Mary Alyce Krohnke	Marsha Weidenhammer
Susan Lasoff	Julia Weiler
Tom Law	William Weiler
Linda Leech	Jon Westby
S. Dianne Legg	Sally Westby
Linda Luksan	

2018 Donors

\$1,000-\$4,999

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The Blake School
Ellen C. Dubuque
Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
Loring Green East Condominium Association, Inc.
Loring Green West Condominium Association, Inc.
One Ten Grant LP
The Tower of 1200 on the Mall Association

\$500-\$999

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Excellence in memory of Mel Gittleman of
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Up to \$99

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Richard Wall
Patricia Weber
Kurt and Marsha Weidenhammer
Bob and Judy Wilhelm
John and Mary Zesbaugh

In kind

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Hyatt Regency Minneapolis
Timothy and Monica Marx
One Ten Grant LP
Target Corporation

Learn more at loringgreenway.org, and please join us on the Loring Greenway this year!

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