



PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Administrative Tasks (throughout the year)

Throughout the year there are miscellaneous office tasks that require volunteers. These include things like distributing posters, preparing mailings, computer data entry & other similar things.

Adopt-A-Plot Gardens/Special Gardening Projects (May, Summer, & throughout the year)

Each year in mid-May, volunteers plant annuals and perennials at dozens of gardens on public properties throughout the city of West Bend. Volunteers help unload and sort plants on the day prior to planting. Volunteers also “adopt” garden sites and taking responsibility for planting, weeding and maintaining their garden throughout the summer. *This is our largest program which requires many volunteers.* Throughout the growing season, special projects come up such as planting, dividing, weeding, or otherwise maintaining Adopt-A-Plot gardens which do not have regular care. Volunteers join a team on designated days to work on these gardens.

Arbor Day School Program (April)

In celebration of Arbor Day, we have partnered with West Bend High Schools SEED (Saving Earth Every Day) student organization to develop an educational program for area elementary school 4th graders. They will have a video presentation that teaches the importance of planting and caring for trees in our environment.

Garden Party Fundraiser (September)

This special fundraiser, nicknamed “the most fun party in town” is a fun-filled annual event for Roots and Branches. Help is needed the day of the event to set-up, greet guests, sell raffle tickets, assist with the live auction, clean-up, and much more. In preparation, volunteers are needed to help acquire our raffle and auction prizes from our many wonderful supporters.

Gardens of West Bend Tour (July)

In mid-July, we hold a fundraising garden tour. Private gardeners in West Bend and surrounding areas open their gardens to the public for 2 days to benefit Roots and Branches. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets and greet guests or act as ‘hosts’ at each of the gardens on the day of the tour. Knowledge of garden plants is helpful but not necessary.

Mayor’s Beautification Awards and Business Beautification Awards (June)

Each year, Roots and Branches honors private property owners from each district in the City of West Bend that have made their neighborhoods more attractive through their landscaping efforts. Volunteer judges work in teams of two and evaluate properties in one of the eight districts to select a property for this award. Judges receive information packets with detailed criteria and guidelines for evaluation and selection. No expertise in landscape design is necessary – just an eye for what is attractive. Judging begins in June and continues through the summer. The Awards Reception is held in late July.

Milwaukee Riverkeeper® Spring Clean-up with Roots & Branches (April)

We are combining forces with Milwaukee Riverkeeper Spring Cleanup and are happy to come together as a community to care for our rivers, parks and green spaces.

Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser (May)

Each year in mid-May, we hold a fundraising plant sale. “The most beautiful plants and best prices in town!” Volunteers are needed to set up the sale area, assist with sales and clean up during the two days.