GREENER

NEWS FROM FROGTOWN GREEN OCT-NOV 2023 frogtowngreen.com

Ready to Dig Deep?



This November, Frogtown Green will be asking for your financial support. We are powered by the energy and commitment of residents and volunteers, and we work wonders on a shoestring budget, but there are some things that only money can buy.

Things like gas for our battered, 28-year old truck. Not to mention garden tools, water for residents' community vegetable beds, and mulch for our hundreds of newly planted trees.

We partner with state and local entities to carry out some of our work (more detail, next page) but your dollars help us with the substantial costs of running a kitchen-table, climate-combatting team.

November is "Give to the Max "month. You'll be hearing from us soon, with more reasons to support our work. Please get ready to dig deep for Frogtown Green. And—on behalf of our beautiful, challenged community—thank you!



Frogtown Green
Resident-led.
Volunteer-powered.
Nature in the neighborhood.

Our Fabulous Fall Crop!

Meet the amazing interns who are helping with our 2023 fall season as teachers, writers, and planters.

Brendan

Brendan Frazier loves kids and it shows. Brendan manages our weekly FrogLab science and nature workshops. Frogtown-born Brendan is majoring in sociology at Concordia College.



Amy

A hockey-playing
Macalester College senior,
Amy Arbetman is helping
this fall with FrogLab,
finalizing its curriculum
on soil, water air,
animals and more.

Cyrus

Cyrus Ruch is a Bethel
University senior who loves
writing, traveling and
Dungeons & Dragons. He's
planted lots of trees this fall
and will be helping out with
fundraising.



Xiem

Xiem Vuong's curiosity about all things native and organic seems boundless. She's working on an expanded pollinator-friendly garden at the Lily Pad, our community space at Dale and Lafond Avenue.



City Seeks Farm Input



Frogtown Green got its start back in 2009, championing the creation of Frogtown Park & Farm. We were successful in 2012, when the city of St Paul purchased the 13-acre park.

Since then, five acres of the park have been leased and managed by a non-profit group, as an organic, permaculture-style farm space. Sadly, the space—once fully programmed and cultivated—has suffered periods of neglect.

In November, the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Department will release a request for proposals for future management of the five farmable acres. Meanwhile, Parks staff are soliciting ideas to shape the future of the farm acreage, through a simple survey.

To access the survey, go to stpaul.gov/facilities/frogtown-park-and-farm

Where Do We Get Our Green?

Frogtown Green is an unincorporated initiative with a fiscal sponsor, Propel Nonprofits. Since 2009, our work has been funded by individual and family donations; as well as by grants and contracts. In 2023, funders include Banbro Inc, Capitol Region Watershed District, Minnesota Dept of Natural Resources, Great River Greening, St Paul Audubon, US Forest Service, and Unity Church-Unitarian. We are also supported by essential volunteer labor and collaborative partnerships with other groups.

1,000 Trees? Just the Start

You've heard of a logroll? Frogtown Green is on a tree-roll!

With support from the MN Department of Natural Resources, Frogtown Green is planting a 'mini-forest' of more than 900 native trees! Mini-forests are small scale, densely planted native urban forests. These 'Miyawaki Method' forests have been successfully grown on private properties in Japan and elsewhere for more than forty years.

The new mini-forest will grow on the east side of Our Village community garden, at Milton Street and Pierce Butler Route. The dense trees will provide cooling shade; serve as a buffer to noise and pollution from Pierce Butler Route; and offer habitat for birds and pollinators.



Taken together, the 970 mini-forest trees plus 625 trees planted by Frogtown Green volunteers in recent years will dramatically increase our neighborhood's tree canopy.

And there's more good news! In 2024, thanks to a federal initiative and a partnership with local nonprofit Great River Greening, we're well positioned to plant 200 more trees in Frogtown and parts of Summit-University, where trees' climate benefits are needed most.