

## Adopt-A-Spot Beautification-Volunteer Orientation

### Welcome

- Volunteer adopters make a huge impact on our community.
- Hundreds of residents and visitors will enjoy seeing your bed every day.
- Your efforts affect how they feel about our city.

### Mulch

- Please communicate with us if you would like mulch.
  - We can pay for your mulch with our vendor.

### Native Plants

- We encourage adopters to use native Missouri plants in the Adopt-A-Spots.
  - Resource for plants is through Grow Native. Website: [www.grownative.org](http://www.grownative.org)
- Submit your plant list and budget for approval before plants can be purchased.

### Sight-Distance Hazards

- If plant materials are creating a traffic hazard we will ask you to remove or cut back the plants.
- If the volunteer does not cut back or remove the plant(s), our staff will remove the hazard.

### Adopt-A-Spot Expectations

- When you agree to join this program you acknowledge that:
  - Your bed is to be weed-free and to have color throughout the growing season.
  - Maintenance requires ongoing care from the adopter, with an investment each week to every-other-week

## Bed Reviews

- Staff reviews all beds 2-3 times throughout the growing season:
  - Excellent – Bed is weed-free and has appropriate plants; bed has color throughout the growing season
  - Good – Bed has some weeds and needs additional plants or dead plants removed; can reach excellent with little effort
  - Unacceptable – Bed does not meet the standards of the program; weeds are abundant and need immediate attention

## When Beds Don't Meet Program Expectations

- We want you to succeed and will give you time to maintain your bed.
- If the Adopt-A-Spot program is not a good fit for the volunteer and the bed is not being maintained, we may ask if it can be transferred to a new adopter.

## Your Sign

- Your sign is an important part of recognizing you for your efforts and identifying your participation in the program.
- If your sign is damaged or vandalized, please let us know. We will fix or replace the damaged sign.
- One sign per bed.

## Tips on Maintenance

- Have a plan
  - Take time each week or two weeks to weed and/or water your bed.
- If you are part of a group who is adopting, please work with your group to devise a plan before you agree to participate.

### Waste from your bed

- You will have weeds and dead plant material to cut back from your bed.
- You are welcome to dispose of that at a City mulch site or bag it and let us know and we will pick it up.
- Please do not fill the bags no more than 50 pounds.
- Please do not throw waste in the street or along the curb. It is unsightly and pollutes our storm water system.

### Murphy's Law: "If Anything Can Go Wrong, It Will:

- Your bed may be driven into
- Deer may eat your plants
- Your plants may be stolen
- Your sign may be vandalized

### Thank You!

- For your commitment to our city by volunteering with the Adopt-A-Spot Beautification Program.

We Look Forward to working with you!