

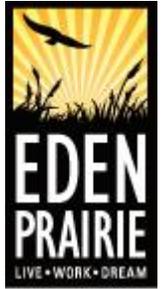
NEWS RELEASE

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EDEN PRAIRIE PLANTS “EDIBLE PLAYGROUND”

Eden Prairie, Minn. — Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor with a mission to educate children about healthy foods and sustainability, the City of Eden Prairie has built an “Edible Playground” in Prairie View Park (17255 Peterborg Road), at Prairie View Elementary school.

The edible playground features several garden beds which contain a variety of vegetables and herbs such as onions, tomatoes, lettuce, basil and more. Participants in Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation summer playground camps are responsible for tending the garden throughout the summer and will learn about the benefits of gardening as part of the curriculum. During the school year, the garden will be tended by Prairie View Elementary students.

The goals of this edible, hands-on educational opportunity are to teach children how food is produced and inspire kids to eat healthy and nutritious foods.

“I am delighted about the addition of the edible playground and the collaboration between the City and Eden Prairie Schools to coordinate the educational components of this amazing gift,” said Mayor **Nancy Tyra-Lukens**. “Our hope is that the edible playground will give kids a better understanding of how their food choices affect both their health and the health of the environment.”

The edible playground was made possible by a generous private donation, and as of now, it is the only one of its kind in Eden Prairie. However, the City hopes to replicate the edible playground concept as funding becomes available.

The City of Eden Prairie is a vibrant community of more than 60,000 residents located just southwest of Minneapolis. Eden Prairie has been nationally recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. Since 2006, Eden Prairie has been listed among MONEY Magazine’s 100 “Best Places to Live” in America, and in 2010 topped MONEY’s list as the Best Place to Live in America.

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