



JULY/AUGUST VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: THE GARDEN CLUB

If you've been outside the shelter during the last few months, you've no doubt seen some exciting changes taking place! In front of the building, there are some wonderful blooms of color and lovely greenery framing our front entrance. In addition to the new plantings around the building, you're likely to catch sight of some bright yellow caution tape lining the walkway along the side of the building. Landscaping construction is underway—all thanks to our dedicated group of volunteer gardeners!

Last fall, the seeds of an idea were planted to do something nice with the green spaces around the shelter, and this idea grew into the Garden Club. The co-coordinators of the club, Carolyn and Cat, along with the generous help of Jenny Stuart of The Secret Gardener, began making plans for spring landscaping and planting. Over the winter, several volunteers expressed interest in working on the project and a team of gardeners was formed.

Carolyn and Cat have been working tirelessly behind the scenes to plan and coordinate all of the ongoing and upcoming garden projects and organize tasks for the volunteer gardening team. They've also donated a great deal of their time and energy to working on the projects themselves. They and their team of volunteer gardeners have been digging, planting, weeding, fertilizing and tending to the lovely plants that have already been donated. Almost every day, you'll spot someone working on a garden project: trimming the grass around plantings and landscaped areas, mulching, edging, etc. They've also been doing some tough manual labor to dig and pick through the rock and clay in the grounds surrounding the shelter. Digging and picking through rock and clay, moving stones and gravel to create a walkway, and hauling dirt and cinderblocks to create doggy comfort stations. And the work goes on!

PMHS wants to recognize our Volunteer Gardeners for all of their hard work and dedication. Special thanks to Jenny Stuart of The Secret Gardener for donating her time and expertise to advise the group, and to Cat and Carolyn for co-coordinating this ambitious project. And to everyone who donated plants and materials for the landscaping. It has definitely been a team effort.

Thank you to everyone involved with the Garden Club for helping to make the shelter a more welcoming place for everyone by bringing beauty to our new home!

Photos (clockwise, beginning top left): Cheryl Ash, Judy Dennehy, Maria DiCesare, Cindy & John Cafasso, Carolyn Ricker, and Lauren Jacoby