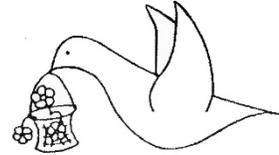


Hyde Park Garden Fair Committee



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Hyde Park Garden Fair Will Be Cancelled for Spring 2021

The Hyde Park Garden Fair, an annual event in Hyde Park for almost 60 years, will not hold a spring fair in 2021, due to on-going concerns about the safety and well-being of our members, volunteers, and customers. The Spring Garden Fair, originally scheduled for May 14 and 15 at the Hyde Park Shopping Center will return in full force in May 2022 (always the Friday and Saturday after Mother's Day).

The Garden Fair Committee *is* optimistic that it will be able to hold the fall Bulb and Mum Sale in an expanded format this September. In addition to the usual wide selection of tulips, daffodils, specialty bulbs, chrysanthemums, orchids, and house plants, the Fall Fair in 2021 may be expanded to include cool-weather vegetables, perennials that prefer fall planting (such as peonies), and plants for seasonal display.

Holding a spring fair is complicated by the need to acquire plants. Currently, many growers are not selling wholesale, and others have already sold out or have greatly reduced their supplies for this year. Many of the Garden Fair departments usually place their orders in December and January, to ensure the plants that sell well in Hyde Park are available in May.

The proceeds of the fair support the activities of the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference (www.hydepark.org), a community organization dedicated to maintaining and enhancing an attractive, secure, diverse, and caring community through a variety of public programs and initiatives.

The Garden Fair Committee also supports the beautification of the neighborhood with donations of plants to schools, houses of worship, and other institutions. It also supports parkway gardens, volunteer gardeners who maintain community gardens, and park gardens such as the Wildflower Meadow and the formal beds in Nichols Park along 53rd Street.