



Our Vision

Red Wing thrives as a vibrant, creative river town that values its natural environment, welcomes all people, and unlocks opportunity for everyone.

Our Mission

We strive to create a sustainable, healthy, accessible, resilient, and equitable community where every person feels at home.

Meeting Announcement and Agenda Sustainability Commission Workshop Community Development Building, 419 Bush Street, Red Wing, MN Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 5:30 PM

1. Roll Call

2. Communication Items

- 2.A. City Council Liaison Report
- 2.B. City Liaison Report

3. Workshop Items

- 3.A. Review and Comment on Proposed 5th Street Community Garden
- 3.B. Organics Collection
 - Overview of the features/operation of the selected metroStor unit
 - Target location for the new unit
 - Suggestions for building community support and utilization of the new unit
 - Future plans for additional units
 - Additional support from the Sustainability Commission

- 3.C. Review and Comment on Urban Landscapes Regulations

4. Announcements

- 4.A. Topics for Future Agendas
- 4.B. Next Meeting Date: March 24, 2026

5. Adjournment

Accommodations for signing interpreter, Braille, large print, etc. can be made. Call City Hall at 385.3600 seven days prior to the need. Hearing assistance devices are available during meetings.

Proposed Community Garden

Purpose

Our intentions is to build a garden that is esthetically pleasing, durable and to serve a community that can benefit from it the most. This is a community and learning garden with the intent to serve both, but not limited to, the Native American and Latino communities. The garden will serve about 35 families. The charge for each garden pot will be prorated on the participants household income. There will be an area set aside for garden community events, learning sessions, etc.

Size and Location

This community garden will be located on east 5th Street to replace the Bluff garden on 5th that was taken when the new bridge was built. Total length 84', width 33' fenced.



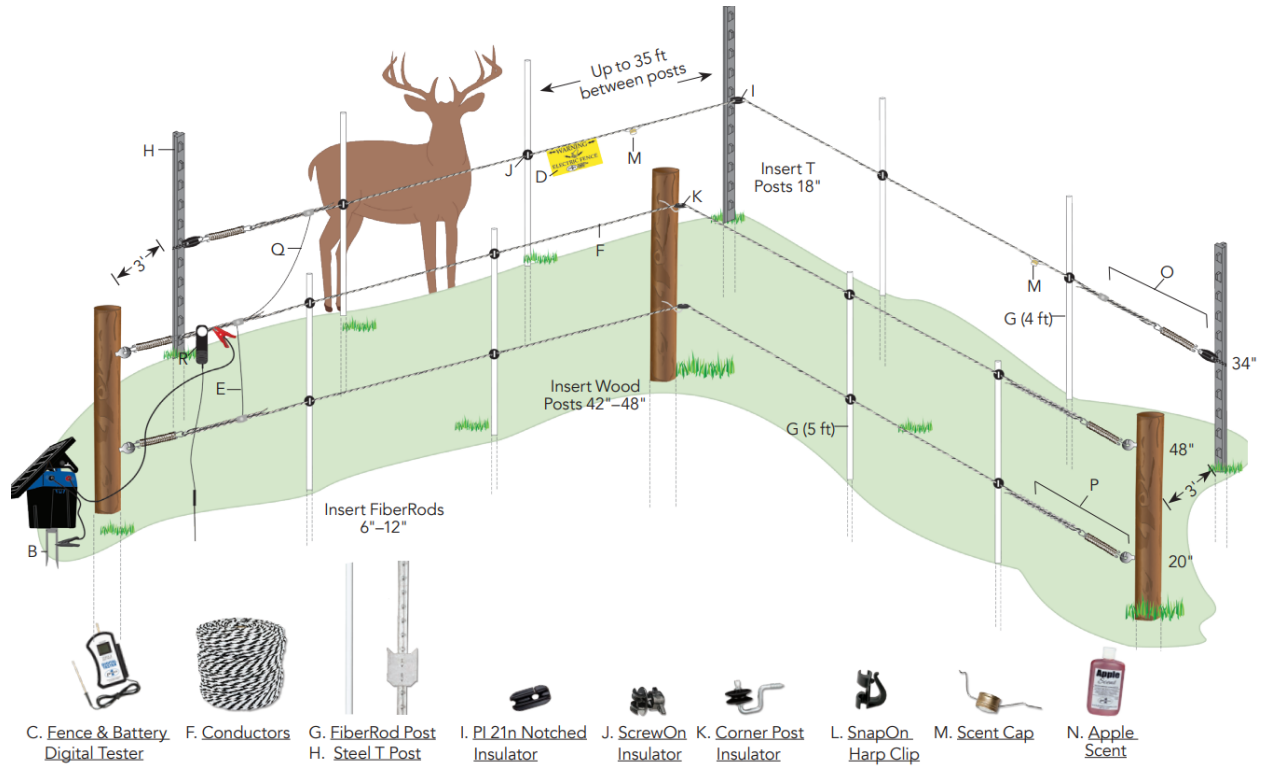
Water

A raised gravity water tank will be in the back corner on the west side of the garden.

Fencing

If a fence is necessary, two options are proposed.

Fence Option 1



Fence Option 2



Public Works Questions (in black, answers in red)

Is there a group of volunteers dedicated to this garden site or are you planning to recruit once the project has legs under it?

Initially It will be myself, Andres Azira and Gail Dahlberg. Once things are signed off on, we will recruit volunteers and assign plots.

- Regarding the proposed water tank
 - Were you planning on that sitting on the ground as is or were you expecting a concrete slab be poured so it sits on something solid? **No need for a cement slab, the tank is designed to be place on the ground.**
 - Were you planning on procuring and placing the tank yourself? **Yes.**
 - What is your plan for filling the tank over the course of the season and draining it when the weather turns in the fall? **We have the ability to fill the tank but it would be nice if the city could fill it from time to time. Draining the tank is no problem**
 - Is the intent that gardeners will use watering cans to bring water from the tank to their respective gardens? **Yes, that keeps people from running the hose longer than needed**
- Fencing
 - Are you planning on utilizing a similar fence to the one in the image below?
 - If you are, do you have a plan for procuring, hauling, and assembling the fence? **I expect some changes to the fencing as Andres is a landscaper and Gail masonry company. We want to make sure that the fence is attractive, functional and that it blends into the natural surroundings.**
- Property maintenance
 - Who will be expected to maintain the areas around the garden and fence? **We will maintain and be in charge of maintaining the garden within it's boundaries an if PW wants or needs us to maintain outside the garden we are open to discuss that.**
 - At the other sites, we mow up to the fence once per week and everything inside the fence is taken care of by the gardeners. **Yes.**
 - Do you have any concerns related to parking in this area? **I don't see that as a problem, it my experience that with a garden of this size there tends to be no more than 3 - 4 gardeners at any given time.**
 - Do you have any security concerns with this area? **We are well aware that there could be a vandalism issue. We are looking into a camera and Andres lives across the street.**
- Raised beds
 - Will the garden group raise the funds and procure the materials for the raised beds? **Yes.**
 - Who will build the beds? **Myself, Andres, Gail and the volunteers.**

- How would you intend to fill the beds once constructed? We would like to get compost from the city if possible, we would stage it back by the chain link fence, sift it and the plot users will fill there plots via wheelbarrow and/or volunteers would help with that.
 - Do you see a need for annual compost delivery and placement? That would be a bonus. We would like to stage the compost this winter or early spring when the ground is still firm.
 - How do you intend to handle the fall debris clean up? That tends not to be much of a problem, all spent plants should be tilled back into the soil or the plot holders will dispose of their refuse themselves.
- Restroom
 - Are you proposing to place a portable restroom unit at the site for gardeners to use? I have done dozens of community gardens and never had the need to have a portable restroom.

Project Title: Organics Enclosure Units	Date: 27 January 2026
Customer: Jeff Schneider City of Red Wing 1873 Bench Street Red Wing MN 55066	Quotation Ref: NA26-013.1
	Sales Office: Windsor, CT
	Sales Ref: Nigel Deacon

Quotation Summary:

			Options	Selected
metroSTOR FX 48 Organics Cart Enclosure				
ADA Compliant 48 Gal. Cart Capacity with 16"x12" Top Loading Lid (Foot-Pedal Control Opening)				\$2,385.00
A. Unit Frame	Mild Steel Welded Assembly	HD Galvanized Finish		included
B. Unit Shell Panels	Mild Steel Assembly	Zinc / Anthracite Grey Painted Finish		included
	B1 Option : Graphic Wrap Design / Print / Installation (4 sides)	3M Wrap Film	\$755.00	not selected
	B2 Option: Graphic Wrap Design / Print / Installation (4 sides + Cover)	3M Wrap Film	\$980.00	not selected
C. Unit Cover	Mild Steel Welded Assembly	Zinc / Green PPC Finish		included
D. Container Access	Mild Steel Welded Assembly	Zinc / Green PPC Finish		included
	Aperture Bezel	Stainless Steel Finish		included
	Hand Grip	Stainless Steel Finish		included
	Soft Close Mechanism	Gas Assist Damper		included
	Foot Pedal Opening Mechanism	Zinc Finish		included
	D1 Option - Deletion of Foot Pedal Opening		(\$315.00)	not selected
E. Service Door	Mild Steel Welded Assembly /	Zinc / Green PPC Finish		included
	Stainless Steel Hinges			included
	Stainless Steel Square Drive Key /	Stainless Steel Finish		included
	Slam Latch			included
	E1 Option: Recycle Stream Graphics	PVC Vinyl	\$215.00	not selected
F. User Deposit Access Control	*F1 Option: Electronic Keypad Latch Control	Stainless Steel Finish	\$580.00	\$580.00
	F2 Option: Bluetooth Smartphone Latch Control		\$465.00	not selected
	F3 Option: Dual System Bluetooth Smartphone /			
	Electronic Keypad Latch Control	Stainless Steel Finish	\$690.00	not selected
G. SMART Connectivity	G1 Option : Fill-Level Sensor	Laser Fill Level Sensor Module	\$255.00	not selected
	G2 Option (Applies to F2/F3 Options Only)	12 mth. Subscription	\$180.00	not selected
	metroKEY Interactive Access Control System -			
	Smartphone Based User Interface /			
	Administrator Portal / Dashboards			

Quotation Continues:

Please note prices are exclusive of tax and are valid for 30 days from quotation date. All confirmed orders are subject to metroSTOR Inc Terms and Conditions of sale which are available on request. A deposit payment may be payable with order and our sales team will be pleased to confirm details with your order acknowledgement. Where enabling groundworks are not installed by metroSTOR Inc we recommend that a thorough assessment of ground levels and surface water management adjacent to the location be undertaken prior to these works to ensure the operation of your new metroSTOR Inc product is optimized. If required, we can arrange for a Project Consultant to visit your site and advise. Our suggestions regarding the location of the above project set out in this Proposal are for guidance only. You must ensure that you follow all appropriate safety regulations and guidelines and you must undertake your own safety assessments in line with good business practice and the requirements of your insurance coverage.

Quotation Summary:

			Options	Selected
G. SMART Connectivity (Cont.)	G3 Option : (Applies to G1 Option Only) metroKEY Interactive Fill-Level Monitoring System - Remote Monitoring of Dumpster Fill Levels / Administrator Portal / Dashboards	12 mth. Subscription	\$180.00	not selected
	G4 Option : (Applies to F2 or F3 and G1 Combined) metroKEY Interactive Access Control and Fill-Level Monitoring System - Smartphone Based User Interface Remote Monitoring of Dumpster Fill Levels / Administrator Portal / Dashboards	12 mth. Subscription	\$320.00	not selected
H. Maintenance	H1 Option : 6 monthly Maintenance Visit Inspect Unit / Provide Condition Report / Clean Lubricate & Adjust Moving Components	12 mth. Subscription	\$210.00	not selected
Total Unit Cost Including (*) Selected Options				\$2,965.00
To Supply 1no. metroSTOR FX 48 Organics Cart Enclosure Units as above specification				\$2,965.00
Delivery to Red Wing, MN 55066				\$1,291.00

Quotation Total :
\$4,256.00

Please note prices are exclusive of tax and are valid for 30 days from quotation date. All confirmed orders are subject to metroSTOR Inc Terms and Conditions of sale which are available on request. A deposit payment may be payable with order and our sales team will be pleased to confirm details with your order acknowledgement. Where enabling groundworks are not installed by metroSTOR Inc we recommend that a thorough assessment of ground levels and surface water management adjacent to the location be undertaken prior to these works to ensure the operation of your new metroSTOR Inc product is optimized. If required, we can arrange for a Project Consultant to visit your site and advise. Our suggestions regarding the location of the above project set out in this Proposal are for guidance only. You must ensure that you follow all appropriate safety regulations and guidelines and you must undertake your own safety assessments in line with good business practice and the requirements of your insurance coverage.

Section 7.10 – Urban Landscape Regulations

General Policy Direction/Goals of Revising the Ordinance
Reduce barriers to and encourage residents to install managed natural landscaping.

example from Minneapolis: "The installation and maintenance of managed natural landscapes is beneficial to the city's environment and its residents and serves to further adopted city goals in that managed natural landscapes require fewer potentially harmful and costly inputs, improve stormwater retention, increase water quality and biodiversity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and provide habitat for wildlife such as birds, butterflies and other beneficial insects and species."

How do we promote managed natural landscaping?

Subd. 1. Purpose and Applicability

This section establishes standards for the installation, maintenance, and regulation of urban landscapes to protect public health, safety, aesthetics, and environmental quality, consistent with Minnesota Statutes §412.925.

Subd. 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the meanings given:

Compost: A mixture of decomposing vegetable or plant refuse that is free from obnoxious odors.

Garden: A plot of land used for cultivation of flowers, vegetables, fruit, herbs, ornamental shrubs, or trees for recreation or display.

Lawn Sprinkler: A device with perforations through which water is distributed into the air from a hose or underground pipe to irrigate a lawn.

Low Maintenance Grasses: Turf or cover species requiring minimal watering or mowing, including fescues, clover, wildflowers, oats, or buckwheat.

Managed Natural Landscape: A planned, intentional, and maintained planting of native or nonnative grasses, wildflowers, forbs, ferns, shrubs, or trees, including rain gardens, meadow vegetation, and ornamental plants. Managed natural landscapes do not include turf-grass lawns left unattended to return to a natural

state. Managed natural landscapes may include plants that are in excess of eight inches in height but may not contain noxious weeds.

The reason for the inclusion of “nonnative grasses” is unclear. However, this wording comes directly out of the state omnibus bill.

Meadow Vegetation: Grasses and flowering broadleaf plants native to or adapted to Minnesota and commonly found in meadow or prairie communities, excluding noxious weeds.

Native Grasses: Grass species native to Minnesota, including big bluestem, little bluestem, Indian grass, and similar species.

Is inclusion of this definition necessary and if so, can it be made more accurate?

Noxious Weeds: Plant species designated by Minnesota Statutes §18.78 as state-prohibited, restricted, or secondary noxious weeds.

Ornamental Plants: Grasses, perennials, annuals, and groundcovers planted primarily for aesthetic purposes.

Prairie: An open, treeless plant community consisting of a diverse mix of sun-loving flowers, grasses, and sedge species.

Rain Garden: A native plant garden designed to improve aesthetics and reduce stormwater runoff and pollutants entering surface waters.

Savanna: A transitional plant community with scattered mature trees and an understory of prairie vegetation.

Steep Slopes: Slopes with a gradient greater than 15 degrees (or approximately 27%).

Turf-Grass Lawn: A lawn composed primarily of grasses commonly used in regularly mowed lawns or play areas, including but not limited to bluegrass, fescue, and ryegrass blends intended to be maintained at a height of no more than eight inches.

Woodland: A plant community with a tree canopy coverage of at least 50% and an understory of shade-tolerant plants.

Subd. 3. City Authority Over Public Property Vegetation

- A) The City shall have control and supervision of the planting, trimming, spraying, removal, and maintenance of trees and shrubs located on or overhanging public property.
- B) Uniform standards shall be maintained by the Public Works Director and adopted or amended by Council action.
- C) A right-of-way permit is required prior to any vegetation work on City property. Permits required by this subdivision shall be issued in accordance with Chapter 14.

Subd. 4. Property Owner Maintenance Responsibilities

A) Turf-Grass Lawns, Trees, and Shrubs

- 1) Turf-grass lawns shall not exceed 8 inches in height and shall be free of noxious weeds exceeding 8 inches in height or producing seed.
- 2) Property owners shall maintain trees and shrubs extending into public rights-of-way to ensure safe pedestrian and vehicle travel.

B) Managed Natural Landscapes

- 1) Managed natural landscapes shall be maintained free of noxious weeds.
- 2) A minimum 5 foot buffer shall be maintained along property lines and public rights-of-way.

This requirement should be removed. It is an unnecessary burden on the property owner.

If the 5 foot buffer is an absolute necessity, what is acceptable medium for the 5 foot buffer -i.e. mowed native grasses/flowers, stone, mulch? Does it have to be a turf grass?

- 3) Vegetation shall not encroach into sidewalks or roadways.
- 4) Managed natural landscapes shall be registered annually with the City. Compliance determinations for Managed Natural Landscapes shall be valid for the calendar year and may be re-evaluated annually or upon receipt of a complaint.

(1) Was the intent to “register” annually or “permit” annually?

- (2) Why should native landscaping need a permit when other gardens do not? This could create an undue burden on the City and on property owners.
- (3) Why not just eliminate the requirement to register/permit Managed Natural Landscapes?
- (4) If Public Works insists upon a registration/permit process:
 - (a) Does it have to be annual?
 - (b) What would be the process for registration/permitting?
 - (i) A portal on Red Wing pollinator lawn page?
 - (ii) Should Sustainability Commission be involved in creation of such a portal?
 - (iii) Cost of permit?
- (5) If there is not a registration/permit required for Managed Natural Landscapes, how does the City monitor the success of promoting natural landscapes? Surveys?
- (6) Should lawn signs be made available for Managed Natural Landscapes?

5) Managed Natural Landscapes regulated under this Section shall be administered consistent with Minnesota Statutes §412.925.

C) Undeveloped Land

1) Buffer Areas.

- a) Residential Land. Where an undeveloped lot or outlot abuts an improved public street, highway, or an adjacent residential or commercial property, a minimum 5 foot buffer shall be maintained along the entire frontage or shared property line. Landscaped buffer areas shall be maintained at a maximum height of 8 inches and kept free of noxious weeds.
- b) Nonresidential Land. Where an undeveloped commercial lot or outlot abuts an improved public street, highway, or an adjoining commercial property, a buffer measuring 105 feet shall be maintained along the

entire frontage or shared property line. Buffer areas shall be maintained at a maximum height of 8 inches and kept free of noxious weeds.

2) Interior Lot Maintenance.

- a) The remainder of the lot or outlot shall be kept reasonably free of noxious weeds that have gone to seed or are about to go to seed.
- b) The remainder of the lot or outlot shall be mowed a minimum of two times per year: once between June 1 and June 15, and once between September 1 and September 15.

3) Seeding Requirements. Undeveloped lots and outlots shall be seeded with low-maintenance, low-water grasses or native grasses to reduce maintenance and discourage invasive species.

4) Transition to Developed Standards. When 2/3 of residential lots within a recorded plat are developed, all remaining undeveloped lots shall be maintained in accordance with the turf-grass lawn standards set forth in Subdivision 4(A).

Why not use native grasses as mentioned in Subd4, C, 3, -
“Seeding Requirements. Undeveloped lots and outlots shall be seeded with low-maintenance, low-water grasses or native grasses to reduce maintenance and discourage invasive species.”

Any communications that can be made to developers to adopt this approach?/

D) Watering Practices.

- 1) Watering between 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.–4:00 a.m. is discouraged, except for newly seeded or sodded lawns or during drought restrictions.
- 2) The City retains the right to restrict public water usage as deemed necessary.

E) Exempt Areas.

- 1) Exempt areas include floodplains, wetlands, permitted natural landscapes, rain gardens, parks, playing fields, golf courses, cemeteries, not adjacent

to rights-of-way, agricultural land, and qualifying outlots, except for noxious weed control.

a) If the requirement for permitting or registering natural landscapes is removed, can “permitted natural landscapes” be replaced with “managed natural landscape”?

- 2) Slopes with a gradient greater than 15 degrees are exempt from routine maintenance requirements provided that such slopes do not encroach into pedestrian pathways or roadways. Where a steep slope abuts a sidewalk, trail, curb, or roadway, a minimum 3 foot setback measured from the back of curb or edge of pavement shall be maintained, and no vegetation shall encroach into the sidewalk or roadway.

Subd. 5. Enforcement

A) Enforcement Authority. The Public Works Director has authority to enforce this Section and may inspect properties, issue notices, and order corrective action. This person should be trained in the basics of sustainable urban landscaping and should utilize all resources associated with sustainable landscape practices as available at both the state and local levels.

B) Penalties.

What are the non-compliance items for a managed natural landscape? Just free of noxious weeds, 5 foot buffer and no encroachment onto sidewalks or roadways?

- 1) If any owner or occupant fails to comply with the requirements of this Section within 14 days after written notice from the City, the City may perform or cause to be performed the required work to bring the property into compliance. Any subsequent noncompliance after the initial citation may be corrected by the City without further notice.

In the case of Managed Natural Landscape, mowing should not be the City’s choice for “required work”. Another approach is required that does not jeopardize the property owners investment in plants, etc.

- 2) All costs incurred by the City, together with applicable interest and any citation penalties, shall constitute a lien against the property. The City Clerk shall certify the total amount due to the Goodhue County Auditor,

and such amount together with interest shall levied and collected as a special assessment in the same manner as real estate taxes.

Subd. 6. City Abatement and Cost Recovery

The City may perform required work, maintain records of costs, and assess such costs and administrative fees against the property.

Subd. 7. Dumping

Disposal of plant material, clippings, or debris is regulated under Chapter 10 of the City Code.

Subd. 8. Fees

The City Council shall establish enforcement and abatement fees by ordinance. Said fee shall cover administrative costs in addition to any costs incurred in the cleanup and maintenance work that the City completes or causes to be completed.