

---

## “VILLAGE ROOTS” COMMUNITY GARDEN

---

In 2001, the Club started developing an empty lot into Bay View’s first community garden, named *Village Roots*. The garden is located at 1115 East Otjen Street (behind the Beulah Brinton Community Center).

To prepare *Village Roots*, members have dedicated their time and sweat equity to removing brush, cutting down trees, constructing raised beds for vegetable gardens, hauling top soil and mulch and keeping up with crops of weeds.



The raised beds are available to the community on a year-by-year basis for a nominal rental fee.

The *Village Roots* plan includes perennial beds to attract birds and butterflies, fruit trees, a strawberry and raspberry patch, decorative sculpture, and a staging area for demonstrations and instruction. It has taken several years to fully develop the garden.

If you are interested in getting involved in maintaining *Village Roots* garden at Otjen or making a financial or in-kind donation, please e-mail [bvgpresident@bvgays.com](mailto:bvgpresident@bvgays.com).



GARDEN AND YARD SOCIETY

**“Through the varied activities of the Bay View Garden And Yard Society (Bay View GAYS), we will positively influence and strengthen our community and the neighborhood we call home.”**

## OBJECTIVES

Founded in 1995, the Bay View Garden And Yard Society (Bay View GAYS) is a group of gay-friendly people living in the Milwaukee area who share a love of gardening and their community.

### The purpose of the Bay View GAYS:

- ▶ To have fun while promoting the Bay View community through the beautification of our gardens and yards.
- ▶ To share gardening information, exchange plants and share information that is of particular interest to those living in Bay View.
- ▶ To encourage others, in Bay View, to maintain their gardens, yards and homes.
- ▶ To volunteer our time and talent in maintaining public gardens in Bay View.
- ▶ To socialize with other gay, lesbian and gay-friendly persons.

## ACTIVITIES

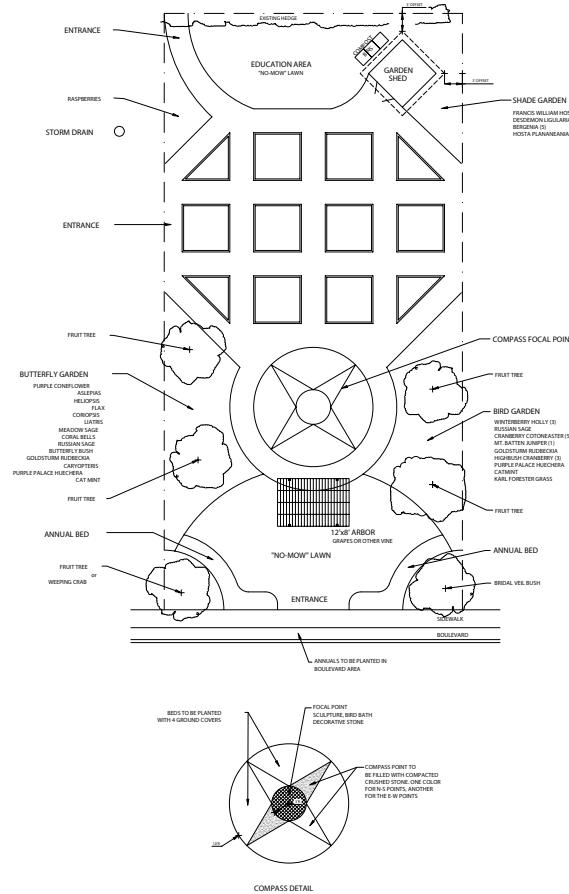
The primary activity of the Bay View GAYS is to promote Bay View through gardening and social activities.

### Activities of the Bay View GAYS:

- ▶ Adopting and maintaining public gardens
  - KK Firehouse
  - KK/Lincoln Triangle
  - Memorial Garden at KK and Logan
  - Pryor Street Well
  - Village Roots community garden
- ▶ Educational excursions
- ▶ Guest speakers
- ▶ Dinners and social gatherings
- ▶ Participation in and support of community and neighborhood projects

## MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Beulah Brinton House, 2590 S. Superior St. in Bay View (except November and December). Meetings offer informal information on gardening and related activities. Periodically guest speakers or group outings are scheduled. Information concerning the neighborhood and community is also shared.



Blueprint for "Village Roots" community garden

## MEMBERSHIP

Those interested can join the Bay View GAYS at any time. Dues are \$5 per person, per month—\$60 annually. Dues are used to fund community service projects.



## FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bay View Garden And Yard Society  
 Web Site: [www.bvgyays.com](http://www.bvgyays.com)  
 E-mail: [bvgyapresident@bvgyays.com](mailto:bvgyapresident@bvgyays.com)

**Please feel free to attend a monthly meeting, meet your neighbors and decide if you would like to join the Bay View GAYS.**