May 17, 2011
From: Councilor Erica Zweifel
To: The Press

It is my pleasure to announce the following honorees for volunteerism in Northfield’s Third ward. Also there will be a ribbon cutting celebration in Lashbrook Park, Tuesday May 17th at 4:430PM.

**Sheryl Joy** is receiving an award tonight for her leadership in community gardening in Northfield. While many individuals helped to make community gardens a reality in Northfield, Sheryl was instrumental in organizing and maintaining the community garden movement. If you are interested in community gardening you can send an email to northfieldcommunitygarden@hotmail.com to connect with other gardeners and garden projects.

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**Prairie Partners** is receiving an award for their work in the Greenvale Lone Oak Nature Area (GLONA). Last year, Prairie Partners initiated a number of projects in GLONA including: native prairie restoration, invasive species removal, and improving the sign for the nature area. This year the group has focused their efforts on adding to the perennial plant collection and building an outdoor classroom. Anyone interested in more information on the Prairie Partners group can visit their website at http://www.for-wild.org/chapters/northfield/
Amy Olson is receiving an award for her efforts to build a community basketball court in Prairie Hills Park. Amy raised over $4,000 dollars to fund the construction of a basketball court in her neighborhood. The court surfacing was completed last season, and the hoops will be installed this spring. I know that many people in the community appreciate the addition of this facility to the park. I look forward to playing ball in this new community-gathering place.
St Olaf Environmental Studies majors; Mary Coulson, Lisa De Guire, Mary Morris, Katelyn DeRuyter are receiving an award for their work planning and building a woodland trail in Lashbrook Park. These students worked with The Friends of Lashbrook Park, The Northfield Park Board, and the City of Northfield to design the trail, get approval for their plan and arrange for help with brush and tree removal. The path is located in the wooded section at the North end of the park. This project is an excellent model of collaboration and community volunteerism.