

## **Volunteer Opportunities for the Marigold Mile**

Each year we plant about 8,000 orange and gold Inca Marigolds on S. Oneida Street in Appleton from the Skyline Bridge to Calumet Street and a few areas beyond. Our volunteers usually work to till the soil, plant the marigolds, then water, weed and deadhead them throughout the summer.

We will be planting any Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings after Memorial Day and throughout June or until they are all planted. Volunteers can come from 8, 9, or 10am for 2 hour periods. Special arrangements can be made if these times don't fit your schedule.

Please call my cell at 920-450-0834 or email me at [michael.l.turner@tds.net](mailto:michael.l.turner@tds.net) so that I can add you to the schedule and give you directions on where to meet. I will be on the Mile every day that I have volunteers scheduled to come. Bring gloves, all other needs will be provided including refreshments.

### **Planting on the Marigold Mile**

Near the end of May, when the ground warms enough for our flowers to grow, we start planting in areas that have been tilled. Volunteers are encouraged to help with the tilling, but most come to plant and maintain. Volunteers work in groups of 3 or separately if you wish. As a group one would drill the hole to the correct depth, another would lay the correct color of flower at the hole as to our design and another volunteer firmly packs the soil around the flower at least an inch or more above the dirt ball. (Incas can be planted deep because the roots will grow up the stem like a tomato.) The excess soil on the sidewalk and street is swept back around the flowers and they are watered. We have hose reels that hook up to businesses along the route.

### **Maintaining the Marigold Mile**

After planting is completed, watering, weeding and deadheading are needed. Watering is needed at least every 10 days if rain is not forecast. Weeding is performed only when the weeds become higher than the flowers starting July through September. Deadheading is the removing of the dead flowers heads from the plant to encourage more growth. This can be done during weeding or watering. The flowers are removed before the ground freezes in November.

Thank you for considering working on this MGV Project!

Mike Turner