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## **Cantigny Park Invites Neighbors to “Grow it Forward!”**

*Program on vegetable gardening includes free plants and a challenge to share*

**WHEATON, IL, May 21, 2012** — Cantigny Park’s horticulture department will host a free lecture on vegetable gardening by Liz Omura on Saturday, June 2, at 11 am. Omura is the Idea Garden curator at Cantigny and a strong believer in sharing what you grow.

This is the second year for “Neighbor to Neighbor: Grow it Forward!” After Omura’s remarks and a brief Q&A session at the Cantigny Education Center, guests will be invited to take home two tomato plants and two pepper plants. The only “catch” is that guests must also take home a commitment to share their produce with a neighbor, ideally someone in need. Those who send in picture of themselves giving away their plants or vegetables will receive a free one-day pass to Cantigny Park.

“We had a positive response to this event in 2011,” Omura said. “Gardeners tend to be friendly and generous people to begin with, and ‘Grow it Forward’ gives them a nudge to go out and make somebody’s day a little brighter.”

The event is also an opportunity to receive some practical advice on home vegetable gardening, just in time for the prime growing season.

“People might be surprised at how easy it can be,” Omura said, “and you don’t need a large backyard to be successful. Vegetables do really well in containers, too.”

“Grow it Forward!” is a complimentary program but advance registration is requested via e-mail ([register@cantigny.org](mailto:register@cantigny.org)) or by calling 630.260.8162. The regular Cantigny parking fee of \$5 per car applies. Annual memberships starting at \$50 include unlimited free parking.

More information about Cantigny Park, including hours, directions, membership and a calendar of upcoming events is online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org).

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### **About Cantigny Park**

Cantigny Park, part of the Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, is the 500-acre Wheaton (Illinois) estate of Robert R. McCormick (1880-1955), longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. It is home to 30 acres of spectacular gardens, the Robert R. McCormick Museum, the First Division Museum and a 27-hole championship golf course. All are open to the public. Cantigny also is a favorite destination for special events, weddings, concerts, lectures, workshops and other recreation and learning opportunities for all ages. Full-service banquet and dining facilities are on site. More information, including hours, directions and a calendar of upcoming events is online at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org). For details about Cantigny Golf, including the Cantigny Golf Academy and 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links, please visit [CantignyGolf.com](http://CantignyGolf.com).

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