

Gardens TO REMEMBER

From 1975 - 1992, **Joseph F. Bissonnette** served as director of development for the Wheeling Park Commission. The beautiful 16-acre garden area located throughout The Hilltop was rededicated in Bissonnette's honor in September of 1999. This beautiful, public garden display includes more than 30 flower beds, dozens of colorful hanging baskets and multiple fountains.

A Walk THROUGH TIME

In the early 1900s, The Hilltop was adorned with beautiful gardens known as **Waddington Gardens**. For public enjoyment, these gardens have been recreated through a variety of floral displays that are known today as the **Bissonnette Gardens**. Visitors are encouraged to take a stroll down the meandering red brick path to enjoy the beauty of these flowerbeds, hanging baskets and majestic trees.

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On The Hilltop, hard work and dedication are the foundation of our beautiful garden displays. From water features to the whimsical floral clock, our staff of 10 works countless hours from early spring through late fall to keep these gardens lush and beautiful. Our skilled staff spends the early summer planting more than 30 flowerbeds featuring a wide variety of colorful vegetation. Maintaining the beauty of The Hilltop is a labor of love, as staff members carefully prune, water, dead-heading, re-plant, weed and fertilize the grounds daily.

From mid-April through early May, guests are invited to admire the breathtaking beauty and vibrant colors of Tulips, Hyacinths, Pansies and Daffodils. Through the month of June, guests will find the gardens filled with a wide array of annuals including park favorites such as Canna, Salvia, Celosia, Angelonia, Verbena, Petunia, and Geranium. As fall draws near and the leaves begin to change, so do the flower displays at The Hilltop. From mid-September to late October, guests may enjoy the warm, jewel-toned beauty of fall mums throughout the park.

To learn more about plant varieties, hardiness or other garden facts, we invite you to speak with a member of the Palm Room staff.

