



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*Navy Pier 2009*

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**Gardeners `dig' playing in the dirt**  
**Show's how-to container gardening classes**  
**raise planting skills and funds for charity**

What gardener doesn't like to get their hands dirty? They will have plenty of chances to do that during **container gardening seminars at the 2009 Belgard Chicago Flower & Garden Show** when it returns



Saturday, March 7, through Sunday, March 15, 2009, to Festival Hall A and B near the east end of Navy Pier on Chicago's lakefront.

Show visitors can pay a \$20 "lab fee" to participate in a hands-on seminar, learn valuable tips and then take the potted container garden home. The entire proceeds are donated to a designated charity of the day.

Potting Parties will be held at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. daily. In order to maximize the benefits of these classes, they are limited to 25 people per session. The \$20 "lab fee" is less than the cost of a pot, earth and plantings being given to every participant.

The roster of charities includes:

- Saturday, March 7—Chicago Gateway Green
- Sunday, March 8—NeighborSpace
- Monday, March 9—Garden Clubs of Illinois
- Tuesday, March 10—Outrun the Sun
- Wednesday, March 11—Chicago House
- Thursday, March 12—Prevent Child Abuse America
- Friday, March 13—Make-A-Wish Foundation
- Saturday, March 14—Alzheimer's Association
- Sunday, March 15—Parkways Foundation

The 2009 Chicago Flower & Garden Show is sponsored by Belgard Hardscapes, a nationwide network of paving stone and garden wall products manufacturers. Show hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Saturday, and until 6 p.m. on Sundays. Adult admission is \$14 weekends, \$12 weekdays. Tickets for children 12 and under are \$5 every day. You can order tickets online now by visiting [chicagoflower.com](http://chicagoflower.com), where no service fee is charged, or buy them at the door.

Discounted all-day Navy Pier parking is \$14. For details about CTA bus service, call 836-7000 (any local area code) or visit the CTA Web site at [transitchicago.com](http://transitchicago.com). For Metra travel information, go to [metrarail.com](http://metrarail.com) for train schedules and phone numbers of the various rail lines serving downtown Chicago.

Tickets for groups of 15 or more are \$2 less and include a free ticket for every 15 purchased. They can be ordered by calling 773-435-1250, or by downloading a Group Reservation Form at [chicagoflower.com](http://chicagoflower.com), which also has information on special hotel packages.