



2019 Good Neighbor Award Winner



Marleane Callaghan is the third recipient of the city's annual Good Neighbor Award. Callaghan educated children and families in the community and was a leader in the efforts to start a community garden. Callaghan is a "master gardener." She not only maintains her own garden and pond in her own backyard, but she often hosts tours of her work.

Her work in the community includes working with watershed districts to create rain gardens, volunteering at the Maple Plain Community Church and volunteering as a SPARKS mentor, which is a program offered after-school for children needing extra support.

Callaghan was also a leader when the community garden began. The community garden is a collaboration between the city of Maple Plain, Orono Community Education and Independence Mayor Marvin Johnson. Johnson provided a space on his land for the garden, the city of Maple Plain donates water and maintains the ground and Callaghan teaches families about gardening and oversees the community garden in partnership with Orono Community Education staff.

She is truly an example of how we are better together! Thank you, Marleane, for your patience, experience, compassion, knowledge, and dedication to the people of Maple Plain.