



Photo by Michelle Mero Riedel. Spiderflower *Cleome* Cherry Queen.

Friends School
OF MINNESOTA



1365 Englewood Avenue
Saint Paul MN 55104

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The background of the entire image is a close-up photograph of several bright pink clematis flowers. The flowers have five petals each and prominent yellow stamens. They are surrounded by lush green leaves. The lighting is natural, highlighting the texture of the petals and the vibrancy of the colors.

Friends School Plant Sale

**May 6–9, 2021
Minnesota State Fair**

More info at www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com

YES! There will be a 2021 Friends School Plant Sale

Here's how it will be different*

- 1** The plant sale will be **outdoors** at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds.
- 2** The sale will be **open an extra day**. The dates are Thursday, May 6 to Sunday, May 9. State guidelines limit the number of shoppers at a time, so the extra day means we can accommodate more shoppers. Sunday is still our usual 1/3-off discount day.
- 3** Each person will **sign up ahead of time for a single shopping entry time** on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday (*plus* a second Sunday time if wanted), wear a mask, keep social distance, and meet all the current state health guidelines. Signups start on April 1 at 8:00 a.m. at 2021plantsale.com.
- 4** **Seeds, bulbs, and bareroots will be sold online** ahead of time at 2021plantsale.com starting March 1. Seed orders will be mailed. Bulbs and bareroots will be picked up curbside during the plant sale May 6–9 without needing to enter the sale.
- 5** There will be **no printed catalog** this year. *This is the only mailing you will receive from us.* The 2021 plants will be updated on our website by March 1. Please go there to see photos of plants, read descriptions, and make your shopping list.
- 6** There will be **no hanging baskets** this year, and being outdoors means we can't have as many cold-sensitive plants. (For instance: no Outdoor/Indoor section, begonias, coleus, or impatiens.)

***SUBJECT TO CHANGE, LIKE EVERYTHING THESE DAYS ;)**

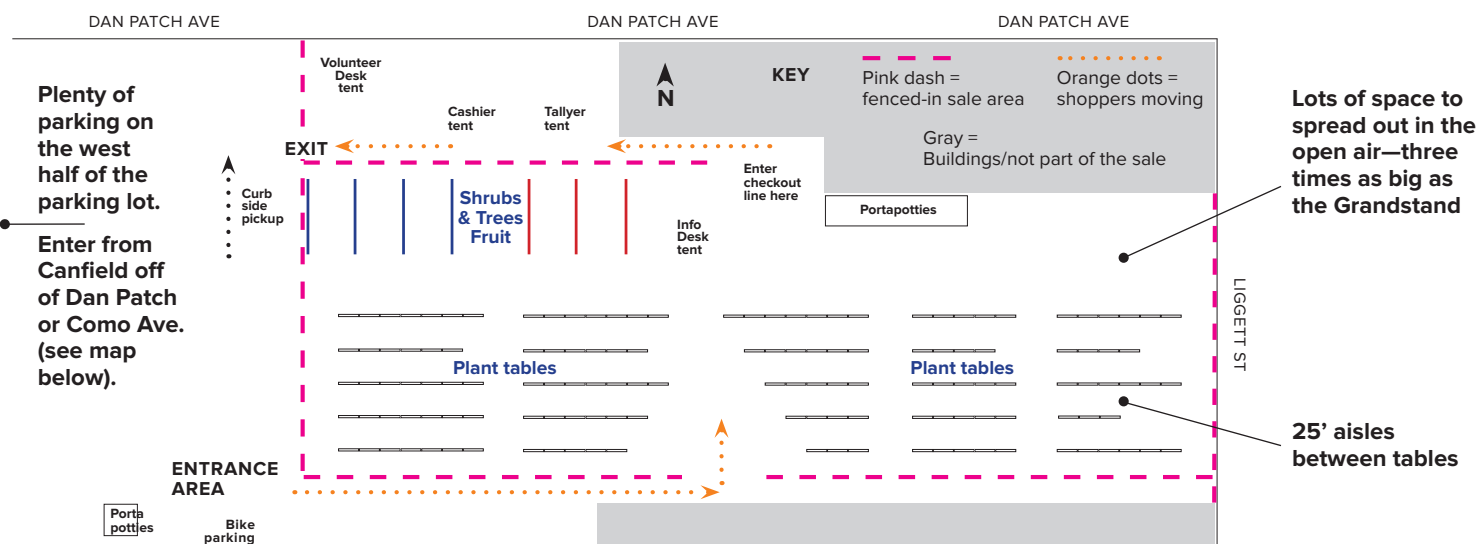
**To get email updates and reminders, sign up at
FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/email**

MORE DETAILS INSIDE

What will the outdoor sale look like?

Here's what we're planning for the sale's layout, based on current guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Health:

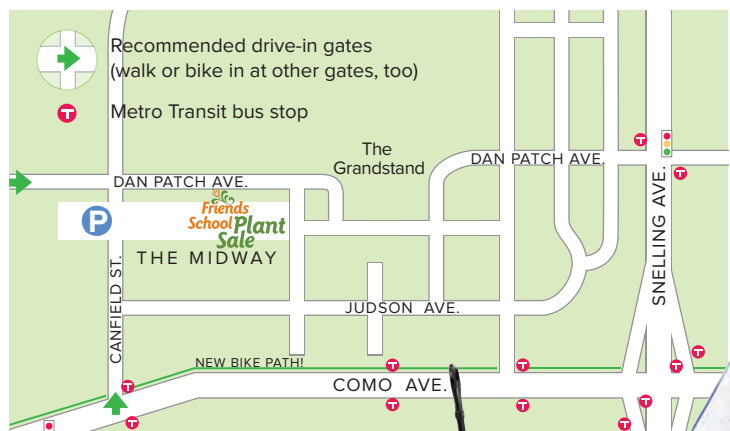
The Grandstand is over this way... (see you inside in 2022, we hope)



Location and parking

The sale will be in the huge parking lot that's the Midway during the State Fair. It's several times larger than the Grandstand. Aisles will be 2.5 times wider than usual, and the number of shoppers will be one-quarter as many at a time or less.

Enter the parking area from Canfield, either from Como or Dan Patch. Park on the west end of the big parking lot. Shoppers will enter from the west end of the plant sale.



We will have some shopping carts, but you are encouraged more than ever to bring your own wagon and boxes.

Also, bringing your own clipboard and pencil is greatly encouraged!



We're going cashless for 2021. We'll be accepting checks, Apple Pay, and *all* credit cards.

Does the plant sale need volunteers?

As always, the plant sale is completely run by volunteers!

We need you more than ever this year, and we're doing everything possible to make the sale a safe place for everyone to be.

Our COVID preparedness plan is available for anyone who would like to see it, and we will continue updating it with best practices.

[FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/covid](https://www.friendschoolplantsale.com/covid)

Volunteer signups start at 8:00 a.m. on February 1 at:

[FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/volunteer](https://www.friendschoolplantsale.com/volunteer)

No computer? Call 651-621-8930 to volunteer

Volunteers shop early: The volunteer-only pre-sale will be earlier in the week than usual. Volunteers will shop with scheduled times on Wednesday afternoon and evening, May 5, before the sale opens.

How will the shopping entry times work?

Sign up online for a single entry time on Thursday, Friday OR Saturday, May 6, 7, or 8 at 2021plantsale.com starting on April 1 at 8:00 a.m.

Reserved entry times are free of charge, but require a name, phone number and email address.

May 2021		
Thu 06	Fri 07	Sat 08
12:30 pm	10:30 am	9:30 am
1:00 pm	11:00 am	10:00 am

The signup system will not allow the same person to get more than one entry time, but you will be able to change or cancel your time.

Each person shopping needs their own entry time — unfortunately, you cannot bring a helper unless they have their own reserved entry time. (The only exception is a registered Personal Care Attendant: they don't need to be signed up and can accompany a shopper.)

Each person who signs up needs to have their own email address when signing up.

What about plant restocking?

We will restock almost all plants every morning to even out access throughout the sale. Exceptions: The shrubs and trees (including fruit trees) that come in larger pots will all be put in place at the beginning of the sale. Also, we do *not* restock for the Sunday discount sale.

How will the Sunday discount sale work?

Shopping entry times for the discount sale on Sunday, May 9, will become available on Saturday, May 8 at 5:00 p.m. at 2021plantsale.com.

Assuming there are plants left, signups will work the same way as the regular sale—one per person, each shopper needs their own entry time.

We will send an email Saturday afternoon about signups, giving an idea of what range of plants are left. (Sign up for the reminder at FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/email.)

How do I buy seeds and bulbs/bareroots this year?

All the plants we'll have at the 2021 sale will appear on March 1 at FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com, even if they are packaged as a seed, a bulb, or a bareroot. However, you won't be able to put those on your shopping list because they won't be for sale in person at the plant sale May 6–9!

You will only be able to order those ahead of time at 2021plantsale.com. There will be a link to that separate website from each seed or bulb/bareroot on the main plant sale site. (We're sorry we can't integrate the two sites, but it's not possible technically and it's really hard to explain.)



Seeds

- Seed orders will be shipped directly to you by U.S. postal service.
- The seeds we're selling are all intended to be ones that you can direct-sow into the ground and still get flowers or an edible crop this season, rather than have to start them indoors. If you want to start them indoors, you can, but it shouldn't be required.

Bulbs, bareroots — and mushrooms!

- Bulb, bareroot and mushroom orders must be picked up curbside during the plant sale, Thursday–Saturday, May 6–8.
- You do *not* need a shopping time slot to pick up your bulbs and bareroots. If you are shopping at the sale, you're welcome to pick them up at curbside after you shop for plants.
- The list of bulbs, bareroots, and tubers is similar to the ones we have had in past plant sales (mostly perennials, plus dahlias, potatoes, and a few herbs). Plus mushroom kits and logs!

The online store for seeds, bulbs, and bareroots will open Monday, March 1, at 8:00 a.m. and close on Wednesday, April 28, at 11:59 p.m., so order by then!



Questions? email
info@FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com

Dates to remember

February 1 – 8:00 a.m.
Volunteer signups start

March 1 – 8:00 a.m.
Online seed and bulb store opens

April 1 – 8:00 a.m.
Shopping entry time signups start

April 28 – 11:59 p.m.
Online seed and bulb store closes

May 6–9: Plant sale!

May 8 – 5:00 p.m.
Discount sale shopping entry time signups start