

# **KAREN P. TORVIK**

68 E. Beaumont Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43214

## **Education:**

- Upper Arlington High School, 1973 graduation
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- The Ohio State University , 1978 graduation: Bachelor of Science, agriculture, Landscape Horticulture

## **Experience:**

- 1974 - 1978: Summer seasonal while in college, worked for City of Columbus, summer help at Whetstone Park of Roses, Columbus Recreation & Parks Dept.
- 1978 – 1989: Groundskeeper position, various locations with Columbus Recreation & Parks Dept.: Municipal Nursery propagating shrubs; the Forestry Division assisting with response to citizen complaints; residential street tree inspections, designation of action for street trees; in parks helping with development of tree tours in Schiller and Goodale Parks.
- 1989 – 1992: Gardener position, Columbus Recreation & Parks Dept. working as the first Volunteer Coordinator at the Whetstone Park of Roses. I set up the framework for the program, policy for volunteers, guidelines and expectations; I interviewed, trained and set up educational workshops and kept records of attendance and planned work for volunteers. I learned how to do this by taking seminars through the agency CALLVAC, which has now transformed into First Link, a clearinghouse for Columbus volunteers.
- 1992 – Present: Gardener Supervisor (City of Columbus, (Engineering & Construction) Transportation: I was hired to be in charge of the maintenance of landscapes that had been installed by ODOT beautification programs, (Dagmar Celeste), yet the maintenance was the responsibility of the City of Columbus under the lane mile agreement. I also worked with many other agencies to coordinate beautification projects, (whether in residential neighborhoods) Old Town East, or governmental: ODOT, City Year, Color Columbus, Arbor Day programs in schools, etc. I have worked with civic groups to coordinate litter pickup programs, mirroring the state's Adopt a Highway Program. I have done

horticultural consultation regarding plant material selection with City of Columbus engineers and private

contractors on projects with landscaping that have been implemented by the city.

**Other:**

2001 – Present QWL Committee Member and Secretary.

2002 – Presently Member of City of Columbus Horticultural Subcommission

2992 – 04 – Chair of Grounds Committee at Whetstone High School

2002 – 05 – Co-Chair of Grounds Committee at First Universal Unitarian Church