

West Lafayette Beautification Award
September, 2014
Jim and Marihelen Johnson

The Johnsons have called West Lafayette home for the past eight years and have transformed the landscape at 1900 King Eider Court into a colorful display year round. Jim supplemented the established shrubs and trees with several flower beds that are in bloom from daffodils in the spring to mums in the fall. He likes to attract butterflies and hummingbirds and has a wide variety of perennials to lure them into the garden. Marihelen is in charge of container plantings which surround their home. They have brought garden art from other places they have lived, including unusual igneous rocks from Austin, Texas.

Jim has faced many gardening challenges in the various states they have lived in, but admits that our clay has provided his toughest test to date. He isn't afraid to move a plant to find a happier place for it to thrive or perhaps more sunshine. He has organized his garden by color and the eye moves from warm to cool colors, depending on the amount of shade. His garden is a good example of how gardeners adapt to changing environments and bloom brighter each year.



