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For Immediate Release

Summer Floral Show Opens at The Domes *“Good” and “Bad” Bugs Amid Giant Plants*

Milwaukee, WI (May 23, 2014) – Visitors to the Mitchell Park Domes will travel through a landscape of large proportions during the summer floral show. The show opens Saturday, June 7. The Domes, “Milwaukee’s Living Landmark,” is located at 524 S. Layton Blvd.

Colorful blooms will be interspersed amid giant-sized plants. Visitors will see brightly hued New Guinea Impatiens, blue Salvia, deep rose Pentas (favored by butterflies), and other colorful blossoms. Giant-leaved plants in the show will include Elephant Ears, with leaves up to 6 feet long and Castor Bean, with leaves up to 3 feet long. Also of giant proportion are the tussocks of Pampas Grass, which can grow to a height of 9 feet.

Enlarged props—up to 1 foot—of “good” and “bad” bugs, as well as interpretive signage, will be placed throughout the show. Benefits from pollinators such as honey bees and monarch butterflies, along with their recent plights of colony collapse and declining populations are explained. The destructive behavior of aphids and emerald ash borers and current best management practices are discussed. Also provided is an example of a bug that may be considered both good and bad—the lady bug. While it is sought for its voracious appetite for aphids and other plant-eating insects, some varieties of ladybugs also feed on plants.

The exhibit runs through Sunday, Sept. 7.

Admission for adults age 18 and over is \$7; Milwaukee County Seniors with ID, persons with disabilities, students of any age with ID, and youth age 6-17 are \$5. Children 5 and under are admitted for free. Regular admission rates are in effect on Memorial Day (Monday, May 26).

For more information, call The Domes at (414) 257-5611 or visit countyparks.com

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