



# CITY OF KENNER

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**EDMOND J. "ED" MUNIZ**  
MAYOR

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **KENNER RECEIVES \$2600 FROM MONSANTO FUND To Support Vegetable Gardening Program**

Kenner Parks and Recreation Director Ken Marroccoli announced Thursday his department was awarded \$2,600 by the Monsanto Fund, a private foundation and the philanthropic arm of Monsanto Company, to support its Vegetable Gardening Program, which is designed to teach residents – adults and children alike – how to grow vegetables and herbs at home.

The Kenner Parks and Recreation Department provides athletic and leisure programs to area residents.

Maria Aucoin, an administrative assistant for Kenner Recreation and who coordinates the Vegetable Gardening Program, said, "Kenner Parks and Recreation is pleased to team up with the Monsanto Fund to address the needs of our community and the food and health issues our area faces. This grant will help residents have better access to fresh whole foods, get residents thinking about where their food comes from, and make them more aware of proper nutrition and physical fitness.

She added, "Another goal is to reduce dependence on non-local sources of fresh produce, which the city learned during major storms can be hard to obtain."

The Kenner Parks and Recreation Department offers athletic programs, recreational classes and various camps for youth and adults to be active in their community.



“Monsanto’s overall objective is feeding the world,” said Lindsey Landry, human resources generalist and community relations manager. “We are proud to support an organization that focuses on helping people in our community learn the importance of healthy eating and nutrition.”

The Monsanto Fund was incorporated in 1964. The fund’s primary objective is to improve the lives of people by bridging the gap between their needs and their resources.

Monsanto officials described the fund as focused on grant-making in four main areas: nutritional well-being through agriculture; science education, primarily on professional development for teachers; the environment, which includes conservation, protection of biodiversity, clean water and restoration of wildlife habitat; and improving the quality of life in communities where Monsanto employees live and work.

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