

Spring Renewal in the South Wedge: Join Us for Clean Sweep & Community Cleanups

*By Jennifer Posey, Executive Director, South Wedge
Planning Committee*



There's a moment every spring in the South Wedge when the neighborhood begins to feel new again. The flowers start to bloom, the sidewalks fill with neighbors reconnecting after a long winter, and there's a shared energy that reminds us why this community is so special. For me, that moment always arrives with the City of Rochester's annual Clean Sweep—and it's truly my favorite part of spring in the Wedge. Clean Sweep is more than just a neighborhood cleanup—it's a celebration of community pride. It's when residents, business owners, and volunteers come together to refresh our streets, clear away what winter left behind, and take collective care of the place we all call home.

As the business owner of Hedonist Artisan Chocolates here in the South Wedge, I'm always especially grateful to see the City of Rochester's street sweepers come through, clearing out the gutters and helping our neighborhood look its best after the winter months. That care extends beyond the City, too—it's reflected in the everyday actions of our neighbors.

People like Ron Meyer and his family of Kenron Heating and Cooling, who take the time to clean old posters off light poles and help maintain our beloved clock tower. And neighbors like Andrew Stainton, who can often be found walking up and down Gregory Street with a bucket and hand picker, quietly doing his part to keep our streets clean. These acts of care are what make the South Wedge such a special place.

Start the Season Early: SWPC River Cleanup – April 18

Before Clean Sweep, we invite you to join us for another meaningful way to give back:

SWPC River Cleanup

April 18, 2026, 10am-12pm

Genesee Gateway Park

151 Mt. Hope Avenue

[Sign Up Here](#)

Help us clean up the Genesee River as part of the Canal Clean Sweep!

SWPC, Genesee River Watch, and Walking for Rochester have joined forces to clean the South Wedge portion of the Genesee River. Genesee River Watch will provide long-handled nets, poles, grabbers, gloves, and other tools, while Walking for Rochester will assist with shoreline supplies. Volunteers are welcome to bring their own gloves and tools if preferred, and should dress in clothes and footwear that can withstand getting wet or muddy.

Join the team by signing up in advance at www.swpc.org

City Clean Sweep – May 2

This year, Clean Sweep will take place on **May 2nd**, and we're excited to once again gather as a community.

How to Participate: Join Team SWPC for Rochester's City Clean Sweep!

Ballpark Volunteers (Full Experience):

- Meet at Innovative Field at **8:00 AM** and find Team SWPC.
- Volunteers who meet at the stadium will receive:
 - Free parking
 - A ticket to the baseball game
 - A food voucher
 - A Clean Sweep T-Shirt

****Ballpark volunteers should *sign up* in advance.**

Neighborhood Volunteers:

- If you can't make it to the ballpark or prefer to stay local, meet directly at the **SWPC office at 9:30 AM.**
- *Neighborhood volunteers can [register](#) in advance.*

You can also join neighbors through the Hickory Nuts Block Club or the Business Association of the South Wedge Area (BASWA), both of which are organizing their own Clean Sweep projects right here in our neighborhood.

And keeping in the spirit of community clean-up and renewal, **Hamilton Community Gardens will be hosting their Spring Clean-Up on the same day from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM**—another great opportunity to support a beloved neighborhood space.

What I love most about these events is the spirit behind them. You'll see neighbors meeting for the first time, local businesses rolling up their sleeves alongside residents, and a shared sense of ownership that makes a real difference. It's a reminder that small actions, when done together, have a big impact.

After all of our hard work on May 2nd, we get to celebrate together. Participants are invited to enjoy a free Rochester Red Wings baseball game—a well-earned reward and a fun way to continue connecting as a community. This is our chance to reset—after the long winter, to make our streets, parks, and riverfront more welcoming, support our local businesses, and create a cleaner, healthier environment for everyone.

I invite you to join us—whether it's along the river on April 18, in the neighborhood on May 2, or both. Your presence matters. Let's come together, celebrate the season, and take pride in keeping the South Wedge vibrant and beautiful.

I hope to see you there. Go South Wedge!

Programming

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

River Edge Manor
535 Mount Hope Ave.



MEDICARE 101

Monday, April 20, 2:00 p.m.
REM Community Resource Room

Discuss the basics with Medicare broker Rosie Fiorillo. She will give a presentation about recent policy and regulation changes and answer any questions you might have. Her team of experts offers free personal guidance and support.

Questions or to register, contact:
Rachael Link 585-546-8439 ext. 3703
rlink@EpiscopalSeniorLife.org



Lunch and Learn Series

AI and Business Practices

If you attended Part 1, this is an expansion on that class.
All are welcome to sign up and attend even if you haven't attended Part 1

Thursday, April 23
12pm-2pm
Women of Color International
539 South Avenue

[*Register Here*](#)

The Maniac! A Social Movement finds a Singer and a Song

History talk with Gerry Szymanski

Thursday, April 16

5:30-6:30pm

The Ellwanger Estate

Sign Up



A History Talk: The 127th Birthday of Lauterbach Hardware

A history talk given by Robert Lauterbach!

Thursday, April 23

4pm-6pm

Equal Grounds | 750 South Avenue

Sign Up Here

The Incredible Legs of Dr. Bly: Helping Soldiers across the Union

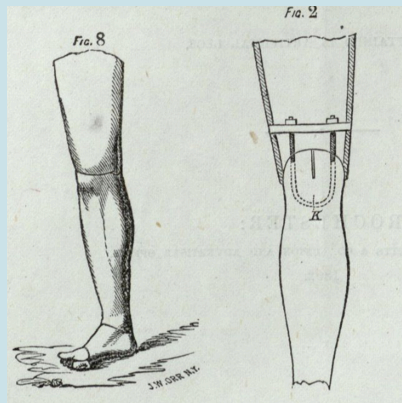
History talk with Gerry Szymanski

Thursday, May 21

5:30-6:30pm

The Ellwanger Estate

Sign Up



Presented by the South Wedge Planning Committee

THE GREAT WEDGE HUNT

- A South Wedge Photo Adventure -



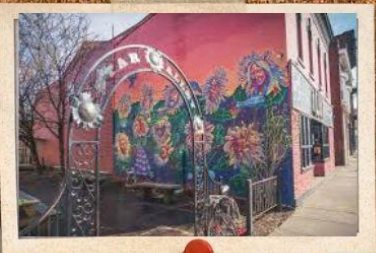
Check-In Location
Abundance Co-op
12:30 PM



After Party
Lux Lounge
3:00 PM



Adventure
Begins 1:00 PM



Teams of 2-5 Players

Explore the neighborhood
Complete photo missions
Win prizes



\$100
GRAND PRIZE!



Saturday, May 9



Team
Registration
\$25 Advance
\$35 Day Of



Register & Details



community engagement



SWPC BOARD MEETING

All are welcome to attend
Tuesday, April 21st
at 9:00am

[ZOOM LINK](#)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING

Wednesday, April 22nd
5:30pm
SWPC Office
224 Mt. Hope Ave



Environmental Leaders Since 1974

**Canal Clean Sweep
with
Walking with Rochester
and Genesee River Watch**

**Saturday, April 18th
10am-12pm
Meet at Gateway Park
151 Mt. Hope Ave**

[*Sign Up Here*](#)



SAVE THE DATE

**Clean Sweep
with the
City of Rochester**

**Saturday, May 2nd
with Rochester Red Wings
Baseball Game to follow!**

[*Register Here*](#)



CITY of ROCHESTER
Malik D. Evans, Mayor

 **Pear Babies Ink by Emma**



Please join us to celebrate Emma Pratt's artwork that has been on display the last couple months at the credit union. We will be hosting a reception with light refreshments Thursday, April 16th, 5:15 - 6:15PM credit union lobby.

For 26 years the Pear Babies have been growing, and they're ready to spread their love and joy across the globe indiscriminately. Emma created her first pear baby artwork entitled "Medicine Women" in 1999 to cope with the helplessness she felt regarding her niece's illness and rare diagnosis.

SAVE THE DATE!



Small
Business
STROLL

South Wedge!

Would you like to explore a new neighborhood and support local businesses? Then the Small Business Stroll is for you! Meet the owners, enjoy samples and discounts, and enter a raffle to win fun prizes!

This is a walking tour that will take place rain or shine.

Saturday, May 9th 2-5pm

Starting Location: Women of Color International at 539 South Avenue

Space is limited, so register today!

<https://calendar.libraryweb.org/event/16629233>

Business Insight Center

Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County
115 South Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604

RocCityLibrary.org



Central Library
of Rochester &
Monroe County
Monroe County Library System

The Central Library is accessible to people with disabilities. To request specific accommodations call 585-428-8304 ten days prior to the program.

26-523-03

Annual
SOUTH WEDGE
COMMUNITY YARD SALE
SATURDAY
AUGUST 1ST
rain or shine
10A to 3P

SAVE THE DATE!
MORE INFO TO COME!

SW
SOUTH WEDGE
 PLANNING COMMITTEE
PC

GO SOUTH WEDGE!
WWW.SWPC.ORG



South Wedge Festival

Save the Date:
Saturday, August 15

We are currently planning the 2026 South Wedge Festival.

Are you interested in Busking? [Apply Here](#)

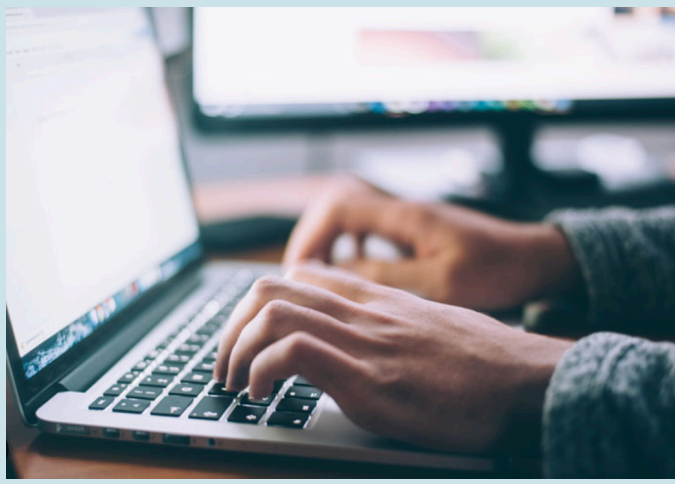
Are you an artist interested in vending? [Apply Here](#)

Are you interested in info about sponsoring the event? [Info Here](#)

Interested in Writing for The Wedge?

Are you interested in writing articles for The Wedge Newsletter?
 Submit your ideas, articles, even photos or art would be cool!

Email Us!

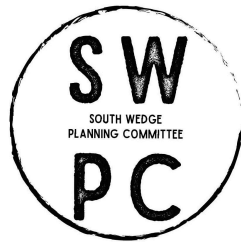


Thank you

to our neighborhood highlight
Angelinas



GO SOUTH WEDGE



South Wedge Planning Committee | 224 Mt Hope Ave | Rochester, NY 14620 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)