

GRAINGER W W INC  
Form 8-K  
April 25, 2012

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported):  
April 25, 2012

W.W. Grainger, Inc.  
(Exact name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

|   |                                    |  |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Illinois<br>(State or Other Jurisdiction of<br>Incorporation) | 1-5684<br>(Commission File Number) | 36-1150280<br>(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.) |
|---|------------------------------------|--|

100 Grainger Parkway, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045  
(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

(847) 535-1000  
(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Not applicable  
(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

## Item 5.07. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

An annual meeting of shareholders of the Company was held on April 25, 2012. At that meeting:

(a) Management's nominees were elected directors for the ensuing year. Of the 63,734,273 shares present in person or represented by proxy at the meeting, the number of shares voted for, the number of shares as to which authority to vote in the election was withheld, and the number of broker non-votes were as follows with respect to each of the nominees:

| Name                | Shares Voted for Election | Shares as to Which Voting Authority Withheld | Broker Non-Votes |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------|
| B. P. Anderson      | 59,226,603                | 693,178                                      | 3,814,492        |
| W. H. Gantz         | 59,286,189                | 633,592                                      | 3,814,492        |
| V. A. Hailey        | 59,710,619                | 209,162                                      | 3,814,492        |
| W. K. Hall          | 59,697,135                | 222,646                                      | 3,814,492        |
| S. L. Levenick      | 59,704,565                | 215,216                                      | 3,814,492        |
| J. W. McCarter, Jr. | 58,968,117                | 951,664                                      | 3,814,492        |
| N. S. Novich        | 59,022,400                | 897,381                                      | 3,814,492        |
| M. J. Roberts       | 59,435,334                | 484,447                                      | 3,814,492        |
| G. L. Rogers        | 59,704,192                | 215,589                                      | 3,814,492        |
| J. T. Ryan          | 58,569,349                | 1,350,432                                    | 3,814,492        |
| E. S. Santi         | 59,714,141                | 205,640                                      | 3,814,492        |
| J. D. Slavik        | 59,012,285                | 907,496                                      | 3,814,492        |

(b) A proposal to ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as independent auditor of Grainger for the year ending December 31, 2012, was approved. Of the 63,734,273 shares present or represented by proxy at the meeting, 63,262,858 shares were voted for the proposal, 427,028 shares were voted against the proposal and 44,387 shares abstained from voting with respect to the proposal.

(c) A non-binding advisory proposal to approve the compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers was approved. Of the 63,734,273 shares present or represented by proxy at the meeting, 57,944,203 shares were voted for the proposal, 1,563,499 shares were voted against the proposal and 412,079 shares abstained from voting with respect to the proposal. There were 3,814,492 broker non votes.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: April 25, 2012

W.W. GRAINGER, INC.

By: /s/ John L. Howard  
John L. Howard  
Senior Vice President,  
General Counsel and  
Corporate Secretary