

Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program

Together we can improve lives and communities through gardening.

The **Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Program** supports a network of individuals dedicated to horticulture education, service, and lifelong learning. By providing university research-based horticulture training, plant-related continuing education opportunities and facilitating local connections, the Master Gardener Program equips participants to address needs and opportunities throughout the state. Communities and organizations benefit from the garden-related volunteer activities and education provided by Master Gardeners.

Throughout 2025, Wisconsin Extension Master Gardeners contributed over **104,900 hours of volunteer service**, showcasing their unwavering dedication to the Wisconsin Idea. Additionally, we are proud to report that over **27,100 hours of continuing education** were recorded, highlighting Wisconsin Extension Master Gardeners' commitment to staying up-to-date on research-based information.

A vital part of the Master Gardener Program is to **educate the people of Wisconsin** to grow healthy plants for food, community beauty, and personal well-being, all while utilizing sustainable, environmentally sound gardening practices. **2025 education highlights:**



Staffing information
booths at events such as
farmers' markets

4,190
hours



Answering the public's
gardening questions

3,035
hours



Education Support &
Direct teaching

10,590
hours

IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN...

Master Gardeners

2,668

Organizations served
by Master Gardeners

894

Hours spent on
continuing education

27,100

Volunteer service hours

104,900

Hours spent educating
others

20,200

Hours spent gardening in
service to communities

56,600

Master Gardeners educate the people of Wisconsin on gardening best practices to help them grow plants successfully while protecting the environment.

They extend the reach of the University through volunteer service to Wisconsin nonprofits and other organizations that benefit the public good. From answering individual gardening questions to educating large groups through workshops and displays, Master Gardeners are dedicated to helping individuals grow their knowledge and skills. In addition, they engage in physical gardening tasks and provide expert administration and support to ensure the success of programs across the state.

THE WISCONSIN IDEA

One of the longest and deepest traditions surrounding the University of Wisconsin, the **Wisconsin Idea** signifies a general principle: that **education should influence people's lives beyond the boundaries of the campus.**

Synonymous with Wisconsin for more than a century, this "Idea" has become the guiding philosophy of university outreach efforts in Wisconsin and throughout the world.



Master Gardener Program
DIVISION OF EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming in compliance with state and federal law.