

Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program **Learn** **Serve** **Grow**



Growing Communities.

WELCOME TO THE GEORGIA MASTER GARDENER EXTENSION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM!

Sheri Dorn
 Extension Horticulturist & State Master Gardener Program Coordinator
 University of Georgia Department of Horticulture

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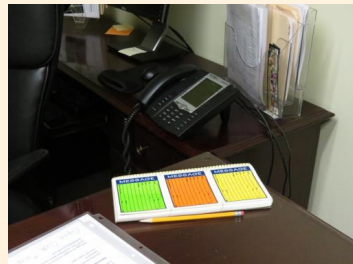
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WHY ARE YOU SITTING IN THIS CLASSROOM?



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ASSIST THE COUNTY AGENT

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LEARN NEW SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGIES

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TEACH GARDENING CLASSES

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"Ask-a-Master Gardener" PLANT CLINICS



A photograph of a Master Gardener volunteer standing behind a table covered with a red cloth. The table is set up under a canopy and has various informational materials, including brochures and a sign that reads "COOPERATIVE EXTENSION". The volunteer is wearing a blue polo shirt and is looking towards the camera.

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DEVELOP DEMONSTRATION GARDENS



A photograph of a demonstration garden. The garden is a raised bed with various plants and mulch. A sign in the foreground reads "Project maintained by Master Gardener Towns-Union County Master Gardeners". The background shows a parking lot and some trees.

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PROVIDE LEADERSHIP TO URBAN AND COMMUNITY GARDENS



A collage of three photographs showing people engaged in gardening activities. The top photo shows a group of people in a garden. The middle photo shows a person working in a garden bed. The bottom photo shows a person working in a garden bed.


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TEACH YOUTH ABOUT HORTICULTURE AND GARDENING



A collage of three photographs showing educational garden activities. The top photo shows a sign about school gardens. The middle photo shows a sign that says "LEARN". The bottom photo shows a sign that says "JMG IS TIME".

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A photograph of a person assisting with therapy and gardening. The person is wearing a white shirt and a tie, and is using a pair of scissors to cut a piece of paper. There are other people's hands visible in the foreground, suggesting a group activity.

ASSIST WITH THERAPY & ENABLED GARDENING

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A photograph of a schoolyard theme garden. The garden is a raised bed with various plants and mulch. A sign in the foreground reads "Mrs. Ogilvie's Class". The background shows a brick building and some trees.

DEVELOP SCHOOLYARD THEME GARDENS

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PROVIDE LEADERSHIP TO COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Habitat for Humanity

Plant-A-Row

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LEARN MORE ABOUT GARDENING

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Can you dig it?

www.gamastergardener.org | mastarg@uga.edu | 1-800-ASKUGA1

UGA extension

YOU JUST MIGHT BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE!

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Welcome!

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/hort/extension/mastergardener/>

www.gamastergardener.org

UGA extension

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HISTORY OF MGs

- First Master Gardeners were trained in Washington in 1972/73
- Volunteers were recruited to answer an increasing number of homeowner questions
- Now there are MGs in 50 states
- Emerging internationally (Canada, Korea)

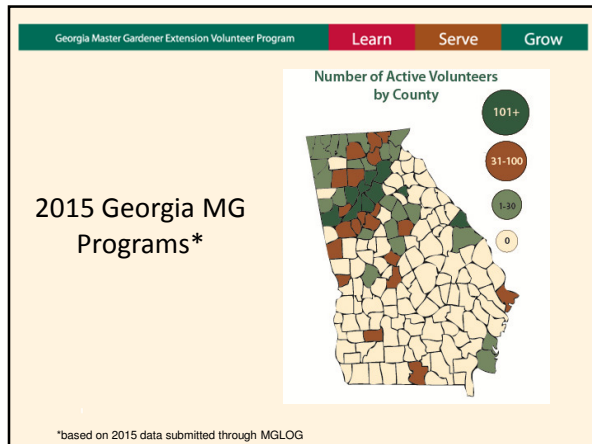
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GEORGIA MG HISTORY

- 1979 First class- 140 participants from Atlanta area
- 1988 First Master Gardener Conference in Athens
- 1990 First official GMGA meeting
- 2004 25th Anniversary of the Georgia MGEV Program
- 2013 40th Birthday of the MG Program in US
- 2014 100th Birthday of Cooperative Extension, 35th Anniversary of the Georgia MGEV Program

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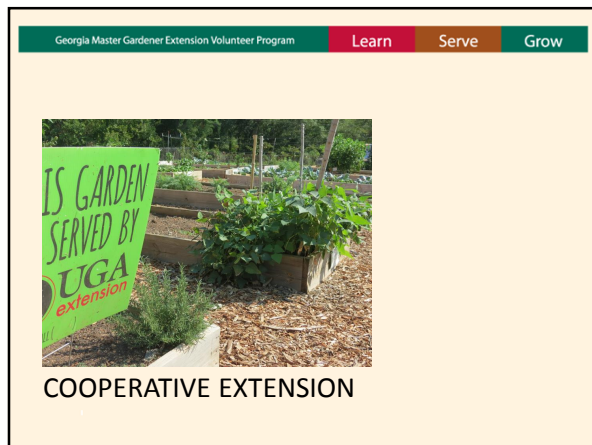
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WHAT'S THE \$\$ VALUE?

2015
177,318 Hours
= \$4.09 million
= 88.7 FTEs



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- ### WHAT IS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION?
- Link between land-grant universities and the community
 - Extension provides outreach to the average citizen and works to disseminate the latest information and research
 - Morrill Act (1862) – provided for a university in every state that would educate citizens in agriculture and mechanical fields (“land-grant” universities)
 - Hatch Act (1887) – established research stations
 - Smith-Lever Act (1914) - Cooperative Extension established; education by hands-on demonstration of agriculture and home economics; extension of the university to the community
- THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL &
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MISSION

The mission of UGA Cooperative Extension is to extend lifelong learning to the people of Georgia through **unbiased, research-based** education in agriculture, the environment, communities, youth and families.

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- ### UGA Extension
- 159 counties
 - Georgians working with Georgians in communities, homes, and businesses
 - Cooperation between local, state, and federal governments
 - Taking knowledge from the land-grant universities to everyday people with everyday problems
-

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ORGANIZATION

- Local Office
- ELS – Extension Leadership System; community-based advisory group to local offices
- District and State Offices
- University of Georgia and Fort Valley State University

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VOLUNTEERS IN EXTENSION

- Extension’s philosophy that active citizen participation in planning and implementation ensures success
- Volunteers are non-paid staff working jointly with paid staff
- MGEVs are education partners with University of Georgia Cooperative Extension

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WE VALUE YOU

- UGA Cooperative Extension extends liability coverage to representatives of the university in conducting business related to/on behalf of the university
- Covers MGEVs while participating in MGEV activities approved by Agent, in case of negligence or liability only
- This is NOT health or medical insurance

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4-H/YOUTH
Cooperative Extension PROGRAM AREAS

ANR


FACS

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The Local Extension Agent

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MGEV STATE PROGRAM OFFICE



Sheri Dorn, State Coordinator
sdorn@uga.edu



Sarah Heape
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masterg@uga.edu

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State Program Office, Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program

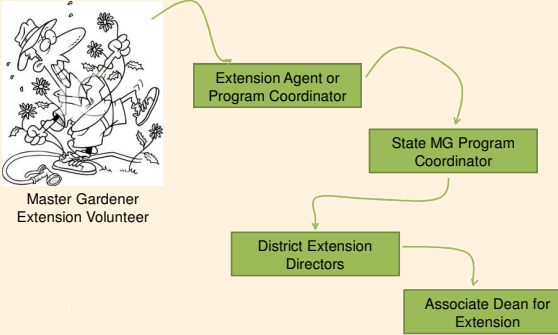
Housed on the UGA Griffin Campus in the Cowart Building

How to Contact Us:
Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program
University of Georgia
Griffin Campus, Horticulture Department
1109 Experiment Street, Cowart Building
Griffin GA 30223-1731
Tel. 770-228-7243
FAX 770-412-4764




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WHEN YOU NEED A LITTLE HELP...



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    graph TD
      MG[Master Gardener Extension Volunteer] --> DE[District Extension Directors]
      DE --> SMG[State MG Program Coordinator]
      SMG --> EAPC[Extension Agent or Program Coordinator]
  
```



WHAT IS A MG?

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WHAT IS A MASTER GARDENER?

- A volunteer trained and supervised through a partnership with Cooperative Extension
- Volunteer educators
- MGEVs are representatives of Cooperative Extension

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MGEV MISSION STATEMENT

To assist Cooperative Extension in providing **unbiased horticultural information** through volunteer community service and educational gardening projects using applied research and the resources of the University of Georgia

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PROGRAM ADVANTAGES FOR EXTENSION

- Multiplies subject area expertise
- Allows time for more in-depth programming
- Targets issue-based program resources
- Volunteer hour support



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STEPS TO BECOMING A MGEV

- Complete application process at local county level
- Complete 40 hours of initial horticulture training and pass exams
- Complete 50 hours of volunteer time within a year

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SELECTION

- Application
- Interview
- Volunteer Agreement
- Background Screening
- Role Description

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TRAINING ATTENDANCE

- Sign in on main sheet today
- Check off attendance sheet each class time
- Strict attendance policy: No more than 20% of classes can be missed
- You are still responsible for material covered in missed classes

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VOLUNTEER SERVICE

- Complete 50 hours of service in the first year following training
- Choose from Extension-approved projects that support MGEV program initiatives and Cooperative Extension's mission

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WHAT DO WE DO?

Teach
Model
Share

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WHAT DO WE TEACH ABOUT?


- Environmental Stewardship
- Garden with Youth
- Value of Landscaping
- Home Food Production
- Health Benefits of Gardening



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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- Teach citizens to protect and enhance the environment through use of sustainable landscape management practices. (Most MG work is in this area.)



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ACTION: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP


- Exhibits
- Display gardens



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ACTION: ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- Presentations
- Demonstration Gardens



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GARDENING WITH YOUTH

- Use horticulture and landscaping to change attitude, behavior, knowledge, and skills of youth. (ANR and 4-H)



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ACTION: GARDENING WITH YOUTH

- MG SPROUTS



mgsprouts.org

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ACTION: GARDENING WITH YOUTH

- Interactive gardens
- Garden tours
- Lessons





- Food gardens
- Garden clubs

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ACTION: GARDENING WITH YOUTH



- Junior Master Gardener




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VALUE OF LANDSCAPING

- Utilize horticulture and landscaping to enhance community development and economic growth (ANR)

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ACTION: VALUE OF LANDSCAPING

- Habitat for Humanity





- Public Spaces

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HOME FOOD PRODUCTION

- Produce food in private and community gardens to improve nutrition and food security (ANR and FACS)




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ACTION: HOME FOOD PRODUCTION

- Community Gardens



- Workshops

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HEALTH BENEFITS OF GARDENING

- Use horticulture to improve human health, well-being, and quality of life, such as through horticultural therapy and horticultural activities. (ANR and FCS)

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ACTION: HEALTH BENEFITS

- Quality of Life
- Self esteem
- Skill building

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WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

- Less yardwaste in landfills
- Higher values for plants
- Protection of water quality
- Higher property values
- More jobs in our communities
- Crime reduction
- Pride in our community
- Access to fresh food
- Community development

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EARNING THE TITLE

- After successfully completing the training, exams, and 50 hours of volunteer service, you are officially recognized as a Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer!
- You will receive a permanent name badge to be worn while volunteering on behalf of Extension
- CELEBRATE!

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AFTER THE FIRST YEAR

- To remain an active MGEV, you are required to volunteer 25 hours per year in UGA-approved projects
- You are encouraged to seek at least 6 hours of continuing education each year, such as
 - meetings of horticultural organizations
 - MGEV organization meeting speakers
 - national and international conferences
 - Extension workshops and presentations
 - classes at the many public gardens in the state.

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AFTER THE FIRST YEAR

- Many MGEVs find the initial volunteer experience so rewarding and enjoy learning so much about gardening that they decide to remain with the program for many years.

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VETERANS



- We refer to our long-time MG volunteers as "veterans"
- They can be an incredible resource to you!
- They can help answer questions you may have, introduce you to other volunteers and staff, and help you get acquainted with volunteer projects.


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ADVANCED TRAINING

- Sustainable Gardens and Landscapes
- Water Quality and Management
- Urban Forestry and Ecology
- Diagnostics and Technology
- Youth and Community Gardening



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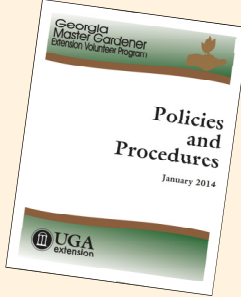


RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

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IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT MGEVS WILL

- Support the local Extension Agent and UGA Extension, such as in conducting educational programs with an identifiable goal, assisting with Extension events, and extending research-based information to the public
- Work within Georgia MGEV Program policy (<http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/hort/extension/mastergardener/documents/MGEVPolicyDoc2014finalweb.pdf>)
- Keep records
- Report on progress toward reaching the goal and impact on community



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GEORGIA MGEV TITLE

- Georgia MGEVs work under the guidance of UGA Cooperative Extension to provide unbiased, research-based environmentally sound, horticulture information to the public
- No implied or direct endorsement of products or services
- MGEV title used only in conjunction with UGA-approved activities

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OFFICIAL USE OF THE MG TITLE



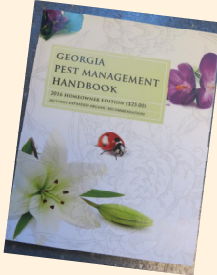
- Always wear your Georgia MGEV nametag when volunteering at UGA-approved events



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PESTICIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

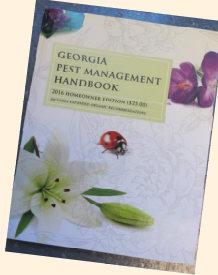
- Georgia Pest Management Handbook, Homeowner Edition
- Updated annually – use the current version!
- For purchase (\$25) or online <http://www.ent.uga.edu/pmh/>
- Use of other pesticide recommendations is not approved.



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PESTICIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

Remember that you are trained in **consumer** horticulture, so any questions that you encounter about **commercial** horticulture should be referred to your Extension agent.



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RECORDKEEPING

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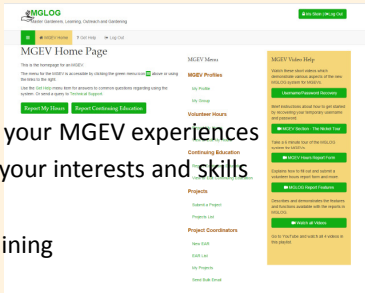


MGLOG
Master Gardeners,
Learning, Outreach and Gardening
<http://mglog.org>

- Online recordkeeping system
- Each volunteer, including Trainees and MGEVs, have a profile
- EASY TO USE
- Record volunteer service, continuing education, and project reports

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MGEV PROFILE




- Keep track of your MGEV experiences
- Tell us about your interests and skills
- Awards
- Advanced Training

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MOBILE-FRIENDLY

- You can use any laptop or desktop computer
- Google Chrome browser is best
- Easy to enter volunteer time via smartphone or tablet
- www.mglog.org



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PROJECT PROPOSAL

Just like our historic paper form

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PROJECTS IN MGLOG

- Projects are coded according to state initiative and key words
- Once entered in MGLOG and approved by the agent, the project appears on drop-down lists throughout MGLOG.

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KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR VOLUNTEER TIME

It is your responsibility to keep track of time that you volunteer.

Enter directly into MGLOG or use a paper MGEV log sheet* and transfer to MGLOG.

If you do not have access to the Internet or a computer, please discuss alternate arrangements with your Agent or Coordinator

*available online at: <http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/hort/extension/mastergardener/documents/E-LOGSHEET.pdf>

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EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY REPORTS (EARs)

Just like our historic paper form, created to match Agent GACounts reports

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KEEPING TRACK OF YOUR VOLUNTEER TIME

- Annual reports are generated from MGLOG
- To be included in annual reports and considered a current, active MGEV, report your volunteer time through MGLOG
- MGLOG compiles your Annual Individual Summary Report

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WHERE DOES ALL THIS INFORMATION GO?

- When you report volunteer service time, it is compiled with that from other MGEVs in your program
- An annual report for the county MGEV program is then created from MGLOG
- The State Program Office compiles an annual report for the entire state

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WHY ARE ANNUAL REPORTS SO IMPORTANT?

- Volunteer recognition
- Program recognition
- Program and project reports
- Funding justification
- Self-evaluation – should we be doing what we are doing?!

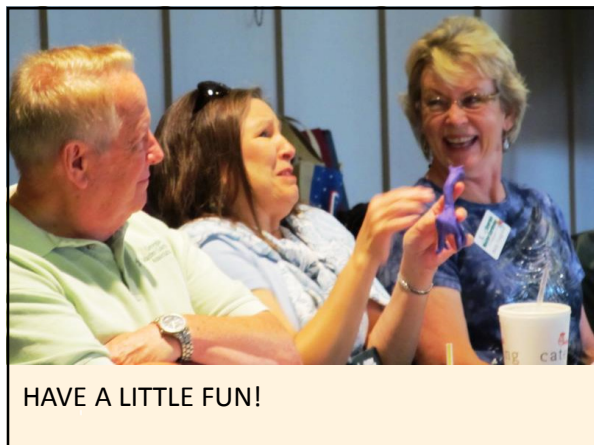
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Hours Volunteered by State Initiative

Top 10 Environmental Stewardship Projects by Hours

Project	Total Hours	County
Linwood Preserve/Rebud Project	3,469	Hall
UGA Trial Gardens Garden Helper	3,038	Clarke
Atlanta Botanical Gardens (Gainesville)	2,380	Hall
Gardens on Green	2,060	Hall
Plant Sale	2,007	Carroll
Spring and Fall Plant Expos	1,967	Hall
State Botanical Gardens Garden Helper	1,845	Clarke
Wealth Sale	1,483	Carroll
Special Projects	1,365	DeKalb
Columbus Botanical Garden	1,341	Muscoige

Our Volunteers' Years of Service



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PLAN! BRAINSTORM! PARTICIPATE!

- When there are opportunities to discuss projects or plans for educational programs, GO TO THE MEETING AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!
- Stay informed and connected with your local coordinator and MGEV program

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VISIT OUR PROGRAM WEBSITE OFTEN

www.gamastergardener.org

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STAY CONNECTED

Facebook for the Georgia statewide program www.facebook.com/UGAMasterGardener

Facebook for local programs, as well

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TRELLIS

- A blog to generate conversation about the Georgia Master Gardener program
- Place to stimulate thought and discussion regarding the Georgia MGEV program



<http://blog.extension.uga.edu/mgevp>

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LOCAL MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATIONS

- Assists UGA Cooperative Extension with some volunteer management functions
- Enhances the camaraderie of being a volunteer
- Social opportunities
- Continuing education opportunities – we all like to learn something new!

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GEORGIA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION (GMGA)

- Network and socialize with MGs across the state of Georgia
- Social opportunities; enhances the camaraderie of being a volunteer
- Continuing education opportunities – we all like to learn something new!
- Grant program for MGEV projects
- www.georgiamastergardeners.org
- Annual Conference, October 3-4, 2017; Gwinnett

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ADVANCED TRAINING



- March 11, 2016 – Advanced Vegetable Gardening, Douglas County (SGL)
- March 30, April 13, and April 27, 2016 – Making Great Presentations, Online (R)
- June 16, 2016 – MG SPROUTS, Marietta (YCG)
- July 14, 2016 – Diagnostics of Vegetables, Macon/Athens/Carrollton (DT)
- September 9, 2016 -- MG SPROUTS, Griffin (YCG)
- September 30, 2016 – Landscape Design, Carrollton
- October 2016 – Natives, Atlanta (UFE)
- November 30, 2016 – Topic TBA, Atlanta (WQM)

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SUMMARY

- UGA Cooperative Extension volunteer educators
- Trained community educators
- Using horticulture to improve environment, health, and quality of life



Thank you!

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EXTENSION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

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