

## Columbia County Master Gardener Volunteer Association Mission

CCMGA was founded to provide support for Master Gardener Volunteers in Columbia County to fulfill their volunteer and continuing education obligations.

Volunteers provide community service through environmental stewardship, education, and information on horticulture to residents of Columbia County and beyond.

Yearly association dues are \$15, which includes \$5 for WIMGA membership.

### Why should I join CCMGA?

- Meet other people who share your interests
- Learn and share ideas about gardening and horticulture
- Receive up-to-date information, certification, continuing education, and volunteer activities
- Two newsletters:
  - ◊ Master Gardener News—CC MGV newsletter
  - ◊ WIMGA State newsletter
- Membership in the Wisconsin Master Gardener Association



For more information about CC MGA and membership contact:

Carol Ziehmke  
President-CCMGA  
Phone: 608-429-2676  
[carol@ziehmke.com](mailto:carol@ziehmke.com)

or

George Koepf  
Ag Agent  
Columbia County UW-Extension  
120 West Conant Street, Suite 201  
Portage, WI 53901  
608-742-9682  
[george.koepf@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:george.koepf@ces.uwex.edu)

Information is also available at the state website:  
<http://wimastgardener.org>

Or the local chapter website at:  
<http://columbia.uwex.edu/horticulture/master-gardener/>

## Columbia County Master Gardener Association



## What is the Master Gardener Volunteer Program?

The Master Gardener Volunteer Program gives vital support to the UW Extension Office by providing consumers with up-to-date, reliable, science based knowledge so they can enjoy and protect the value of horticulture and the environment around their homes and in the community.

The MGV Program is also a fun and useful volunteer network that gives its volunteers a sense of community spirit, accomplishment, and an opportunity to learn new things.



## What can I do as a Master Gardener Volunteer?

- Plant, maintain, and harvest at the Community Gardens in our area
- Design, plant, and help maintain parks, gardens, and other public areas
- Organize/teach in school activities such as the micro-farm or special interest days
- Help with displays, contests, and presentations at local county fairs and home shows
- Assist with horticultural programs at the Extension Office or in local community
- Research and answer questions from the public
- Design exhibits, displays, and demonstrations
- Develop an area of interest and give talks to other groups
- Identify problem areas that need education
- Give presentations to 4-H groups and other youth organizations
- Serve as a committee member of your local MGV organization

## How do I become a Master Gardener Volunteer?

To become a certified Master Gardener Volunteer you must first complete the current training session, pass a final exam, and volunteer the required 24 hours within one year of training.



After the first year you can maintain your certification by completing the 24 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education each year.

If you are interested in participating in the Master Gardener training and becoming a certified Master Gardener Volunteer, please contact George Koepp, Columbia County Ag Agent/ Master Gardener Program Advisor, at 608-742-9682 or [george.koepp@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:george.koepp@ces.uwex.edu). You will then be notified when the next training begins in 2018.