

Columbia County Master Gardener Association, Inc. Purpose

The goal of this organization shall be to encourage, foster, support and promote horticulture for all Master Gardeners and residents of Columbia County.

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

Annual 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 research based information
- Receive Two newsletters:
 - ◊ Master Gardener News—CC MGV newsletter
 - ◊ WIMGA State newsletter
- Membership in the Wisconsin Master Gardener Association



For more information about CCMGA and membership contact:

Deb Buechner
President-CCMGA
Phone: 608-772-3582
debbuechner10@gmail.com

or

George Koeppe
Ag Agent
UW-Madison Extension Columbia County
112 E. Edgewater Street, Room 212
Portage, WI 53901
608-742-9682
george.koeppe@wisc.edu

Information is also available at the state website:

<http://wimastergardener.org>

Or the local MGV website at:

<https://columbia.extension.wisc.edu/master-gardener/>

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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.



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 your 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 plant problem areas that people might need educational support
- 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?

1. Complete an on-line UW-Madison "Foundations in Horticulture" course
2. Pass the statewide open book exam
3. Complete an on-boarding class
4. Complete 24 hours of volunteer service per year



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@wisc.edu. You will be notified when the next training begins.