

Kansas Master Gardener Program

About the Program

Extension Master Gardener (EMG) is an educational volunteer program sponsored by K-State Research and Extension (KSRE). Donating hours of service in return for horticultural training, Master Gardener volunteers are a vital part of KSRE's ability to provide accurate, up-to-date and research-based information to Kansas stakeholders.

Once trained, Master Gardener volunteers work as part of their local Extension office to provide consumer horticulture education and information in their communities through a variety of activities, such as "hotlines," demonstration gardens, garden shows, public presentations, tours and more.

EMG programs are currently supported in over 60 Kansas counties. In 2020, volunteer service was equivalent to 26 full-time Extension staff positions, worth an estimated \$1.54 million dollars in salary savings.

1,146
Volunteers

53,981
Volunteer
Hours

87,625
Contacts

Join the Program

Master Gardener volunteers are educators passionate about strengthening vibrant local economies and livable communities by empowering individuals and families to cultivate healthy environments and food systems through horticultural practices. Any Kansas citizen with a passion for gardening, life-long learning, and community education can apply for the EMG program.

Volunteer training requirements and expectations vary and are coordinated by each local Extension unit hosting an active EMG program. Training consists of 40 to 50 hours of basic horticulture instruction taught online and in-person by state specialists from Kansas State University, Extension agents, and other subject matter experts and includes a resource notebook. Trained Master Gardener volunteers commit to volunteering 20 to 40 hours annually and attending advanced training opportunities.

For more information about the application process, registration costs, and training dates. Contact Midway Extension District Horticulture agent Craig Dinkel 785-472-4442 or email cadinkel@ksu.edu