



# 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener

## IMPACT STATEMENT

The St. Louis Master Gardener Program was established in 1983 by the world-renowned Missouri Botanical Garden in partnership with University of Missouri Extension. This partnership has provided horticultural education and outreach into the St. Louis community by training volunteers to educate and participate in public and civic gardening. The Garden is home to the St. Louis Master Gardener program and provides training space and instructors for the training. MU Extension specialists are also instructors for the St. Louis Master Gardener Training and the MU Extension office in Kirkwood is another location where Master Gardeners hold classes and events.

“I’ve always been a gardener. I grew up gardening and foraging the abandoned orchards and woodlands around our 4-acre home in north county. The idea of becoming a master gardener might lead me on to another level of learning and that was my initial goal.

-Ron Brown 2018

“My life in the Historic Soulard neighborhood is centered on the lovely backyard garden we have developed over the past 10 years. I have enjoyed this garden so much that I wanted to develop a deeper understanding of gardening best practices.

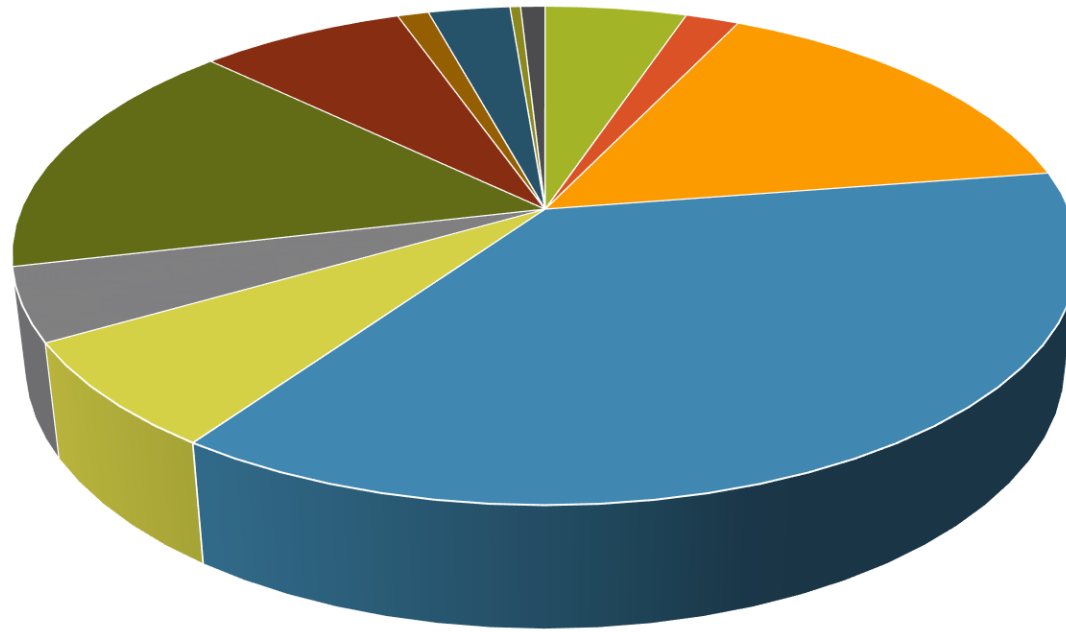
-Veronica Putz 2018

# TOTAL 2022 VOLUNTEER HOURS

41,154

- Hours logged in 76 St. Louis zip codes by 416 St. Louis Master Gardeners
- 348 Master Gardeners logged 50+ hours
- Volunteer contribution valued at over \$1,232,562

# 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener Volunteer Hours



- |                    |                   |                  |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| City Parks         | Church            | Community Garden |
| Community Projects | County Parks      | Garden Hotline   |
| MBG Gardening      | MBG Non-Gardening | MG AC            |
| Schools            | Speaker Bureau    | Subdivision      |



# 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener Hours Awards

## 500+ Hours

Ronald Brown	1444
James Morrison	1211
John Lorenz	623
Myra Rosenthal	600
Virginia Johnson	584

## 400+ Hours

Ron Stevens	539
Ronda Anson	457
Kiersten Torrez	429
Nancy Karpowicz	408

## 300+ Hours

Megan Moffatt	345
Catherine Barnett	324
Gloria Mahoney	308

## 200 + Hours

Joseph Ackerman	297
Betsy Alexander	215
Kathy Beezley	216
Timothy Breier	205
Chuck Brust	218
Chick Buehrig	264
Deborah Eldridge	244
Dennis Green	253
Deborah Grossman	240

Diane Grubbs	262
Pamela Hass	237
Anita Isenberg	233
Patricia Jones	232
Deborah Kettler	218
Linda Krygiel	210
Eunice Lord	210
Linda Massey	298

Laurian McGrath	285
Sherry Moschner	209
Myra Moscowitz	225
Anne Niemann	251
Rebecca Penniman	231
Jodi Smedley	269
Tessa Wasserman	201

83 Master Gardeners logged 100+ Hours, 227 Master Gardeners logged 50 to 99 Hours

# 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener Anniversary Awards

## 20 year

Cathy Arnold  
Jan Gowen  
Barbara Hilton  
Maggie Jackson  
Madelynn Kester  
David L. Reindl

## 15 year

Abel Karla  
Fox Cheryl  
John Hensley  
Lynn Koeneman  
Susan Maurer  
Larry Morrison

Fred Ortlip  
Cathy Osborn  
Linda Robson  
Stephanie Sigala  
Nancy Zander

## 10 year

Mara Berry  
David Buck  
Dave Dennon  
Anita Isenberg  
Marilyn Lane  
Glenda McGrath

Jeanne Ortega  
Michele Roberts  
Laura Schnure  
Jodi Smedley  
Seve Varga  
Chris Williams

## 5 year

Mark Banaszak  
Beverly Branneky  
Ron Brown  
Peggy Conroy Oge  
Beverly Dyson  
Deborah Eldridge  
Mark Flush

Debbie Fritts  
Sheri Goldsmith  
JP Grone  
Deborah Grossman  
Amy Hanson  
Julie Harms  
Katrina Harris

Mary Harris  
George Holtzman  
Mary Hopkins  
Peggy Kelly  
Ann Lakin  
Paula Lemerman  
Linda Massey

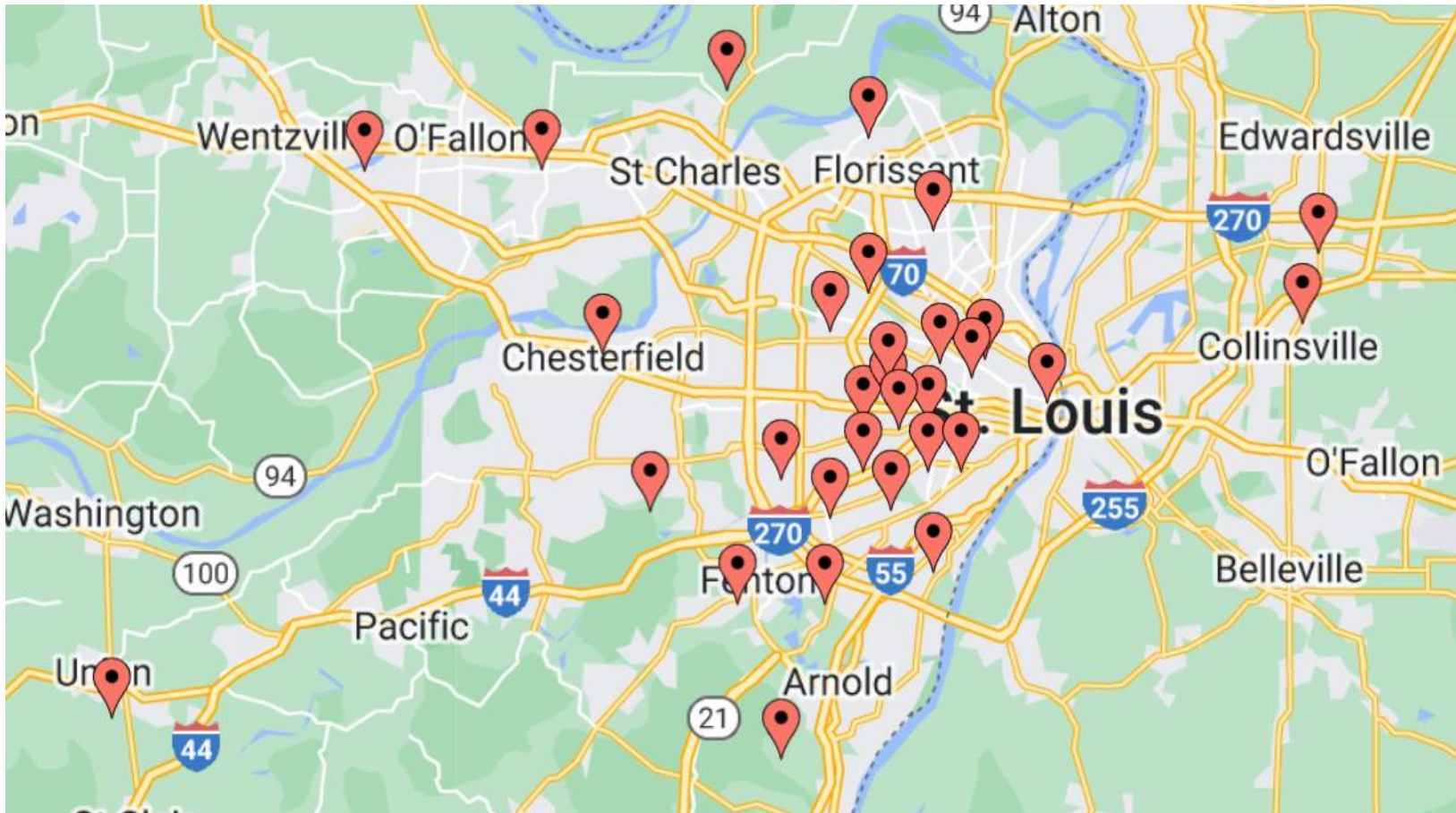
Ann Marie Mayuga  
Jim Morrison  
Judy Morrow  
Sherry Moschner  
Raghib Muhammad  
Veronica Putz  
Myra Rosenthal

Karen Sanders  
Kimberly Smith  
Patty Taillon-Miller  
Erica Williams  
John Zalewski

# St. Louis Master Gardener Training

The St. Louis Master Gardener Training Program is an annual volunteer training conducted in partnership between the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG) and the University of Missouri Extension. Hundreds of gardeners from throughout the Greater St. Louis area have taken the Master Gardener training. The 18-week program provides in-depth education and coursework that not only sharpens the participants' knowledge, but also creates an amazing cadre of volunteers who work in gardens and programs across all St. Louis communities.

# 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener Class



53 new Certified Master Gardeners from 33 St. Louis area zip codes & a 93% certification rate for the class



# Several Members of the St. Louis Master Gardener Class





# 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener Training Class

- 93% of the 2022 trainees successfully completed the training and the required 50 volunteer hours and 10 continuing education hours by December 31, 2022, to obtain their Master Gardener certification.
- Two sessions, afternoon and evening, were held every Thursday for 18 weeks beginning in January.
- Classes were 3 hours long and held virtually and in-person with the in-person classes held at the MU Extension office in Kirkwood.
- Weekly genera and lecture tests were part of the training as well as several homework assignments.
- All training materials, including lecture PowerPoints, genera sections, student photos, Extension publications, audio & zoom recordings of lectures, instructor bios, and training policies were posted on Google Drive for access during the entire training year.
- Small group tours and volunteer sessions held at many of the Master Gardener volunteer sites.

## Perennials I—Full Sun

### LATIN NAME

*Achillea filipendulina*  
*Callirhoe digitata*  
*Coreopsis tripteris*  
*Liatris pycnostachya*  
*Penstemon digitalis*  
*Physostegia virginiana*  
*Rudbeckia fulgida*  
*Salvia yangii*  
*Scabiosa 'Butterfly Blue'*  
*Stachys byzantina*

### COMMON NAME

fern-leaf yarrow  
fringed poppy mallow  
tickseed  
prairie blazing star  
beardtongue  
obedient plant  
black-eyed Susan  
Russian sage  
pincushion flower  
lambs' ears



# St. Louis Master Gardener Training Instructors

- Ben Chu, MBG Manager South Gardens/Japanese Garden
- Sherry Harsch-Porter, Adjunct Professor Washington University
- Chris Kirmaier, Photosynthesis Researcher Scientist
- Daria McKelvey, Horticulturist & Supervisor MBG Kemper Center
- Elizabeth Wahle, U of Illinois Extension Agriculture Educator, Fruits & Vegetables
- Glenn Kraemer, Horticulturist & Owner GR Robinson Seed & Service
- Jen Smock, Horticulturist & Manager Kemper Center
- Justin Keay, MU Extension Specialist
- Justine Kandra, Botanist Kemper Center
- Scott Woodbury, Manager Shaw Nature Reserve



# Master Gardener Chapter Highlights

The St. Louis Master Gardeners have over 25 established projects sites. In addition, many Master Gardeners have taken the initiative to create projects where there is a need. Included in the following slides are just a few of these projects.



# Alliance Française & St. Genevieve

In 2018, Isabelle Heidbreder Director of the Alliance Française, asked MG Linda Massey to create a small vegetable garden at the new location of their school so that children could learn how food crops are grown. That “potager” is a small island between two parking lots. Over the years Linda has grown cucumbers, cantaloupe, cherry tomatoes, carrots, garlic and herbs. During the pandemic in 2020, dying locust trees were removed in the front island and Master Gardeners Kathy Connors and Adrienne Stahl helped Linda to create and maintain a flower garden in place of the trees.

Because of the gardens at the Alliance, Linda was asked to assist in reconstructing/maintaining herb gardens at one of the historic French houses in Ste. Genevieve. In 2023, Linda plans to reorganize the herb beds. They will be reorganized into separate culinary beds, medicinal beds and beds for plants that have both medicinal and culinary uses. They have also discussed the addition of native plants that French colonists may have used medicinally as well.





# BUSTANI YA UPENDA Garden of Love

Artist and teacher as well as an avid gardener, Carol Thompson Robinson, has over 20 years experience in the garden. Carol has helped in gardens across the city of St. Louis. Carol enjoys helping home and community gardeners in growing fruits and vegetables.

In 2022, Carol attended the Soul Fire Farm camp - *The Farming In Relationship to Earth Immersion* in New York. This program is a 5 day course designed for aspiring, beginning, and intermediate growers of Black, Indigenous, and Latinx heritage to gain basic skills in regenerative farming in a culturally relevant, supportive, and joyful environment.

*This "garden of love" is our young people's response to a challenge our communities face.*





# Friends of the Market Community Garden

This project was started by Master Gardener Ron Brown and his wife, Ann, in 2018. A few raised beds in Ferguson, MO, have now expanded to include the house and property at 28 Suburban Avenue and the former community garden down the street with over 20 garden beds.

In 2022, students visited the garden and adults from the adult day center in Ferguson were beginning to explore the garden and participate in gardening tasks. Then in July, a flood brought as much as three feet of water into the house and gardens. Ron and his crew began the cleanup immediately. Crops were lost but that didn't stop neighbors, master gardeners, and students from dropping by the garden to help plan for an incredible 2023. FOMCG is an example of how the widespread appeal of gardening provides opportunity to use gardens to connect with diverse audiences.

*FOMCG is a place to garden, learn, and hang out with the community.*



# JCCA Garden of Eden

The Garden of Eden at the JCC, located in unincorporated Creve Coeur, feeds the nearby Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry. (The pantry is one of the largest in the metropolitan area and is nonsectarian). Last year we harvested almost two tons of food on a quarter acre.

We start in the beginning of March and work through November. We grow more than 33 different fruits and vegetables. Our work days are usually Sundays for infrastructure work and Mondays and Thursdays for harvesting and preparing the food for transport to the pantry. We start at 8 and work approximately three hours. Our garden is no-till and we try interplanting and cover crops when we can. Via the Table to Garden Project we collect table waste and compost them.

We are affiliated with Seed St. Louis and have been recognized by the County as a Pollinator Pantry. We also are a Monarch Waystation.

We welcome volunteers. To sign up contact Stephanie Rhea at [srhea@jccstl.org](mailto:srhea@jccstl.org) and complete online forms. Once vetted, you can start. There is a weekly garden e-newsletter during the growing season which includes a calendar of when the garden is open. You can keep up with what is going on in the garden. 2022 – 3826 pounds harvested





# Missouri Botanical Garden & Other Volunteer Sites

Master Gardener volunteers had an increased presence at the Missouri Botanical Garden as more COVID restrictions were lifted. Master Gardeners answered questions at the Kemper Center Plant Doctor desk and worked side-by-side with the Garden's horticulture staff. Master Gardeners were back volunteering in new and old sites all over the metropolitan St. Louis area.

- |                          |                          |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Alliance Francaise     | • Forest ReLeaf          | Agriculture Education    | Venture               |
| • Bellefontaine Cemetery | • Historic Mudd's Grove  | Center                   | • The St. Louis Zoo   |
| • Brightside St. Louis   | • Historic Oakland House | • Olivette in Bloom      | • The Weinman Shelter |
| • Bring Conservation     | • JCCA Garden of Eden    | • Rogers Middle School   | for Women             |
| Home                     | • Lafayette Park         | • Seed St. Louis         | • Tillies Corner      |
| • Compton Hill Reservoir | • Litzsinger Road        | • Shaw Nature Reserve    | • YMCA Community      |
| • Communities Gardens    | Ecology Center           | • St. Louis City Parks   | Gardens               |
| • Flora Conservancy of   | • Midtown City Greens    | • St. Louis County Parks | • UCity in Bloom      |
| Forest Park              | Community Garden         | • The Green Center       | • Ujima               |
| • Forest Park Forever    | • North County           | • The Green House        |                       |

# Rogers Middle School Garden

The Rogers Middle School Garden Club has grown stronger in 2022, under the guidance of MG Kathy Beezley. Not only did the garden receive the only American Heart Association Teaching Gardens Grant in Missouri (\$2,500) but there are now four MGs along with Grandpa Dave to help the kids care for our plants. For 12 years we have been able to sustain our garden through grants but we are always looking for ways to raise money.

Our garden club varies from 12-25 students weekly along with two spectacular teachers who rallied kids to join our efforts in sustainability. With the funds we received from AHA we were able to provide hydroponics tanks for a Science teacher's classroom, purchase three vertical gardens from Verdtech, new raised beds with all the trimmings and rain barrels from Seed STL, warming mats for our garden table, as well as compost, soil and plants. Students hosted a butternut taste test for our school with Chef Jay using grilled squash, mac and cheese (huge hit) and soup. Students sell vegetables after school to parents and teachers and make soap using our own herbs (we could use some help with herbs) from our garden in order to make money for seeds. Many thanks to those MGs who help: Gloria, Brenda and Renee, we couldn't do it without you!

In 2022, we grew close to 400 pounds of food that included of over 20 varieties of fruits, vegetables, and legumes. Many of the kids took vegetables home this fall but we also sent some to the Affton Christian food pantry.





# St. Louis City Central Library Pollinator Garden



The Pollinator Garden at Central Library is an all-native pollinator garden that was installed in Fall 2018 and features 27 native plant species that bloom throughout the year. It surrounds the Manolo Valdes' sculpture, "Mariposas" (Butterflies) on the east side of the building.

The St. Louis Master Gardeners have been volunteering to keep the garden looking it's best with the help of MBG horticulturist Tyler Prestien. Tyler is a native plant specialist and has educated the mgs as to best gardening practices when gardening with natives.





# St. Louis County Parks

Master Gardeners volunteer at over six St. Louis County Parks. They plant, weed, remove invasives, mulch, rake leaves, help with events, and other non-gardening tasks. They go where they are needed in any weather almost twelve months a year.

St. Louis County Parks employees, Yvette Luedde and Caitlin Isriggs, are also Master Gardeners. When not working, they offer herb and other gardening classes for the community.

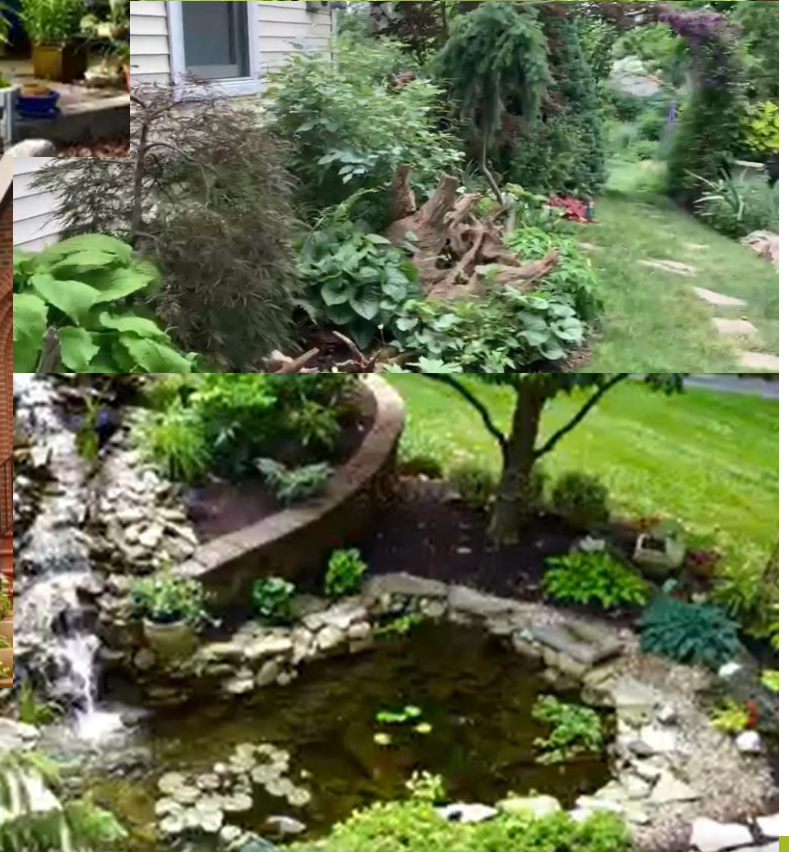
Master Gardeners, John Lorenz and Ron Stevens, consistently log over 500 hours annually. They contribute their dedication to St. Louis County Parks' Supervisor & Horticulturist, Sharon Hoyt. Sharon works alongside the the volunteers sharing her horticulture knowledge and sharing gardening tips..





# St. Louis Master Gardener Garden Tour

The 2022 St. Louis Master Gardener Garden Tour, organized by the Master Gardener Outreach/Education Committee, was held on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm. Over 170 Master Gardeners and their guests toured ten unique home and community gardens of St. Louis Master Gardeners and friends in the St. Louis County area. Tour sites included community gardens in Riverview and Wildwood, along with home gardens in Bridgeton, Bellerive Acres, University City, Webster Groves, Winchester, Fenton, and Sunset Hills.





# The Green House Venture

Blossoming from its beginning in 2015, The Green House Venture has emerged from a fledgling idea into an established program aspiring to serve as a nationwide model for elementary education in bio-science and urban agriculture.

The *Green House* Venture's mission: To educate, excite, and equip an inclusive population of elementary students to pursue a sustainable world through a hands-on program in bio-science and urban agriculture

The St. Louis Master Gardeners have formed a partnership with The Green House Venture. The Master Gardeners are participating in curriculum development, garden planning, planting & maintenance, and working with the students in the garden.



St. Louis Master Gardeners Jasmine Zenderland, Ke Ne, & Andrew Lassiter



# Wildwood YMCA

The Wildwood YMCA Community Garden is a beautifully diverse garden with 70 community garden plots, Plant a Row for the Hungry food pantry space (donated over 5000 pounds of fresh homegrown food to local food pantries in 2021), full of fruits and veggies, herbs, flowers, native plants, milkweed (certified monarch migration garden), and amazing gardeners that love and nurture the beautiful garden.

There is a fantastic children's education garden space where children learn about gardening (planting, nurturing, and harvesting), bugs, insects, and pollinators, where their food comes from, and opportunities to taste yummy homegrown vegetables. Master Gardener Jodi Smedley works with the Pujols Family Foundation and other local organizations the space through after school programs and summer camps.

One visit to this garden and you will see first-hand the benefits of gardening.



# Master Gardener Programs & Initiatives

The St. Louis Master Gardeners build relationships by offering programs and services to community audiences in the St. Louis Metropolitan area.



# Classes offered at the MU Extension Office

Classes are held at the MU Extension office in Kirkwood on a variety of horticulture topics. Average attendance 25. Below are several of the class that were offered.

- Beginning Bonsai
- Garden Design
- Herbs
- Native Plants
- Permaculture
- Pruning
- Tree ID
- Urban Farming



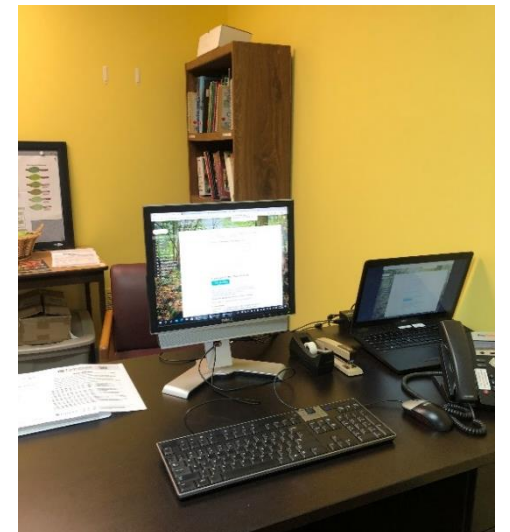
# Master Gardener Garden Hotline

Staffed by over 30 trained St. Louis Master Gardeners the answer service began with limited hours and quickly grew to a Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. service. Walk-ins are encouraged March 1st through October 31st and emails and phone calls are answered year round within 24 hours.

Volunteers attend a monthly update class featuring a guest speaker presenting on a variety of topics such as Hot Topics In Tree Health and Managing Wildlife in the Home Landscape. After the talk, Hotline Coordinator Ronda Anson presents on current pest and disease problems based on calls and emails to the service. All Master Gardeners are welcome to these classes. When volunteers are not answering gardening questions, they complete assignments and take quizzes to test their knowledge.

**Advanced Master Gardener Ronda Anson** coordinates the answer service. She trains new volunteers schedules volunteers, keeps volunteers up-to-date on current pest and plant diseases in St. Louis, creates quizzes for volunteers, volunteers for the service, and helps research answers. Ronda wrote many of the Pest Problems pages on the Missouri Botanical Garden's website and is a published author.

Call 314-400-7657 or email [stlgardenhotline@gmail.com](mailto:stlgardenhotline@gmail.com)





# Master Gardener Speakers Bureau

The St. Louis Master Gardener Speakers Bureau provides quality horticultural information as a public service. All speakers are Master Gardener volunteers who have completed the Master Gardener training. Each year St. Louis Master Gardeners make presentations to garden clubs, schools, businesses, churches, neighborhood and civic organizations. Talks are being updated and scheduled as COVID restrictions are lifted.



**LANDSCAPING  
WITH NATIVE  
TREES AND  
SHRUBS**



**ALIEN INVASIONS**



**FOR THE BIRDS**



**BRING THE  
NATIVES HOME**



**GARDENING  
DANGERS FOR  
PETS**



**BEST GARDENING  
PRACTICES FOR A  
SUSTAINABLE  
GARDEN**



**ALL ABOUT  
ORCHIDS**



**ABC'S OF  
HONEYBEES**



**DESIGNING WITH  
NATURE IN MIND**



**CRITICAL FOR  
GARDENING – GET  
THE DIRT ON SOIL**



**ORGANIC  
GARDENING**



**MISSOURI'S WILD  
MUSHROOMS IS IT  
EDIBLE?**



**GLADES OF  
MISSOURI**

# Professional Development Classes

The classes taught by **Advanced Master Gardener Ann Niemann** in 2021 for Parkway School District teachers were so popular that she was asked to teach again in 2022. Ann taught classes on herbs, native gardens, and pollinator gardens. Ann is an active member of the St. Louis Wild Ones, and a coordinator of the terrace gardens at The Green House Venture embankment garden.



# St. Louis Master Gardener Social Media

**Master Gardener Mimi Mooney** created videos of volunteer sites, Master Gardener class tours, graduation, gardens on the garden tour, and more. Mimi is an award winning photographer and has increased the followers of the St. Louis Master Gardener Instagram account from 800 to 5000. Penn State has reposted some of Mimi's posts. Mimi creates tips based on calls and emails to the MG Garden Hotline.





# 2022 St. Charles & St. Louis Master Gardener Virtual Speaker Series

- The series begun in 2020 continued in 2022
- Average attendance of 86
- Wild Bees, Permaculture, Pawpaws, Soils, Orchids, Lawns, Drip Irrigation, Oak Trees and more
- The talks are open to anyone who registers
- Total reach 774+



# Weekly Email Update

St. Louis Master Gardeners continue to receive a weekly email providing them with volunteer and continuing education opportunities for the coming week and beyond. The update is a way to have weekly contact with Master Gardeners.



**March 6 through March 12, 2023**

## **Monday, March 6**

1. [\*\*Silke Strickrodt | What can history tell us about living collections?\*\*](#) -- noon to 1:00 p.m. offered by [\*\*Kew Mutual Improvement Society\*\*](#). **What can history tell us about living collections? The rise and demise of N.E. Brown's Sansevieria's at Kew.** Silke Strickrodt is a Botanical Horticulturist at the RBG, Kew as well as a historian specializing in the history of West Africa and Afro-European interactions. Her publications include *Afro-European Trade in the Atlantic World: The Western Slave Coast, c1550-1885* (2015) and *Commercial Agriculture, the Slave Trade and Slavery in Atlantic Africa* (2013, ed. with Robin Law and Suzanne Schwartz). What is the nature of living botanical collections? Are they permanent reference collections or ephemeral research collections? Silke will explore these questions using the case study of the *Sansevieria* collection developed at Kew Gardens in the early twentieth.



# Additional Programming Planned for 2023

- Gardening classes for elementary school students – curriculum created by Master Gardeners
- Monthly coffees for Master Gardeners and the community
- Professional Development classes for area teachers
- Gardening classes for Master Gardeners & the community
- Master Gardener booth at gardening events & farmers markets with demonstrations
- Return of the newsletter on a bi-monthly basis
- Youth Gardening Classes



# Thank you!



St. Louis  
Master  
Gardener

St. Louis Master Gardeners share their knowledge about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes and communities.