



**St. Louis
Master
Gardener**

St. Louis Master Gardeners



 **MISSOURI
BOTANICAL
GARDEN**

**UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Extension**

2010 Annual Report

2010 in Review

In 2010, the St. Louis Master Gardener organization provided a record number of hours volunteering in St. Louis and nearby communities. **33,634** volunteer hours were provided in conjunction with horticultural associated activities at a Missouri Botanical Garden site, in a community gardening activity or assisting in the training and administrative activities of the Master Gardener Organization.

The St Louis Master Gardener Organization operates under the direction of Dr. Steven Cline from the Missouri Botanical Garden's Kemper Center and Nathan Brandt, Horticulture Specialist for University of Missouri Extension and an Advisory Committee comprised of nine Master Gardeners. Members of the 2010 Advisory Committee were: Chyrle Arens, Chairperson; Dennis Green, Treasurer; Ginny McCook, Secretary; Barbara Hilton; Karen Koehneman; Ned Siegel; Maxine Stone; Robert Weaver; and Leon Zickrick.

The following is a list of hours spent by Master Gardeners (MGs) by location.

Community

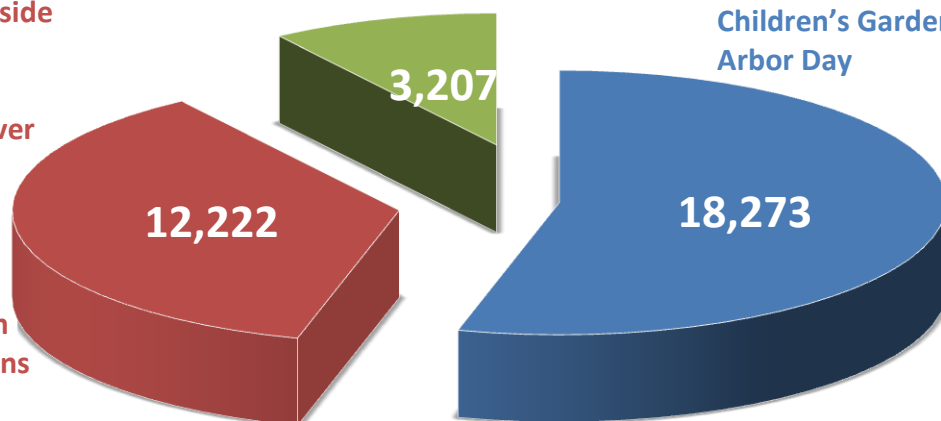
Gateway Greening
Flora Conservancy
Misc. Projects
Community Gardens
Lafayette Park
Speakers Bureau
Litzinger Road
St. Louis County Parks
The Green Center
Urban Roots
Longview Farm
Shaw Nature Reserve
Operation Brightside
Forest ReLeaf
Butterfly House
Forest Park Forever
Tappmeyer Farm
Special Projects
Soule Program
Youth Gardens
Olivette in Bloom
Chippewa Medians
Jr TreeKeeper
Campbell House

Admin & Training

Continuing Education
MG Training Team
Administrative
South Tech Greenhouse
Best of Mo. Cider Press

Mo. Botanical Garden

Kemper Center
Outdoor Gardens
Horticulture Answer Service
Plant Doctor Desk
Orchid Range
MBG Misc.
Docent
Plastic Pot Recycling
Bloom Recording
Greenhouses
Adult Education
Children's Garden
Arbor Day



Master Gardener Volunteer Hours recorded in 2010

(Order: descending number of hours)

Following are highlights of some of the notable Master Gardener projects of 2010.

Greenhouse Operation at South Technical High School in Southwest St. Louis County

An exciting opportunity to expand the outreach of the Master Gardener (MG) organization came to the attention of MG Leon Zickrick midway through 2010. Leon learned that the greenhouses at South Technical High School had been vacant and unutilized for a number of years. After approaching the St. Louis County Special School District which operates the high



South Tech High School greenhouses

school, he gathered a team to create a proposal for the Master Gardeners to re-employ the greenhouses to benefit both organizations. Involved in the team were Master Gardeners Karen Koehneman, Mark Kalk, Chyrle Arens and Dennis Green. The school was amenable to their proposal. Mark Zigrang, who formerly operated the greenhouses as an instructor for the special school district, was very instrumental to the team.



Master Gardeners cleaning up weeds and overgrown ornamentals outside the greenhouses in mid-October.

An agreement emerged which included that in return for utilizing the greenhouses, the Master Gardeners would provide the school with horticultural services and education. These include, among other things, cleaning up and maintaining the areas around the greenhouses, maintaining and caring for plantings around the school, and offering educational courses through the MG Speakers Bureau on a variety of Horticultural subjects for the school and adult education.

In return for their efforts, the Master Gardeners would be able to access and use the greenhouses and related outdoor areas to observe plant growth in all stages and acquire knowledge with respect to greenhouse management, plant propagation, nutrition, growth, and development, pest and disease management, and composting. Plants propagated could be sold to support the outreach of the St. Louis Master Gardener organization.



MG Gary Hartman filling two water basins with several varieties of water plants, including *Nymphaea* and *Cyperus*.



MG Barb Swanson undertook the task of painting radiator covers and railings throughout the greenhouses while her arm was in a cast!



MGs Karen Koehneman, Leon Zickrick, and Mary Jo Anderson

Under the direction of MG Karen Koehneman, volunteers signed up to help on Wednesdays and Saturdays through November and December. The greenhouses and surrounding areas were thoroughly cleaned and organized. Many plants and bulbs were donated for propagation and for use as instructional tools. Over 40 Master Gardeners contributed over 250 hours and lots of sweat towards this project in 2010.

To work at the greenhouses when high school is in session or students are present, MGs must have completed a security review and display badges provided by the school.

“Gateway Greening’s most significant and dependable Volunteers”

These are the words of Hannah Reinhart, Community Development Coordinator at Gateway Greening, a non-profit organization that provides support for community gardens, local food projects, and horticultural education programs in St. Louis City. According to Hannah, MG involvement and plant knowledge is critical to everything they do, including forming a solid Garden Selection Committee to evaluate Community and Youth Garden applications, maintaining demonstration beds at Bell Demonstration Garden, supervising volunteers and doing just about anything necessary to get



Master Gardener crew working with Gateway Greening at Kiener Plaza in Downtown St. Louis

the job done. Master Gardeners also make up their core group of volunteers at seasonal events such as spring “digs,” the Great Perennial Divide and Urban Roots. Key areas of Master Gardener involvement with Gateway Greening include:

- **Bell Demonstration Garden**, Saturday mornings March-October: Assist with veggie and ornamental demonstration beds that are used to illustrate intensive vegetable growing techniques to community gardeners.



MG Maddy Sheprow removing summer plantings in the Market St. Medians with SLU Chinese foreign exchange students.

- **Urban Roots**, April-November: Assist with this downtown civic greening program on major spring planting and fall clean-up days and maintenance throughout the growing season on biweekly Saturday mornings.
- **Flower Berms**, Saturday mornings May-October: Assist with two large berms suitable for cut flower production; Participate in berm preparation and ongoing maintenance.
- **City Seeds Urban Farm**, weekday mornings April-October:

Work alongside St. Patrick Center clients to help with bed prep, planting, harvesting, market prep

and provide educational demonstrations on horticulture-related topics.

- **Community Garden Selection Committee**, December-April: Evaluate annual grant applications specific to new and expanding community gardens; Assist with garden installations and provide gardening advice to novice growers.
- **Youth Garden Selection Committee**, May-September: Evaluate annual grant applications specific to new and expanding school and education-focused gardens; Assist with garden installations and provide gardening advice to novice growers.
- **Growing Healthy Kids Selection Committee**, December-March: Evaluate annual grant applications specific to new daycare gardens. Assist with garden installations and provide gardening advice to novice growers.
- **Spring “Digs,”** April: Divide and pot perennials at private backyard gardeners’ homes. The divided perennials are later distributed to community gardeners through the annual Great Perennial Divide.
- **Great Perennial Divide**, April-May: GGI’s main plant distribution event provides donated plant material free to about 75 community gardens each year. Volunteers are needed to prepare the property and transport and organize plant material during the GPD prep week (Tues-Th) and to facilitate plant distribution on the days of GPD itself (Fri-Sat).
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In 2010 Master Gardeners provided 1677 hours of volunteer time supporting Gateway Greening in their mission to contribute to neighborhood vitality and stability through community food projects, education and wellness programs, and civic greening.

Tappmeyer Gardens Project

The Historic Tappmeyer Farm House was moved from Olive Boulevard to Millennium Park in Creve Coeur, MO in 2003. The city of Creve Coeur and the Tappmeyer Foundation intend to renovate the house. It was built by Frederick Wilhelm and Adelia Tappmeyer from 1880–1884. Four generations of Tappmeyers lived in the house and farmed the 33 acres it was located on. The farm contained 15 out-buildings and produced wheat, corn, alfalfa and clover hay. An apple orchard and a large vegetable garden were also harvested each year. The Tappmeyer Foundation is currently working to raise the necessary funds to preserve, restore and furnish the Tappmeyer House.

Master Gardener Claire Chosid gathered a group of MG's and other local volunteers to begin the work of designing and installing demonstration gardens at the Tappmeyer house in 2009 which continued in 2010. The project began as a war against the invasive Honeysuckle in Millennium Park, a challenging and rewarding initial step of the project. A vegetable garden was later established using recycled planks from the "Pots to Planks" program at Missouri Botanical Garden.



The Tappmeyer House with flower beds in bloom

The garden's bounty was shared with scouts who came for tours, visitors and the volunteers. The goal for 2011 is to produce enough vegetables in the garden to donate to charity.

MG's assisted Brownie and Girl Scout Troops in planting perennials and shrubs. The troops also assisted in planting native wildflower seeds and daffodils. The volunteers' experience was varied, but all agreed they learned a lot from the MG's. The girl scouts, brownies and youth groups agree they gained a sense of community from their experience and remain committed to continuing the project and it's much needed maintenance.

Longview Farm Park in Town & Country

The Longview Farm Park garden project had an exceptional year in 2010. After hand digging the entire front bed of some really invasive groundcover the previous fall, the volunteers began a total transformation of the front gardens. Five Master Gardeners and six volunteers worked together and created a stunning landscape design incorporating trees, shrubs, annuals and perennials. By fall 2010, the beds filled in creating a serene oasis in the park. It was rewarding for everyone concerned to be able to work together, let each opinion be heard, and attain a design that let each volunteer's personality show.



Longview in the fall

In creating memorable gardens on the park property, the resulting display became the backdrop for numerous weddings and other celebrations. A sense of satisfaction is derived from observing families having their portraits taken in the gardens. The Master Gardeners' education has been put to good use on a daily basis in identifying and eradicating pests, selecting the best plants for a specific location, and answering the many questions from home gardeners. This is an example of Master Gardeners doing what they were meant to do...teach by doing, beautifying where they live and engaging the public through gardening.

Native Plant Identification Project at St Louis Community College- Wildwood

In June while on a Continuing Education Tour at the St Louis Community College in Wildwood, MGs noticed that they had some nice native plantings, but that there was no accompanying signage. This was pointed out to Nathan Brandt, who discussed it with Patrick Vaughn, one of the school administrators. Mr.



MBG plant tag near a native tree on campus



Brochure created by STLCC about the ID project

Vaughn wrote a grant to the St. Louis Community College Foundation to fund signage for the plants. The grant was awarded by the college.

As a part of the grant process, STLCC Wildwood petitioned the Master Gardeners to identify all the native plantings on the campus. Master Gardeners were petitioned and Sage McKinley stepped forward to coordinate this undertaking. Sage, with the help of a few others, completed the task in less than one month! The list of plants was then sent to the Missouri Botanical Garden who printed 140 signs for the college at cost. This new addition to the campus was installed by a team of

students and unveiled with a special ribbon cutting on October 16th, 2010. Visitors to the campus will have a greater appreciation for native plants as a result of the Master Gardener efforts.

Master Gardener Training Class of 2010



Students who completed the MG course in 2010

The Master Gardeners are proud to announce the certification of 36 new Master Gardeners in 2010. The members of the 2010 class attended 16 training classes at the Botanical Garden's Kemper Center Classroom each Thursday afternoon from January through May. The classes were taught by members of the Garden Staff and University of Missouri as well as other highly regarded members of the local horticulture community. The classes included instruction in basic botany, soil preparation, vegetable gardening, pruning and an overview of perennial and annual flowers suitable for our zone. While the students were required to

volunteer a minimum of 50 hours with one of the supported St. Louis area volunteer sites in order to obtain their certification, trainees committed about 80 volunteer hours on average.

The St. Louis City Workhouse Gets a Makeover

Master Gardeners Connie Goss and Sarah Martin took on a challenging project to beautify the St. Louis City Workhouse. With the barbed wire in sight, they planted hundreds of plants to totally remake this landscape - from bare to fabulous!

Connie and Sarah originally had the idea to remake the City's Medium Security Institution (previously known as the City Workhouse) during their MG training class. So many class hours later, when they had their "A" in Master Gardening 101 and thanks to Connie's grant writing skills and lots of donated plants and trees, their plans became a reality. The project took place in front of the entrance in a totally safe environment. The ladies received help from fellow MGs who supervised the community volunteers and employees at the workhouse as the planting began. Kudos go to Connie and Sarah for their ingenuity and desire to improve St. Louis.

Forest ReLeaf Achieves Significant Milestone with 100,000th Tree Planting

Established locally in 1993, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri (FRM) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is "to provide trees for public and nonprofit plantings and to present educational programs to increase stewardship of the trees and forests in Missouri and surrounding regions". To this end, FRM's *CommuniTree Gardens* nursery in Maryland Heights distributed over 10,000 trees and shrubs in 2010 alone. Master Gardeners Jim Horn, David Heppermann, Kathleen Miller, Ken Olsen, and Ned Siegel were instrumental in accomplishing this goal. The MGs belong to a team of fifteen core volunteers who help grow and propagate primarily native tree and shrub species in 3- and 15-gallon pots prior to distribution into the community. Volunteer activities annually include potting and re-potting, pruning, watering, transplanting and weeding,



Master Gardeners Ken Olsen, Jim Horn, Kathy Miller, Dave Hepperman, and Ned Siehle left to right volunteering at the Forest ReLeaf nursery

plus plenty of fun and learning along the way! During 2010, these five MGs reported a total of 329 volunteer hours at the nursery (see photo).

Noteworthy in 2010, a special celebration was held on September 30th to commemorate the significant milestone achieved by the planting of Forest ReLeaf's 100,000th tree early in October. In conjunction with FRM's major

sponsors for the "100,000 Trees of ReLeaf", Ameren Missouri, St. Louis County Parks and the

Missouri Department of Conservation, this milestone planting was part of a larger project that included a total of thirty assorted trees, all of which were propagated at *CommuniTree Gardens*. The 100,000th tree, a bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), was awarded to the Grace Hill



The planting of Forest ReLeaf's 100,000th donated tree



MG Dave Heppermann (rear, center) and other Forest ReLeaf advocates

Settlement House in support of Grace Hill's mission "to provide healthy and economically viable neighborhoods." The planting project took place in Peace Park, a new four-acre community gathering place in the College Hill neighborhood of North St. Louis City, near the intersection of Bissell and North 20th Streets. With guidance from Mike Walsh, FRM's Forestry Programs Manager, the plantings were made by over fifty AmeriCorps and Grace Hill community volunteers (pictured below, left). The site of the planting is noteworthy in that Peace Park not only lies within an economically under-served area of the community, but moreover, it is sited within an urban area that was found to be deficient in tree canopy during an assessment made by Forest ReLeaf during 2010 in partnership with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

The purpose of the canopy assessment was to help Forest ReLeaf identify and target new tree plantings.

In recognition of the organization's total body of work and the significant milestone achieved with the 100,000th tree planting project, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri was recently awarded a 2011 Missouri Arbor Award of Excellence at the Missouri Community Forestry Council's 18th Annual Conference held in Kirksville on March 2, 2011 (see photo, MG Dave Heppermann pictured in back row, center). The St. Louis Master Gardener organization is proud to help support the Forest ReLeaf program and its ongoing mission to provide trees and shrubs to the greater community!

Report Summary

After another very successful and extremely rewarding year for St Louis Master Gardeners, we look forward to 2011. We plan to expand the greenhouse operation at South Tech High School by growing plants for fundraising and also for growing plants to share with the community. The training function of the Master Gardeners is under the leadership of our directors, Steve Cline and Nathan Brandt. This change is meant to allow Master Gardeners to spend more time with the Community Outreach functions of the organization.

Thank You to the Master Gardener Contributors for this report: Ned Siegel, Claire Chosid, Connie Goss, Chyrle Arens and Dennis Green. If you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please feel free to contact 636-296-3326 or by email at arencs@sbglobal.net

Respectfully submitted by: Chyrle Arens, Chairperson, St. Louis Master Gardener Advisory Committee



The St. Louis MasterGardener 2010 class at the holiday party.

SAINT LOUIS MASTER GARDENERS CONTRIBUTING VOLUNTEER HOURS IN 2010

Gail Abbott	Martha Conzelman	David Heppermann	Deborah Ladd	Patricia O'Brien	Ned Siegel
Karla Abel	Cindy Corley-Crapsey	Thomas Herm	Margaret Lahrmann	Ken Olsen	Diane Siegel
Pat Adams	Jacqueline Corn	Jan Hermann	Bill Lampe	Fred Ortlip	Stephanie Sigala
Katherine Adcock	Carole Dean	George Hibbard	Jack Lane	Susan Pang	Margaret Silver
Jo Aerne	Evelyn Dickerman	Barbara Hilton	Bonnie Langston	Holly Parks	Armetta Smitley
Betsy Alexander	Carol Donelan	Sabrina Hilton	Barbara Lawton	Ve'Niecy Pearman-Green	Van Spurgeon
Cornelius Alwood	Patti Donovan	Albert Hirson	Virginia Lay	Sharon Pedersen	Karla Standlee
Barbara Anderson	Thom Downey	Patsy Hodge	Anna Leavey	Kay Pelikan	Suze Stark
Mary Jo Anderson	Joyce Driemeyer	James Hoefener	William Lenz	Bonnie Pellegrini	Cindy Stein
Ronda Anson	Berta Dulle	Norma Holler	John B. Lewis	Mary Ann Pelot	Donna Steinhoff
David Anson	Diane Dunn	Becky Homan	Claire Linzee	Lisa Pestronk	Alan Stentz
Chyrle Arens	Karen Easley	Jim Horn	Rachel Lissner	Frank Peterson	John Stephens
Kelley Austin	Debra Ebel	Virginia Horrell	Donna MacDonald	Susan Pinker Dodd	Ron Stevens
Sharon Baldassare	Sheldon Enger	David Horton	Janice Madden	Rhonda Porche-Sorbet	Maxine Stone
Kay Banks	Judy Evans	Linda Howell	Pam Manning	Cheryl Rafert	Sarah Strandemo
Ryan Barker	Jasmine Fazzari	Charmaine Hutchings	Janice Markham	Anne Ragland	Laura Streett
Sonia Beard	Kathleen Ferrell	Robert Irwin	Sarah Martin	Suzanne Ramsey	Betty Struckhoff
Helena Bedalli	Abby Filippello	Maggie Jackson	Jim Massey	Haubein	Peggy Stuckmeyer
Carol Berry	Sydney Finan	Kathryn Jepsen	Susan Maurer	JoAnn Rawson	Mary Pat Sullivan
Patricia Beuckman	Teresa Flanagan	Kimberly Joern	Kelly Mazzacavallo	Anita Rayfield	Barbara Swanson
Cecelia Beyer	Joanne Fogarty	Anita Joggerst	Ginny McCook	Alan Raymond	Judy Sweeney
Theresa Biggs	Pamela Fournier	Meg Johnson	Laurian McGrath	Melissa Rea	Audrey Swinford
Robert Bischoff	Cheryl Fox	Elizabeth Johnson	Sage McKinley	Holly Records	Ann Tansey
Nichole Blume	Paula French	Rick Johnston	Mary McMahon	David L. Reindl	Barbara Tate
Linda Bolhofner	Anne Frohman	Doris Johnston	Parker McMillan	John Reiner	Jim Teng
Judy Bolian	Joyce Fry	Ruth Jonas	Patrick McNulty	Betty Reinsch	Harold Tennyson
Lucyann Boston	Kim Gamel	Christy Jones	Don McQueen	Sue Reisel	Jan Thomas
Jack Breier	Hera Gerber	Linda Kalicak	Angie Menard	Alma Reitz	Linda Traina
Greg Brewer	John Gergel	Mark Kalk	Patty Mendicino	Susan Rentfrow	Madeleine Tufts
Sandy Brooks	Marsha Giambalvo	Gary Karpinski	Sandy Meyer	Becky Rhodes	Ann Tuxbury
Sharon E. Brown	Gordon Gosh	Mary Keilty	Betty Meyer	Robin Ricca	Robert Vander Linden
Chuck Brust	Constance Goss	Jean Kelly	Terry Milne	Joanne Richardson	Liz Walker
Sharon Buchanan	Jan Gowen	Madelynn Kester	Jacqueline Mitchell	Ann Robison	Leigh Walker
Chick Buehrig	Valerie Granberry	Deborah Kettler	Alice Mitchell	Linda Robson	Marti Warhurst
Evelyn Burns	Alex Granda	Ray Kirkman	Gloria Mitchem	Stacy Rolfe	Linda Waugh
Jerry Buterin	Dan Gravens	Anne Kirkpatrick	Cherie Moody	Vickie Rosenkoetter	Robert Weaver
Leigh Butler	Carol Gravens	Lauren Kirkwood	Betty Moore	Don Rumer	Rickey Wells
Wally Cammarata	Dennis Green	Chris Kirmaier	Larry Morrison	Don Ryan	Ken Wheat
Marcia Carpenter	Verna Gremaud	Jeanne Klebusch	Judy Moskoff	Jennifer Schamber	Susan White
Ann Case	Joan Griffard	Pat Klimushyn	Terri Mueller	Sarah Schmidt	Linda Whitten
Sue Chaires	Susan Grossman	Peggy Knippel	Durinda Mullins	Christine Schmidt	Sandra Willems
Dennis Chambers	Diane Grubbs	Joyce Knobbe	Rosemary Murphy	Charlotte Schneider	Patrick Williams
Mary Chapman	Susan Hackney	Karen Koehneman	Laura Murray	Joyce Schoeneberg	Carolyn Willmore
Claire Chosid	Judith Haldeman	Lynn Koeneman	Barbara Mutz	Ronda Schomburg	Carol Wilson
Marilyn Claggett	Teresita Hampton	Linda Koenig	Charlie Naeger	Jill Schroer	Judi Yemm
Monica Clapper	Emery Harmon	Linda Koenig	Deanna Nash	Jim Schuck	Linda Yoder
Steven Cline	Gary Hartman	John Kolar	Greg Newell	Rosalie M. Seemann	Nancy Zander
Megan Clinton	Pamela Hass	Jessica Krafcik	Betsy Newman	Ken Seher	Donna Zerega
Lillian Collins	Toni Marie Hayes	JoAnn Kresko	John Nischwitz	Pam Seyer	Leon Zickrick
Kim Comer-Ross	Jane Helbig	Sally Kriegel	Barbara Novak	Wanda Sharp	Bill Ziegenbein
Dick Cone	Maureen Helfers	Yvette Kurtz	Mary Jo Nowobilski	Maddy Sheprow	
Sophie Connor	John Hensley	Judy LaBarbera	Alison O'Brien	Sandy Sher	



St. Louis Master Gardeners share their work at Kiener Plaza in downtown St. Louis with Missouri's First Lady, Georgeanne Nixon

**The St. Louis Master Gardener program is administered jointly by
University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri Botanical Garden.**

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