



# St. Louis Master Gardener

## 2011 Annual Report



***This Annual Report provides an overview of the activities and accomplishments of the St. Louis Master Gardener program during 2011.***

- More than 300 St. Louis Master Gardeners provided over 33,000 hours of volunteer services to organizations promoting horticulture throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan area
- Delivered over 100 horticulture presentations to a wide variety of audiences
- Completed the 1st year of operation of the Greenhouse at South Technical High School
- Made monetary donations to several organizations and provided plants to many communities and gardens.

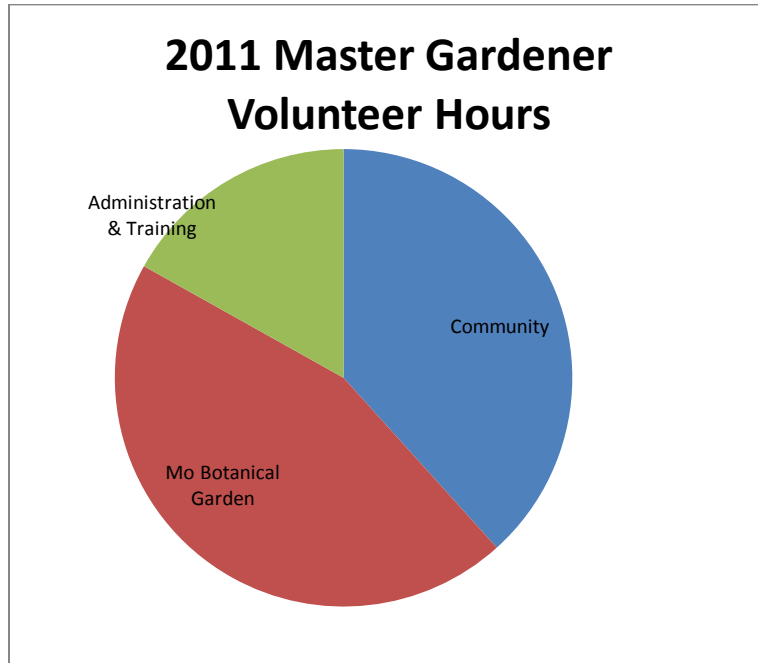
**BACKGROUND:** The Master Gardener program is a national organization, founded in 1972 in Seattle, Washington, of trained volunteers who work in partnership with their community to promote gardening. The St. Louis Master Gardener program, established in 1983, is a partnership of the University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri Botanical Garden.

***The mission of the St. Louis Master Gardener program is to provide horticultural information and assistance to the public for community service and gardening pleasure through the volunteer efforts of Master Gardeners.***

Oversight and direction of the St. Louis Master Gardener program is provided by Nathan Brandt from the University of Missouri Extension and the Missouri Botanical Garden, as well as an Advisory Committee comprised of nine Master Gardener members, who serve three-year terms. Dr. Steven Cline was the coordinator from the Botanical Garden, who served in this capacity for 22 years, until his retirement in the fall. He was instrumental in building the Master Gardener program in St. Louis. Our best wishes to Dr. Cline in his retirement.

Master Gardeners are adults of all ages from diverse backgrounds, including engineers, business and medical professionals, teachers, home gardeners, firemen, scientists, and lawyers having several things in common - a love of plants and a desire to learn and share their knowledge for the betterment of their communities, parks and neighborhoods. During 2011, the St. Louis Master Gardener volunteers provided more than 33,000 hours of service to a wide variety of organizations and activities. This report will reference some of these activities.





#### Community

12,898 Hours

Gateway Greening  
 Flora Conservancy  
 Community Gardens  
 Lafayette Park  
 MG Speakers Bureau  
 Urban Roots  
 St. Louis City & County Parks  
 The Green Center  
 Litzinger Road Ecology Center  
 Longview Farm  
 Shaw Nature Reserve  
 Brightside St. Louis  
 Forest ReLeaf  
 Butterfly House  
 Forest Park  
 Tappmeyer House & Gardens  
 Soule Program  
 Youth Gardens  
 Olivette in Bloom  
 U-City in Bloom  
 Soldiers Memorial  
 Paraquad

#### Administration & Training

5,684 Hours

Continuing Education  
 Cider Press @ Best of Missouri  
 South Tech Greenhouse  
 Administrative  
 MG Training

#### Missouri Botanical Garden

15,083 Hours

Kemper Center  
 Outdoor Gardens  
 Horticulture Answer Service  
 Plant Doctor Desk  
 Orchid Range  
 Bloom Recording  
 Greenhouses  
 Docent  
 Plastic Pot Recycling  
 Adult Education  
 Arbor Day  
 Special Projects  
 Festivals & Shows



## Greenhouse Operations at South Technical High School

As referenced in last year's Annual Report, the Master Gardener organization commenced operations at the South Tech Greenhouses during the last few months of



2010 thanks to the generosity of the St. Louis County Special School District and the High School Administration. The cleanup and planting of seeds and cuttings continued during the winter months of 2011. Classes were held on Mondays for the culinary students at the high school, who also started herbs and tomatoes from seed. In May, a plant sale was held which was very successful recognizing that operations had only begun from scratch 7 months earlier thanks to the leadership of Master Gardener of the Year, Karen

Koehneman, along with Leon Zickrick, Mark Kalk and others. Plants that were not sold were donated to a number of organizations including: South Technical High School, Carondelet Park, Gateway Greening, Holly Hills Improvement Association, Lafayette Park, Living Well Village, Longview Farms, Meacham Park Community Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, Oakbrook Elementary School, Operation Brightside (Brightside St. Louis), ParaQuad, SLU, St. Louis County Parks, City of Sunset Hills, Tappmeyer House, and Watson Trails Park. During the summer months, Master Gardener volunteers continued to maintain the greenhouses and surrounding property and started an outdoor vegetable garden and perennial beds. In the fall, weekly operations commenced again and several Master Gardeners provided "mother" plants from which cuttings were taken. Another plant sale is scheduled for the April 28, 2012. At least thirty-five Master Gardeners regularly volunteered on Wednesdays and/or Saturdays and contributed over 587 hours in making the greenhouse a successful learning experience.

The proceeds from the plant sale have helped contribute to the many organizations supported by the St. Louis Master Gardeners.





## Watson Trails Park

On New Year's Eve 2010, a powerful and devastating tornado struck Sunset Hills, Missouri. Many homes and businesses were severely damaged, including Watson Trails Park. The Master Gardeners approached the Director of Parks for Sunset Hills and inquired as to whether the organization could assist in the reestablishment of the park. As a result, the Master Gardeners were asked to redesign several planting areas within the park. Master Gardener, and instructor at Meramec Community College, Terry Milne, assigned to her class the redesign of the flowerbeds. The design of one of the students was selected by the Sunset Hills Park Director and staff and the Master Gardeners went to work in planting the new beds. Sunset Hills has done a marvelous job in rebuilding the entire park that lost over 200 mature trees.



Replanting one of the park's many berms



MG Mark Kalk planting new Hydrangeas

## Marine Week St Louis

Master Gardeners worked with the U.S. Marines and Brightside St. Louis during Marine Week in St Louis (June 20-26) to develop a native perennial demonstration garden at the corner of Shenandoah and Kingshighway in St. Louis. The demonstration garden for Brightside St. Louis provides an outstanding example of a rain garden and storm water management system. Alberici Construction provided the heavy equipment to move the rock and boulders with the marines providing the muscle.



Chuck Brust and Pam Fournier with Marines



What a fun week for our group

## Gateway Greening

Gateway Greening is a not-for-profit organization that provides the resources and knowledge that enable them to develop food producing gardens and landscaped areas on public land. They also work with area schools and institutions of higher learning to bring gardening programs into the classroom; educating children on the wonders of gardening through curriculum assistance, professional development, outdoor programs and other gardening activities. Their major programs, all of which have a sizable Master Gardener presence, are:

**City Seeds Urban Farm**, an urban agriculture initiative providing job training and therapeutic horticulture to homeless and underserved individuals.

**Community Garden Program**, supporting community gardens and urban greening projects that improve the neighborhoods and communities around them.

**Hub Gardens**, which bolster infrastructure at selected St. Louis area community gardens to provide educational opportunities and technical assistance for gardeners nearby. These hub gardens provide services such as vegetable gardening workshops, food preparation demonstrations, seedling propagation or tool lending.

**Youth Garden Programs**, which support active vegetable, sensory, native and butterfly gardens at over 60 local schools, giving young people the opportunity to experience first-hand planting, tending and harvesting-reaping the rewards of their hard work.

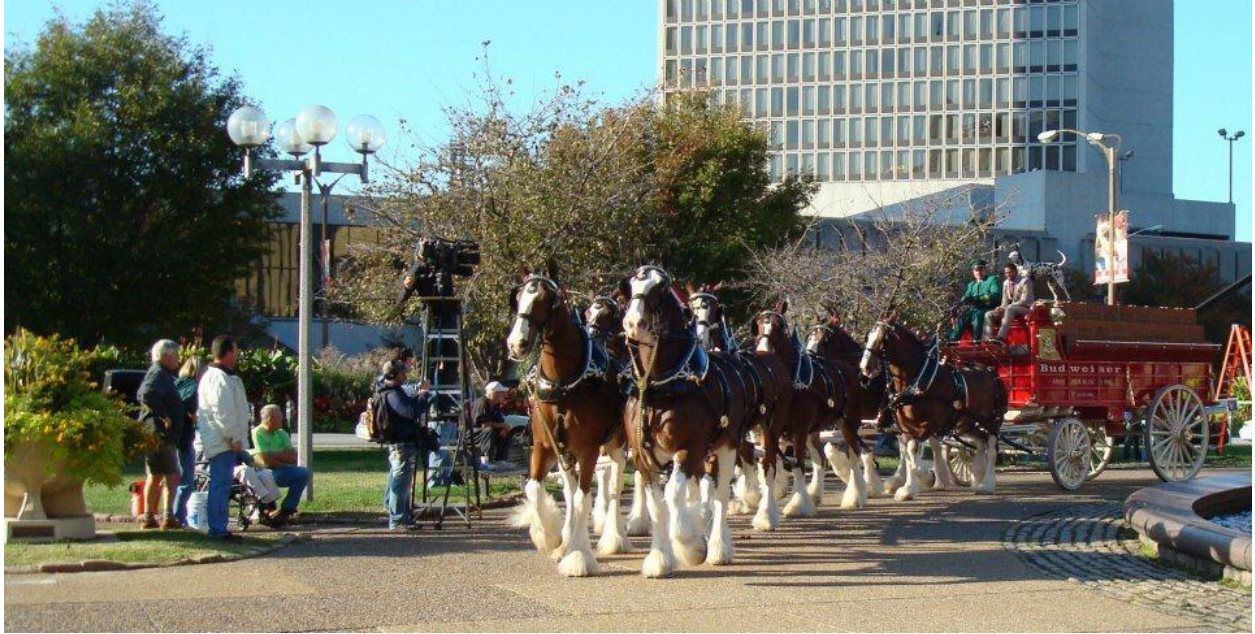
**Urban Roots**, a downtown St. Louis landscape enhancement initiative. **Current Urban Root's participation** by *Gateway Greening* and the *St. Louis Master Gardeners*, led by the *Gateway Greening Civic Greening Committee*, includes creation of seasonal color horticultural displays at Kiener Plaza and the nearby Market Street landscape medians.

The St. Louis Master Gardeners provided in excess of 1644 hours to Gateway Greening in 2011. For the past 7 years, the St. Louis Master Gardeners led by Master Gardener Leon Zickrick, assisted with the spring planting, maintenance and eventual removal in the fall of the plantings in the median and plaza in downtown St. Louis. Over 30 Master Gardeners participated in this work at various times throughout the Spring, Summer & Fall and contributed in excess of 450 hours during all kinds of weather.



Over 10,000 plants were planted on a rainy day in the Market St. Median.





The Master Gardeners made one last visit to the summer floral displays downtown hoping to keep it nice for the Cardinals Fans and out of town visitors. They were interrupted by a visit to Kiener Plaza of a TV show taping and the Clydesdales doing their thing. Weekly maintenance was put on hold! Look for our Floral Displays on the upcoming America's Got Talent!



A Sad Day.....Fall plant removal day along Market Street.



### **MG Cider Press at Best of Missouri Market**

One of the annual fun, fund raising events for the Master Gardeners is the apple cider press held during the first week in October in conjunction with the Best of Missouri Market at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Even though the apple crop in the St. Louis area was not good due to weather conditions in the spring and summer, the weather was perfect this year for the event as all the cider was sold, along with popcorn and water. MG volunteers even made a long drive to obtain 60 bushels of apples (3,000 pounds) from a new vendor.



*MG Karen Koehneman unloading apples*



*MG Chyrle Arens is ready for our first customers!*



### **Donations**

In addition to the plants that were donated as a result of our greenhouse activities mentioned previously, the St. Louis Master Gardeners made significant monetary contributions during the year. Over \$6,000 was donated to the Botanical Garden for the installation of six permanent planters in Spoehrer plaza and for the initial 12 months of plantings.



*Planters donated by STLMG on Spoehrer Plaza*

Other donations made in recognition of contributions to the community by two local organizations were: Five hundred dollars was awarded to Tappmeyer Garden at Creve Coeur Millennium Park and \$2,000 was donated to Forest ReLeaf to assist in its efforts.

### **Continuing Education**

Continuing education is an important part of the Master Gardener program. Mid-year a new Education Sub-Committee of the Master Gardener Advisory Committee was formed, combining Speaker Bureau and Continuing Education functions. This new Committee upon formation under the leadership of co-chairs, Betsy Alexander and Chris Kirmaier, immediately organized exciting programs for the balance of 2011 and 2012. Additionally, several outstanding Continuing Education programs were organized by Nathan Brandt, University of Missouri Extension. A hands-on program on pruning led by Katie Kammler, Plant Science Specialist, University of Missouri Extension kicked off the year as Master Gardeners learned about the art of pruning fruit trees and berry bushes and had the opportunity to apply this knowledge on the spot.

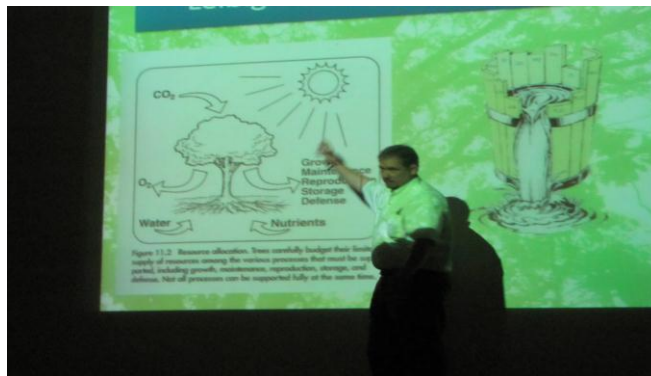


*MG Bruce Pflanz and Katie Kammler pruning a grape vine*

Nathan also arranged for programs in the spring and fall which were held at the Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center in St. Louis County.



*MGs participating in seminars at Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center*



*Mark Grueber, Urban Forester, Missouri Department of Conservation presenting to MGs*



## Speakers Bureau

The 2011 Speakers Bureau gave 88 programs to 52 different groups, some of which book multiple Speakers Bureau programs throughout the year. The most requested program was Spring Wildflowers of Missouri. The \$50 fee per program brought in \$4,350 to the Master Gardener funds. The current 25 Master Gardener speakers offer a total of 55 presentations covering a range of topics from more technical ones like Winter Damage for the avid gardener to an armchair tour of the Swiss Alps. These talks are found listed on the MG website [www.stlmg.org](http://www.stlmg.org). New talks are added periodically throughout the year and the website is updated as the new talks are ready for the public. Interest in developing new talks is encouraged and always welcomed. All Master Gardeners are invited to join in furthering our mission of providing horticultural information to the public.

## Master Gardener Class of 2011

We were pleased to certify 35 of our Master Gardener trainees in 2011 as they completed the 16 training classes that were held each Thursday afternoon from January through May.



The classes covering a wide variety of horticultural subjects from basic botany through landscape design were taught by members of the Missouri Botanical Garden and University of Missouri Extension along with other highly qualified individuals from the local horticultural community. All of the students were required to provide a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer time to approved volunteer sites in order to obtain their Master Gardener certification. As usual, most provided more!

## Report Summary

After another very successful and extremely rewarding year for St Louis Master Gardeners, we look forward to 2012. Plans are underway for expanded activities, additional presentations and volunteer locations. Please check our website at [stlmg.com](http://stlmg.com) and our webpage on *Facebook*.

*Respectfully submitted by: Dennis Green, Chairperson, St. Louis Master Gardener Advisory Committee*

Photos provided by Chyrle Arens and Dennis Green.

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



[Missouri Botanical Garden](http://www.missouri-botanical.com)





## 2011 Master Gardener Service Awards



*Claire Linzee and Jan Hermann, Two of the Five - **15 year Master Gardeners** with Nathan Brandt, U of MO, Extension*  
Not Pictured: Susan Hackney, Ann Robison and Alan Stentz



Cherie Moody, JoAnne Fogarty, Maureen Helfers and Norma Holler,  
Four of the Ten - **20 Year Master Gardeners** with Nathan  
Not pictured: Kay Banks, John Kolar, Deb Ladd, Barb Lawton, Barb Mutz, Pat O'Brien

## 2011 Master Gardener Volunteer Hours

### *400+ Hours Club*

Chuck Brust  
Mark Kalk  
John Stephens  
Claire Chosid  
Gary Hartman  
Leon Zickrick  
Laurien McGrath  
  
Sue Pinker Dodd  
Dennis Green  
Ron Stevens  
Betsy Alexander

### *300+ Hours Club*

Judith Haldeman  
Karen Koehneman  
George Hibbard  
Dan Gravens  
Ann Case  
Carol Gravens  
Karla Standlee  
Chyrle Arens  
Jeff Lund  
Debra Ebel  
Kathleen Ferrell  
Gordon Gosh

### *200+ Hours Club*

John Hensley  
Judy Bolian  
Ronda Anson  
Frank Peterson  
Jan Hermann  
Mary Jo Anderson  
Linda Bolhofner  
Jim Teng  
Bruce Chalker  
Barbara Hilton  
Ray Kirkman  
Leigh Butler

### *100+ Hours Club*

Lillian Collins  
Maxine Stone  
Ginny McCook  
Ken Wheat

Linda Coonrod  
Carolyn Willmore  
Chris Kirmaier  
Carole Dean  
Ned Siegel  
Don Rumer  
Jack Lane  
Angie Menard  
John Hyland  
Greg Newell  
Deborah Ladd  
Diane Grubbs  
Ken Olsen  
Peggy Stuckmeyer  
Pamela Fournier  
Anne Kirkpatrick  
Laura Streett  
Sue Reisel  
Wally Cammarata  
Linda Robson  
Linda Kalicak  
Bruce Pflanz  
Doris Johnston  
Jim Massey  
Hera Gerber  
Jan Gowen  
Joyce Driemeyer  
Sammy Ruwitch  
Harold Tennyson  
Linda Waugh  
Judy Evans  
Paula French  
Pat Beuckman  
Sandy Willems  
Jennifer Loman  
Cherie Moody  
Emery Harmon  
Audrey Swinford  
Dick Cone  
Madelyn Kester  
John Kolar  
Don Bley  
Jim Horn  
Don McQueen  
Barbara Nichols  
Jeanne Klebusch  
Tracie Lewis  
Patricia O'Brien  
Joanne Fogarty

Linda Koenig  
Ann Robison  
Sarah Strandemo  
Jane Helbig  
Barbara Mutz  
Irene Hindman  
Patsy Hodge  
Carol Berry  
Nichole Blume  
Lisa Pestronk  
Robert VanderLinden  
Rosalie Seemann  
Kay Banks  
Margaret Lahrman  
Larry Morrison  
Mary Chapman  
Veronica Johnson  
Alison O'Brien  
Cheryl Rafert  
Van Spurgeon  
Debra Davis  
Joyce Schoeneberg

### *50+ Hours Club*

Kay Schechter  
Linda Traina  
Ann Tansey  
Judy Sweeney  
Jean Kelly  
Pam Manning  
Durinda Mullins  
Anne Rankin-Horton  
Suze Stark  
Barbara Swanson  
Marilyn Claggett  
Fred Ortlip  
Carol Wilson  
Alex Granda  
Parker McMillan  
Holly Records  
Jack Breier  
Martha Conzelman  
Stephanie Sigala  
Jerry Buterin  
Joan Griffard  
Charmaine Hutchings  
Deborah Kettler  
John Nischwitz

Jennifer Schamber  
Maureen Spaete  
Dennis Chambers  
Dave Heppermann  
Bill Lenz  
Barbara Tate  
Kim Comer-Ross  
David Horton  
Megan Clinton  
John B Lewis  
Cindy Mittanck  
Alan Raymond  
Patty Benner  
Sophie Connor  
Rosemary Murphy  
Robert Weaver  
Diane Dunn  
Virginia Horrell  
Maggie Jackson  
Virginia Lay  
Teresa Smith  
Constance Goss  
Diane Siegel  
Janice Madden  
Meg Johnson  
Judi Yemm  
Evelyn Dickerman  
Berta Dulle  
Bill Lampe  
Sarah Schmidt  
Maddy Sheprow  
Teresita Hampton  
Susan Maurer  
Cici Tompkins  
Robert Bischoff  
JoAnn Rawson  
Angelo Silvio  
Donna Steinhoff  
Joyce Fry  
Robert Irwin  
Claire Linzee  
Jim Schuck  
Sue Chaires  
Sidney Finan  
Sandy Sher  
Liz Walker  
  
Leigh Walker  
Sharon Baldassare  
Jacqueline Corn



## *50+ Hours Club*

(Continued)

Bonnie Langston  
Alice Mitchell  
Betty Struckhoff  
Cheryl Fox  
Kimberly Joern  
Anita Joggerst  
Mary Keilty  
Donna Zerega  
Kelly Mazzacavallo  
Cindy Stein  
Karen Hindman  
Yvette Kurtz  
  
Ronda Schomburg  
James Hoefener  
Norma Holler  
Monica Clapper  
Becky Homan  
  
Janice Markham  
Betty Moore  
  
Sandy Meyer  
Barbara Novak  
Holly Parks  
Maria Schiavello  
Pam Hass  
Maureen Helfers  
Kathy Kuehn  
Susan Pang  
Fred Rauch  
Gail Abbott  
Kim Gamel  
Mary King

Susan Rentfrow  
Joanne Richardson  
Nancy Zander  
Verna Gremaud  
Elizabeth Mattingly  
Lee Phillion  
Armeta Smitley  
Theresa Biggs  
Sandy Brooks  
Kim Cappetta  
Jeanne Clerc  
Rick Johnston  
John Lizzo  
Susan Hackney  
Jessica Krafcik  
Ve'Niecy Pearman-Green  
Rickey Wells  
Karla Abel  
Jasmine Fazzari  
Don Ryan  
Lynne Sandler  
Jean Steward  
Ann Tuxbury  
Kathryn Jepsen  
Sharon Kruszewski  
Gloria Mitchem  
Laura Murray  
Betsy Newman  
David Reindl  
Michelle Schmitt  
Cindy Smith  
John Bell  
Linda Howell  
Peggy Knippel  
Kimberly Myers  
Mary Jo Nowobilski

Denise Pott  
Katherine Sauer  
Karen Easley  
Mary Hacking  
Toni Marie Hayes  
John Huelsing, Jr.  
JoAnn Kresko  
Sally Kriegel  
Gloria Mahoney  
Sarah Martin  
Brenda McPherson  
Terry Milne  
Cathy Osborn  
Kay Pelikan  
Betty Reinsch  
Marti Warhurst  
  
*Honorable Mention*  
  
Christy Jones  
Patty Mendicino  
Betty Meyer  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Ken Seher  
Gary Karpinski  
Lucyann Boston  
Lynn Koeneman  
John Reiner  
Jo Aerne  
JoAnn Alexander  
Alberta Chulick  
Linda Whitten  
Suzanne Ramsey Haubein  
Sheldon Enger  
Janet Jump  
Anne Ragland  
Connie Alwood

Janie Bedwell  
Patrick Williams  
Donna MacDonald  
Anita Rayfield  
Tom Herm  
Mary Ann Pelot  
June Mueller  
Ruth Jonas  
Barbara Lawton  
Kathleen Miller  
Thom Downey  
Katherine Adcock  
Barbara Greeder  
Susan White  
Teresa Flanagan  
Bill Ziegenbein  
Gayle Crancer  
Deanna Nash  
Alma Reitz  
Kelley Austin  
Rosalie Cooper  
Albert Hirson  
Sharon Pedersen  
Carol Donelan  
Isabelle Morris  
Leslie Lenz  
Berni Oppelt  
Vickie Rosenkoetter  
Wanda Sharp  
Charlie Naeger  
Melissa Rea  
Anne Frohman  
Jacqueline Mitchell

Master Gardener names are listed in the order of the total number of hours reported using the MG Website. Honorable Mention lists the members who reported volunteer hours but less than our annual goal of 50 per active Master Gardener.