



University of Wisconsin Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement

The purpose of the UW-Extension Master Gardener Program is to train volunteers to provide horticultural information specific to local climates, soils and plants to the gardening public, based on University research, when available.

As a participant in the UW-Extension Master Gardener Program, I understand and agree to:

- Complete a **minimum of 24 hours of approved volunteer service** within one year of completing the training class.
- Complete a minimum of 24 hours of approved volunteer service and 10 hours of approved continuing education annually in order to maintain my certification as a Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV).
- Follow current UW-Extension Master Gardener program policy guidelines.
- Represent the UW-Extension in a professional manner.
- Provide non-biased, research-based horticultural information, without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability or sexual orientation.
- Refer all commercial horticulture inquiries to the Extension agent.
- Realize no one can know all the answers and be able to say “I don’t know” (but try to find out).
- Cooperate with and support UW-Extension staff to jointly further the missions and objectives of the UW-Extension Master Gardener Program.
- Give permission to disclose my identity and to reproduce and distribute videotapes, films, photographs and transparencies of me taken at approved UW-Extension Master Gardener programs.
- Use the title of Master Gardener or Master Gardener Volunteer only when performing unpaid volunteer work on behalf of UW-Extension or in conjunction with MG Association activities. The title is not to be used to advertise names or places of business, nor to associate the Master Gardener name with commercial products or give implied endorsements of any product or place of business.
- Recognize that verbal or physical abuse, failure to comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws, using or possessing weapons, alcohol or illegal substances while participating in volunteer activities, or committing criminal acts are grounds for termination as a Master Gardener Volunteer.

I further understand that UW-Extension will:

- Provide training, supervision, and direction to MGVs through the local county UW-Extension office.
- Communicate expectations and responsibilities of the program to volunteers.
- Match volunteer skills and interests with volunteer opportunities within the local Extension unit.
- Support UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteers and the WI MG Association (WIMGA).
- Provide continuing education opportunities such as Specialized Training and assisting the WIMGA in offering their annual state Master Gardener conference.
- Provide a state Master Gardener web site.
- Provide a state Master Gardener newsletter to WIMGA members.
- Provide access to Extension office horticulture reference materials.
- Provide reasonable access to UW-Extension professionals.

I have read and understand this volunteer agreement. I agree to abide by the conditions and expectations of this document. I understand that my failure to comply with these expectations may result in my termination as a UW-Extension Master Gardener Volunteer.

Master Gardener Volunteer:

Name (Please print)

Current Mailing Address (Street, Apt.)

City, State, Zip

County

Telephone

email address (if applicable)

Signature

Date

UW-Extension Representative:

Name (please print)

Signature

Date

This UW-Extension MG Volunteer Agreement will be on file in the local county UW-Extension office.

Approved Oct 13, 2006