The SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners, Inc. is a non-profit organization which offers many service, educational, and social opportunities. It serves as a support group for the educational programs of Extension in Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties.

The Wisconsin Master Gardener Association is the organization of Master Gardener groups throughout the state. The Wisconsin Master Gardener Association provides Master Gardener Volunteers with a newsletter, an annual educational conference and other programmatic support.

Membership dues of $10 annually provide membership in both organizations.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I don’t have a green thumb, can I still be a Master Gardener Volunteer?
Being a Master Gardener Volunteer is not about knowing everything about gardening. It’s about learning to ask the right questions and knowing how to look up information from appropriate resources.

How do I become a Certified Master Gardener Volunteer?
Successfully complete the Level 1 Training by attending classes and passing the open-book exam and then completing and reporting a minimum of 24 hours of volunteer service during your first year in the program.

After I become a Master Gardener Volunteer, do I need to do anything to keep my certification?
To maintain certification, you must complete 24 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education annually.

COURSE CONTENT

The Level 1 Training is the beginning Master Gardener Volunteer course. This 13 week training provides a broad overview of horticultural and gardening related topics including:

- General Gardening Practices
- Composting
- Botany for Gardeners
- Entomology (Insects)
- Herbaceous Ornamentals: Annuals and Perennials
- Plant Diseases
- Weeds and Invasive Plants
- Soil
- Trees and Shrubs
- Lawn Care for Homeowners

Level 2 Training courses are offered on a wide variety of topics. These short courses vary in duration and provide a more in-depth look at relevant gardening and environmental topics.

Continuing Education* is provided through a wide variety of programs presented by Extension horticulturists, as well as trips, speakers, and workshops sponsored by the SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners.

*Level 1 Training required

VOLUNTEER SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

A wide range of approved volunteer activities and projects can accommodate a variety of interests and lifestyles. Volunteer activities may include:

- Diagnosing plant problems
- Staffing educational exhibits
- Gardening with children
- Conducting educational workshops
- Teaching through demonstration gardening projects throughout Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties
- Making presentations to community groups
- Facilitating garden projects at schools, libraries, and other public community sites

Master Gardener Volunteers are representatives of the University of Wisconsin system and assist Extension educators with scholarly community programs relating to horticulture and the environment.

For more information: Call 414-615-0518 or visit the website at https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/sewmg/