



The Master Gardener Program in Kenosha County started in 1994. Over 240 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 43 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2017. The UW-Extension Educator facilitating the MG Program is Interim Horticulture Educator Jeanne Hilinske-Christensen.

Arboretum Information Updated

Along the shores of Lake Michigan, MGVs tend the gardens at the Kemper Center and the Andersen Art Center. A unique attraction at the Kemper Center is an arboretum of uncommon, unfamiliar trees. In 2016, old or missing signage was updated or replaced, as MGVs identified the trees, labeled them, and created a helpful visitors guide useful as a reference while strolling through the arboretum.

Horticulture Helpline Answers Gardening Questions

MGVs trained as Plant Health Advisors (PHAs) staff the horticulture helpline three mornings per week during the growing season. With recent changes to both the UW-Extension staff and county support staff, the PHAs have really been relied upon this year to share their knowledge and expertise. They have been able to keep the helpline operating smoothly during the transitions. PHAs also take their show on the road to the Kenosha Harbor Market two Saturdays per month from May to September.

Sustainability Suits Somers

A rain garden planted with various native plants greets visitors to the Somers Town Hall. Educational signage explains the reasoning behind planting a rain garden and offers suggestions on plant selection. MGVs who tend this garden have offered to train municipal personnel on how to care for rain gardens and are currently developing a manual describing the history of this garden as well as how to maintain it. The placement of this garden gives it high visibility, and offers terrific publicity for promoting both an environmentally-friendly and sustainable garden and our MG program.

The Master Gardener Program in Kenosha County

Kenosha County UWEX Office
 19600 75th Street, Suite 2
 Bristol, WI 53104
kenosha.uwex.edu

Volunteer Service in 2016

| | | |
|----------|-----------|-------|
| Youth Ed | 503 | hours |
| Adult Ed | 1,053 | hours |
| Support | 2,956 | hours |
| Total | 4,513 | hours |
| Value* | \$101,458 | |

Since 2000: 74,279 hours at a value of over \$1,369,183

* using the current estimated dollar value of volunteer time in Wisconsin of \$22.48 per hour, from Independent Sector. Cumulative value based on previous annual estimates.



Where you can find activities by MGVs in Kenosha Co.

- Chiwaukee Prairie
- Hospice Meditation Garden
- “Spring into Gardening” Event
- Kenosha County Fairgrounds
- Horticulture Helpline
- Kenosha Harbor Market
- Kenosha Achievement Center Garden
- Elementary School Gardens

