MSU Extension Master Gardener Program
~ 2017 Summary ~

Total Participants in the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program: 3,940

Number of active Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs): 3,291
Counties with MSU Extension Master Gardeners: 75

Number of new volunteers trained: 649
Counties with new trainees: 46
Training locations: 16 (Belleville, Clinton Township (2), Flint, Grand Rapids, Harper Woods, Imlay City, Jackson, Marquette, Mason, Novi, Portage, Sault Ste. Marie, Traverse City, Waterford and West Branch)

Number of reported personal contacts by EMGs educating other: 316,437

Volunteer hours: 161,397 hours
Economic Value:\$ 3.9 M
Focus areas for volunteer outreach education projects:

- Environmental stewardship
  - Examples: protecting and preserving water quality, invasive species, environmentally friendly pest management, native plants, protecting pollinators
- Improving food security
  - Examples: community gardens, teaching citizens how to grow their own food for better nutrition and health; giving gardens
- Improving community
  - Examples: beautification, improving quality of life
- Youth development through gardening
  - Examples: Junior Master Gardener, school gardens, after-school programs
- Supporting MSU Extension
  - Examples: Smart Gardening, Ask an Expert, State Lawn and Garden Hotline, assisting with classes

Continuing education hours: 39,485 hours

Additional contributions: (in-kind contributions)
- Miles driven by MGs for their volunteer efforts: 899,082
- Economic value:\$125,871

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE MSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN: \$4.02 M

1 Independent Sector Value of a Volunteer Hour: $24.14
2 Federal charitable mileage rate: $.14 / mile