



The Purdue Master Gardener Program is an integral part of Purdue Extension that provides Indiana's citizens a chance to grow. Approximately 50 Indiana counties have active Purdue Master Gardener programs.

The program provides a learning framework for participants to increase their horticultural knowledge on a wide variety of subjects. In turn, participants volunteer and serve as multipliers for Purdue Extension information by sharing knowledge and providing leadership and service in educational gardening activities within their communities.

This document is a snapshot of the impact the Purdue Master Gardener program had in 2016.

## 2016 By the Numbers

In 2016, the 3,075 active Purdue Master Gardener volunteers reported:

**40,653**  
**education**  
**hours**

**163,483.85**  
**volunteer hours**  
**valued at**  
**\$3.7 million**

**160,821**  
**educational**  
**contacts**

# Improving Communities, Expanding Opportunities, Fostering Sustainability

Here are some of the ways the Purdue Master Gardener Program impacts Indiana communities.

- Purdue Master Gardener volunteers throughout Indiana donated 168,896 pounds of produce from educational demonstration gardens to local food banks to help battle food insecurity.
- Purdue Master Gardeners in Vanderburgh County delivered horticulture programming to an elementary school where 50 percent or more students receive free or reduced cost lunches. "(These) projects are critical to my students' understanding of the first-grade science standards and have a positive impact on their learning," the PTA president said. "We could read and discuss a book on plants, but having hands-on examples provided for us is outstanding."
- Purdue Master Gardener associations awarded \$49,000 in college scholarships to students studying horticulture, agriculture, and related majors.
- Purdue Master Gardeners in Hendricks County provided educational support to the Avon Outdoor Learning Center. More than 10,000 students visit the center as part of their classroom curriculum.
- 587 new Purdue Master Gardener interns were trained in 2016. Like all interns, they are trained in the responsible use of pesticides and pesticide alternatives.

## Find Out More

To learn more about Purdue Master Gardener's impact, please contact the state coordinator or visit us online.

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