The Purdue Master Gardener Program provides a learning framework for participants to increase their horticultural knowledge on a wide variety of subjects. In turn, participants share knowledge and provide leadership in educational gardening activities within their communities.

This is a snapshot of the impact the Purdue Master Gardener program had in 2018.

2018 By the Numbers

In 2018, the 2,844 active Purdue Master Gardener volunteers reported:

- 42,637 education hours
- 177,010 volunteer hours valued at over $4.0 million
- 733,229 educational contacts
Improving Communities, Expanding Opportunities, Fostering Sustainability

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

• Purdue Master Gardeners throughout Indiana donated 56,383 pounds of produce from educational demonstration gardens to local food banks to help fight food insecurity.

• Purdue Master Gardeners of the Sunnyside Master Gardener Association in Floyd and Clark counties developed the Pollinator and Beneficial Insects Team. The team has created several educational boards displayed at community programs to educate the public about the importance of pollinators and other beneficial insects. Master Gardener volunteers give educational presentations, collect and distribute native plant seeds for distribution, and maintain educational demonstration gardens to promote pollinator friendly gardening. Pollinator Day is a local educational program designed to educate participants about pollinators and their benefits. This team of Purdue Master Gardeners helped design educational activities for Pollinator Day, reaching 800 youth and adults.

• Purdue Master Gardener associations awarded $34,000 in college scholarships to students studying horticulture, agriculture, and related majors. And, 580 new Purdue MG interns were trained in 2018.

• Purdue Master Gardeners reported several changes in gardening practices, including:
  ◦ Using more pollinator plants and practices to protect pollinators
  ◦ Reducing yard waste headed to landfills by composting and/or leaving grass clippings on the lawn
  ◦ Choosing the right plants for the right places in their garden or landscape

Find Out More

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

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