



The Purdue Extension 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 Extension Master Gardener program had in 2019.

## 2019 BY THE NUMBERS

In 2019, the **2,780** active Purdue Extension Master Gardener volunteers reported:

**41,110**

education  
hours

**172,938**

volunteer hours  
valued at

**\$4.1 million**

**1.6 million**

educational  
contacts

# Improving Communities, Expanding Opportunities, Fostering Sustainability

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

- Purdue Extension Master Gardeners throughout Indiana donated 73,052 pounds of produce from educational demonstration gardens to local food banks to help fight food insecurity.
- The Purdue Extension-Marion County Demonstration Garden remains a popular attraction at the Indiana State Fair. The 11,331 garden visitors during the 2019 Fair (up about 2 percent over 2018) viewed improved plant varieties, saw recommended gardening techniques, gained ideas for their own gardens, and received answers to garden-related questions from Purdue Extension Master Gardeners. There were 513 people (primarily youth) who played the “find the plant” game (topic: NEW AAS award-winning plants). Extension Master Gardeners distributed 199 garden plant lists, 196 Master Gardener AnswerLine business cards and 117 handouts about local Extension Master Gardener classes. Most of the fresh produce (838 pounds of vegetables) was given to a local food pantry.
- Purdue Extension Master Gardener associations awarded \$43,900 in college scholarships to students studying horticulture, agriculture, and related majors.
- Purdue Extension Master Gardeners reported several changes in gardening practices, including:
  - Using more pollinator plants and practices to protect pollinators
  - Removing and replacing invasive plant species that threaten native and desirable plant and animal populations and habitats
  - Following environmentally sound pesticide and fertilizer practices that protect natural resources

## Find Out More

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

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