

2012 ISU Scott County Extension Master Gardener's Active Committees

4-H FAIR JUDGING

Purpose of Committee:

Assist judges of 4-H exhibits for flowers and vegetables at Mississippi Valley Fair. Coordinate judging by 4-H'ers after official judging.

Work as a team with 4-H, be familiar with scorecards and assist with judging of exhibits (Master Gardeners do not actually judge)

Volunteers:

Attend training session; work as a team member with other volunteers in assisting judges of flower and vegetable exhibits. *All volunteers must complete the **Child Protection and Safety Check Screening** and be approved to work with children. 10 volunteers needed.*

ADULT EDUCATION

Purpose of Committee:

Provide the adult community with horticultural instructions in conjunction with partners as opportunities exist.

Provide Master Gardeners with opportunities, to share expertise and provide classes or events for recertification.

Volunteers:

Master Gardener volunteers design and teach horticultural classes to the general public through adult education classes.

Arrange guest speakers and other educational opportunities for Master Gardeners to obtain recertification.

Master Gardener volunteers are not paid for teaching these classes. **6-15 volunteers needed.**

CITY OF BETTENDORF PUBLIC WORKS DAY (BPWD)

Purpose of Committee:

To help the city of Bettendorf educate the public regarding various methods of composting. Possible hands on projects are determined each year.

Volunteers:

Participate in planning and work on projects with other Master Gardeners and answer questions at events. **10-12 volunteers are needed.**

CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL GARDENING

Purpose of Committee:

To introduce children and adults to urban horticulture with emphasis on low resource individuals. Work with schools and Extension Staff to introduce horticulture.

Regularly make presentations to pre-school and school aged children at the Friendly House and to local schools as requested. Emphasis is placed on hands on activities.

Volunteers:

Volunteers work on a monthly or weekly basis with low resource youth. Patience and an interest in working with children are needed. Volunteers will also work with teachers and school children. *All volunteers must complete the **Child Protection and Safety Check Screening** and be approved to work with children. 20 Volunteers needed; 2-5 for pre-school sessions and 8-12 for the summer gardening project.*

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN *(This project may not be active for 2012 due to construction of the enabling garden.)*

Purpose of Committee:

Educate and inform the public on different varieties of plants and vegetables that can be grown in the Midwest.

Prepare plant and maintain a garden plot at VanderVeer Conservatory.

Volunteers:

Assist in sowing, transplanting and maintenance activities. Track garden results. Participate in special events. **10-12 Volunteers needed.**

EXTENSION OFFICE GARDENS

Purpose of Committee:

Develop gardens at Scott County ISU Extension Office in 6 zones surrounding the building, including entrances.

Prepare plant and maintain gardens; label plants for public information. Develop map and plant information.

Volunteers:

Participate in planning, preparation, planting and maintaining of garden. Perform research and label plants. **A minimum of 4 Volunteers needed for each zone along with the Team Leader.**

GARDEN GROWERS

Purpose of Committee:

To work closely with The Garden Growers to promote healthy lifestyles and beautification of our community by building capacity for gardening. Master Gardeners collaborate with other agencies, neighborhood groups, and individuals to promote community gardens and beautification projects in Scott County, and to educate groups and individuals on gardening.

Volunteers:

Assist on site at community gardens. Work with families, instructing them on horticulture; conduct educational sessions for clients. Serve on The Great Garden Showoff and The Great Garden Makeover committees, and volunteer at The Great Garden Showoff event. **20-25 Volunteers needed.**

HISTORIAN

Purpose of Committee:

To organize the photos and news articles of past Master Gardener events.
Label and date photos and news articles and arrange them in albums.

Volunteers:

Label and date materials and arrange in albums. Contact other Master Gardeners for help in identifying activities and dates of photos. **4-6 Volunteers needed.**

HORT CLINIC

Purpose of Committee:

Provide answers to questions regarding home horticulture to the residents of Scott County over the phone and in person at the Extension Office.

The committee was formed to provide a reference source to the citizens of Scott County. Clients can phone the Extension Office to ask questions about home gardening issues or they can bring in specimens/samples of insects, diseased plants, etc. to be identified. Soil sample processing bags are also available to the public through this service.

Volunteers:

Committee volunteers research answers for queries using ISU approved information. They will take calls and plant samples from the public at the extension office during 3 hours sessions. Certified Master Gardeners are asked to mentor MG Interns during the first 2 of their 3 required sessions in the Hort Clinic. **40 plus volunteers needed.**

MASTER GARDENER CLASS FACILITATORS

Purpose of Committee:

Provide participants with advice, information and assistance during classes.

This committee was formed to assist the Extension Horticulturist during classes at the Extension Office and other locations as needed.

Volunteers:

Class facilitators set up name cards and tags, handle the sign in sheet introduce the teacher, answer questions and generally help to make the class run smoothly. **12-18 volunteers needed.**

NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY GARDENING ADVISORS

Purpose of Committee:

To advise groups in the community requesting a landscaping/gardening project that meets the Master Gardener Project Guidelines.

Master Gardeners may be asked for advice on initial design, care information, horticulture issues, plant selection, planting techniques etc. This does not include manual labor or continued care by Master Gardeners.

Volunteers:

Participate in planning and work on projects with other Master Gardeners and community groups. **20 plus volunteers are needed.**

PLANT SALE/FUNDRAISING

Purpose of Committee:

The committee organizes and conducts the Annual Master Gardener Plant Sale. The committee also organizes and conducts other events designed to raise funds for the Master Gardener program.

This committee provides a major source of fund-raising for the Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners donate divisions or seedlings from their own gardens and some plant material is purchased commercially to sell to the public. The committee also organizes other events that raise funds for the Master Gardener program.

Volunteers:

Committee volunteers will assist in the various aspects of the sale: plant labeling, set up and tear down of displays, selling of plants and answering questions from the public. **40 plus volunteers needed.**

PUBLIC RELATIONS/MARKETING

Purpose of Committee:

To create public awareness of the Iowa State University Extension Master Gardener Program by marketing and informing the public about volunteer opportunities, educational workshops, community events and fundraising activities.

Use local media, network of interested gardeners and local businesses who cater to gardeners along with non-traditional methods and ideas to inform the public of Master Gardener projects and events.

Volunteers:

Prepare and present 2-3 minute presentations on local TV programs as requested by committee chair. Research and write copy for newspaper releases and other promotional materials (posters, advertisements and flyers).

Assist chair with other publicity as needed. **4-8 Volunteers needed.**

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Purpose of Committee:

Provide Master Gardeners with social events

Arrange periodic social gatherings for Master Gardeners and their guests.

Volunteers:

Assist in planning and preparation for events. **8-12 Volunteers needed.**

SPEAKERS BUREAU

Purpose of Committee:

Provide educational programs regarding different aspects of horticulture for community organizations.

This committee's main focus is to provide speakers and programs based on ISU Extension information to share with public groups. Slides, tapes prepared presentations and ISU brochures are available at no cost to groups such as AARP, CASI, Kiwanis, etc. Public groups are encouraged to contact the Extension Office to arrange for speakers on various topics. A listing of all speakers and topics is available at the Extension Office.

Volunteers:

Committee volunteers prepare their own material or utilize an existing program from the Extension Office or ISU in order to give an informative presentation. Presentations vary in length from 30 minutes to 90 minutes depending on topic and time allotted.

Generally, 20 volunteers are needed for this committee. Public speaking experience is helpful as well as experience in using various audio-visual equipment to assist in presentations. **20 plus volunteers needed.**

TREE PLANTING AND CARE COMMITTEE

Purpose of Committee:

Educate students (may be elementary school through high school) and the public on the proper way to plant and care for trees.

Work alongside less experienced individuals during tree planting and pruning events. Less experienced individuals may be public volunteers or other Master Gardeners.

Volunteers:

Committee volunteers should review the current ISU tree planting and care recommendations so that the correct information may be given to the students and the public.

Generally, 10 to 15 Master Gardeners are needed for the committee. Public and student volunteers have ranged from approximately 40 persons to approximately 80 persons (the number varies with the number of trees to be planted).

For the planting activity, Master Gardeners assist the volunteers by checking the tree hole for the proper depth, properly removing wrapping material from root ball, assuring that the tree is in the hole straight, properly backfilling the hole, and mulching the tree.

For the pruning activity, Master Gardeners demonstrate and assist the volunteers in proper pruning practices. **10 to 15 Master Gardeners are needed.**

VANDER VEER PARK: ARBOR DAY TREE GIVEAWAY

Purpose of Committee:

The purpose of this committee is to teach proper tree & planting. To educate the public, answer questions, and recruit future Master Gardeners.

Participate in Vander Veer's Arbor Day activity

Volunteers:

Participate in and work shifts at the Arbor Day activity. Assist with booth set up and tear down. **12 plus volunteers needed?**

