



BECOME A MASTER GARDENER

Volunteers need to complete application and other forms, pay a fee, undergo a background check, and complete classroom requirements. They also agree to contribute 50 volunteer hours under the auspices of OSU Extension their first year.

Greene County provides training in odd-numbered years, meeting one day a week for 10 – 12 weeks starting in February. If this time frame does not work for you, contact the Program Coordinator at the Extension Office for other options.

To remain certified, MGVs in Greene County annually contribute 25 volunteer hours, obtain 10 continuing education hours, and pay a small fee to support the organization.

Check out the details and download the forms at greene.osu.edu under the Master Gardener Volunteers link in the left column. Contact the Greene County Extension Office with questions!



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Greene County **MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS**



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THE MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER (MGV) PROGRAM

OUR WEEDERS ARE LEADERS



Greene County MGVs hold educational workshops that are open to the public. Programs will be announced in local newspapers and on the web site.

As part of a vibrant, statewide, volunteer organization, MGVs receive more than 50 hours of classroom training through the Ohio State University Extension in areas of botany, soils, entomology, plant diseases, Integrated Pest Management, pesticide use and safety, lawn care, fruits, vegetables, shrubs, herbs, annuals, perennials and more. The program is designed to meet the consumer horticulture needs of Ohio citizens. While volunteers do work on select community service projects, most activities provide education and outreach. MGVs become leaders and educators in their communities and provide UNBIASED RESEARCH-BASED EDUCATION through workshops and programs in the areas of HEALTH AND WELLNESS, JOB SKILLS AND CAREERS, THRIVING ACROSS THE LIFE SPAN, SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS, ENGAGED OHIOANS AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.

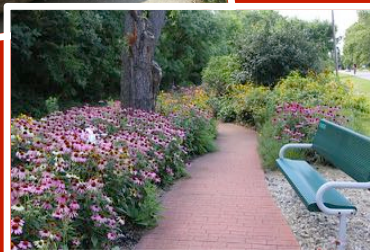
GREENE COUNTY MGVS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR COMMUNITY IN MANY AREAS. YOU, TOO, CAN MAKE A CONTRIBUTION IF YOU ARE . . .

- **an educator** – join the Outreach Team, sharing your love of gardening and expertise with community groups throughout the county, or teach youth and juveniles gardening basics.
- **research oriented** – become a team member of the Greeneline, a diagnostic helpline which researches solutions to horticultural problems community members are experiencing.
- **concerned about the needs of others** – dig in and help raise fresh produce in our community food pantry gardens. For the last two years, Greene County donated more than 15,000 pounds of fresh produce, ranking near the top in the state contest, Grow Ohio.



- **scientific minded** – document nature's annual biological cycle in our Phenology Garden, one of 30 research centers of its kind in Ohio.
- **interested in history** – immerse yourself in heritage gardens that demonstrate the heirloom plants of yesteryear.
- **motivated toward community service and beautification** – consider volunteering in one of several demonstration gardens, bikeway gardens, or beautification gardens.

*Providing food for pollinators, in this case a black swallowtail butterfly on purple cone flower, is integral to gardening basics.
Bellbrook Butterfly Garden*



*Top: Bellbrook Rock Garden
Bottom: Yellow Springs Women's Garden*

CURRENT GREENE COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PROJECTS

- Community and food pantry gardens
- Phenology garden
- Herb study group
- Greeneline, a diagnostic horticultural helpline
- Heirloom gardens in Fairborn and Beavercreek
- Children's gardens at schools, churches and public parks
- Nationally recognized daffodil garden in Beavercreek
- Erosion control and reforestation at Sweet Arrow Reserve
- Bikeway beautification gardens in Yellow Springs and Spring Valley
- Gardening classes at the Juvenile Rehabilitation Center in Xenia
- Garden at a local nursing home, enriching the lives of its residents
- Demonstration gardens for shade, perennials, native plants, and pollinators