



MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION



General Description

The Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) role is to support OSU Extension - Greene County in meeting the needs of our citizens in the area of consumer horticulture by assisting with educational programs, diagnosing plant problems, making cultural and pest management recommendations, and other various opportunities.

Specific Responsibilities:

- Assist with Extension educational programming, such as talks for garden clubs, Extension sponsored workshops, etc.
- Assist with establishing and maintaining approved demonstration gardens at the Extension facility and specific sites across Greene County.
- Assist teachers, 4-H volunteers, and/or children with gardening education projects in school or club settings.
- Answer consumer's telephone and online inquiries and assist office visitors with plant/insect samples for identification or diagnosis.
- Interpret information from Extension bulletins and fact sheets for the general public.
- Distribute Extension information to the public at such events as garden center plant clinics, county fair, home and garden shows, etc.
- Keep records of consumer contacts and volunteer activities.

Time Required

Volunteer hours may vary from week to week, but they will generally be needed during regular work hours; although some evening and weekend opportunities exist. A total of 50 hours must be donated during the intern year. If recertifying for an additional year, 20 hours are required along with 10 hours of continuing education.

Qualifications

The MGV must show an interest in, enthusiasm for, and some knowledge of gardening. They must be able to communicate with the public by phone, online, and deal courteously with visiting public and Extension program participants. They must be able to read, write and comprehend the information presented in the training sessions, and be able to communicate that information to the gardening public. They must provide their transportation to training and volunteer activities. They should have an email account to access the online Hands-On Connect management system and receive communications.

Location: Greene County office and various locations around the county.

Support Provided

In addition to the Ohio MGV Manual, MGVs have at their disposal office reference materials and internet resources to assist in answering questions and requests for information. If the MGV is unable to assist a consumer, questions and requests are referred to the Extension ANR Educator or Program Assistant.

Mentors

Marina Miquilini (ANR Educator) and Sarah Isbill (Extension ANR Program Assistant) will provide coordination, supervision and support to the MGVs. They will assign, review, and evaluate volunteer activities.

