



# WISCONSIN MASTER GARDENERS IN FOND DU LAC COUNTY

*In 2018, Fond du Lac County Master Gardener Volunteers reported 4,103 hours of community service, worth a value of over \$98,472.\**



\*Using the current estimated dollar value of volunteer time in Wisconsin of \$24.69 per hour from Independent Sector (independentsector.org).

## FEATURED PROJECTS

### Teach kids how to compost

Fond du Lac County Master Gardener Volunteers instructed students across five elementary schools on composting. Lessons focused on how composting works, what goes into a compost pile, and nutrient cycling. The lesson also included information about reducing waste. Over 1,200 kids participated in the program. The program made the kids think about what they are throwing away that can instead be used for compost.



### Introduce kids to plants

MGVs engaged 3 elementary schools in a seed starting activity to introduce kids to growing plants. The project also gave over 200 students in grades pre-K through fifth grade a chance to practice responsibility as they had to each care for their growing plant. MGVs also involved over 1,200 pre-K through sixth grade in planting vegetable seeds in 22 raised beds at Riverside, Parkside, and Rosenow Elementary Schools. Projects like both of these are important ways to introduce to kids how plants grow and where food comes from.



### Educate public on gardening

MGVs provided education to over 450 attendees to their own Garden Fair and Plant Sale. Gardening topics included information on pollinator protection, invasive jumping worms, vermiculture, beekeeping, and more. MGVs also provided demonstrations on different gardening techniques as well as promoting the horticulture helpline.



University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Wisconsin counties cooperating.

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The Master Gardener Program in Fond du Lac County started in 1992. Over 415 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 57 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2019.

## Where you can find activities by MGVs in Fond du Lac County

- Lamartine Veterans Memorial Garden
- Fond du Lac Community Gardens
- Fond du Lac Public Library
- Fond du Lac Lutheran Home and Health Services
- St. Mary's Springs Academy
- Parkside Elementary School garden
- Rosenow Elementary School garden
- Riverside Elementary School garden

