



# WISCONSIN MASTER GARDENERS IN MARATHON COUNTY



*In 2018, Marathon County Master Gardener Volunteers reported 4,498 hours of community service, worth a value of over \$107,952.\**



The Master Gardener Program in Marathon County started in 1995. Over 386 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 65 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2019.

## Where you can find activities by MGVs in Marathon County

- Rib Mountain State Park Wildflower Project
- Monk Botanical Garden
- Cedar Creek Garden, Home, and Recreation Show
- Garden Walk with named plants
- Annual plant sale with guidance
- Garden programs
- Woodson Art Museum
- Garden Clinic at Extension Office



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

## FEATURED PROJECTS

### Develop garden space

Marathon County Master Gardener Volunteers planted and maintained a shade garden space at Monk Botanical Gardens, a 30-acre botanical garden in Wausau. MGVs helped to develop an educational shade garden and were actively involved with funds development for this garden, which will house a wide variety of hostas and many other shade plants. The Monk Botanical Gardens is #6 on TripAdvisor's things to do in Wausau and was host to approximately 10,000 visitors in 2017.

### Educate county fair visitors

MGVs educated about invasive garden pests to visitors of the Wisconsin Valley Fair in Marathon County. During the event MGVs shared display boards and answered gardening questions from adults. Kids were engaged with "Veggie Riddles" to introduce them to where their food comes from.



### Answer gardening questions

A record-high number of garden questions from residents in Marathon County were answered through the Garden Clinic and Garden Line in 2018. MGVs responded to questions from 335 residents, which is the greatest number of calls answered since 2007. Tree concerns, plant identification, and fungal diseases were the most common types of questions addressed in 2018, along with numerous questions related to Japanese beetles.

"I'm glad I'm not the only one with these garden problems!"

—Wisconsin Valley Fair Visitor



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

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