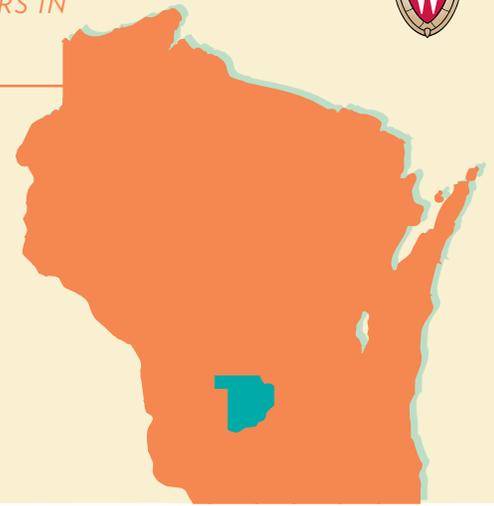




# WISCONSIN MASTER GARDENERS IN SAUK COUNTY



*In 2018, Sauk County Master Gardener Volunteers reported 2,523 hours of community service, worth a value of over \$60,540.\**

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

## FEATURED PROJECTS

### Educate community on growing tomatoes

In partnership with the Rock Springs Library, Sauk County Master Gardener Volunteers taught 26 adults and 3 children the basics of tomato gardening, specifically growing “non-red” tomatoes. Red and non-red tomato seedlings were available for purchase by the participants. A tomato test garden featuring 20 varieties was planted at the Rock Springs Community Garden and tended by MGVs throughout the summer. In August, 57 participants gathered at the Rock Springs Library for a tomato tasting and voted for their favorite tomato.



### Teach kids how to garden

MGVs worked with teachers at Tower Rock Elementary School, Denzer, WI to plan raised bed gardens for each classroom. Seven gardens were built, planted, and maintained by students and teachers, with a MGV supervising the planting. The produce was harvested by the students and their families. The teachers incorporated the gardens into their classroom instruction to teach children how their food is grown. They planted, grew, harvested, and ate the garden produce. The children also learned to make healthier food choices at their lunch time and at home with their families. Teachers encouraged the students to pick cucumbers and peppers for their lunches, and families harvested and used these garden vegetables in their home meals.

### Build raised beds for community gardens

In response to ongoing soil quality and flooding issues in Reedsburg Community Gardens, MGVs partnered with the Technology and Engineering Education classes at the Reedsburg High School to build 12 raised beds. The gardens are primarily used by apartment dwellers and senior citizens on limited or fixed incomes. Over 400 pounds of veggies were donated to the Reedsburg Food pantry. MGVs, 13 students and their teacher were involved in this project. One MGV visited the gardens on a weekly basis to answer gardening questions and troubleshoot problems with the other gardeners.



**University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Wisconsin counties cooperating.**  
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The Master Gardener Program in Sauk County started in 2003. Over 281 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 36 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2019.

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

- Reedsburg Historical Pioneer Log Village
- Mid-Continent Railway Museum
- Circus World Museum
- Prairie du Sac Community Garden
- Weston, Sacred Heart, Webb Schools
- Madison Area Technical College
- St. Clare Senior Living Center
- Ho-Chunk House of Wellness

