



MSU Extension Master Gardener Program ~ 2018 Summary ~

Total Participants in the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program: **3,507**

Number of Extension Master Gardeners (EMGs): **2,974**

Counties with MSU Extension Master Gardeners: **79**

Number of new volunteers trained: **533**

Counties with new trainees: **47**

Training locations: **13** (Alpena, Ann Arbor, Belleville, Clinton Township (2), Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Houghton, Howell, Portage, Traverse City, Waterford)

Number of reported personal contacts by EMGs educating other: **616,306**

Volunteer hours: **157,430 hours**

Economic Value¹: **\$3.89 M**

Focus areas for volunteer projects:

- Environmental stewardship
 - *Examples: protecting and preserving water quality, invasive species education, environmentally friendly pest management, native plants*
- Improving food security
 - *Examples: community gardens, teaching citizens how to grow their own food for better nutrition and health; giving gardens*
- Improving community
 - *Examples: beautification, improving quality of life*
- Youth development through gardening
 - *Examples: Junior Master Gardener, school gardens, after-school programs*
- Supporting MSU Extension
 - *Examples: Smart Gardening, Ask an Expert, State Lawn and Garden Hotline, assisting with classes*

Continuing education hours: **44,500 hours**

Additional contributions: (in-kind contributions)

- Miles driven by EMGs for their volunteer efforts: 918,274
- Economic value²: **\$128,558**

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THE MSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM
TO THE STATE OF MICHIGAN: **\$4.02 M**

¹ Independent Sector Value of a Volunteer Hour: \$24.69

² Federal charitable mileage rate: \$.14 / mile