Who are Master Gardeners?

Trained volunteers giving back to their communities.
Master Gardeners

• Trained volunteers representing University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service.

• Cooperative Extension Service Mission – Provide non-biased, researched based information to individuals, families and communities to help improve lives.

• Master Gardener Volunteer should not promote a particular business, product or philosophy.

• Master Gardener Volunteers should give non-biased research based information.
Master Gardeners are volunteers. People just like you who have an interest in gardening, a willingness to learn, and a desire to help their community.

The Arkansas Master Gardener Program is a part of the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service.

Today, state Master Gardener programs exist in every state in the US and six Canadian provinces. It is estimated that over 60,000 volunteers contribute hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours.

Arkansas has Master Gardener Programs in 50 counties.
History

- Started in 1976 in Washington State
- Started in Arkansas in 1988

First project in AR
What Do Master Gardeners Do?

There is a volunteer job for folks of all ages and abilities.

2,723 Master Gardener Volunteer in 65 counties in Arkansas.
2013 Arkansas Master Gardeners contributed 152,993 hours of service which is valued at over $3 million.

Here are a few of the jobs MG volunteers do:

• Create and maintain demonstration gardens
• Provide plant therapy projects for hospitals and nursing homes
• Flower and Garden Shows
• Give talks to groups interested in horticulture
• Produce a MG newsletter
• Answer telephone gardening questions at the County office
• Educational programs for school, 4-H and community gardens.
• Assist with horticulture exhibits at county fair
First Year Commitment

60 Hours

• 40 hours of volunteer work on a MG Project of your choice

• 20 hours of Continuing Education
Maintaining Active MG Membership

• 20 hours of service on a MG project

• 20 hours of continuing education
What Else Do Master Gardeners Do?

- Master Gardeners continue their education by attending classes, seminars, conventions and gardening programs.
MASTER GARDENERS KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN!
Funding by:

United States Department of Agriculture

Pulaski County Arkansas
What is the Cooperative Extension Service?
Our origins

Morrill Act of 1862 – Land-Grant Colleges

Hatch Act of 1887 – Experiment Stations

Smith-Lever Act of 1914 – Cooperative Extension Service
Mission statement

The mission of the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service is to provide research-based information through non-formal education to help Arkansans improve their economic well-being and the quality of their lives.
Where we fit

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

- Research
- Cooperative Extension Service
Our locations

- Division & CES Headquarters, Little Rock
- AAES Headquarters, Fayetteville
- Research & Extension Centers
- Branch Experiment Stations
- Other Locations
- County Extension Offices
Our components

• Agriculture
• Family and Consumer Sciences
• 4-H Youth Development
• Community & Economic Development
4-H YOUTH PROGRAMS
Using U of A’s website uaex.edu

Lots of Master Gardener and Horticulture information.
Welcome home.
For more than a century, the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service has been working to help improve the quality of life for all in the Natural State. Now, we've made a few improvements of our own, creating a website that's easier to use, no matter where you are, so you can find the answers that you've come to expect from us.

We're here for you.
Yard & Garden

There's an irresistible link between people and the soil beneath our feet. Beyond the necessity of growing food, there is knowledge and a sense of accomplishment that comes from cultivating the earth. The Cooperative Extension Service, part of the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture, nurtures this relationship in many ways including school gardens, the Master Gardener program and the annual Arkansas Flower & Garden Show.

Compost Happens
This playful music video by Washington County Master Gardeners shows how compost happens.

Arkansas Master Gardeners in Costa Rica
View the beauty of this Central American country through the eyes of Arkansas Master Gardeners.

A Chat with a River Valley Master Gardener
Vegetate.com interviews River Valley Master Gardener, Bob Watson, and learns the basics for any new gardener.

Publications
Flowering Annuals
Flowering Annuals can be a showstopper if cared for and planted correctly. Learn more about how to add them to your home landscape.

Cedar Apple Rust
The spectacular fruiting bodies of cedar apple rust appear in spring.

Learning from the ground up

Plant of the Week
Dr. Gerald Klingaman's unique plant profiles.

Garden Events
Garden events happening around the state of Arkansas.

Reference Desk
Dig up your gardening answers here.

- Learn more
Arkansas Master Gardener Program

The Arkansas Master Gardener Program has 2,723 volunteers in 65 counties (from 2013 reporting numbers). These Master Gardeners reported 86,596 learning hours and 152,293 service hours. Arkansas adopted the Master Gardener program in 1983 in four counties (Garland, Jefferson, Pulaski, and Saline), and it has since expanded to programs in 65 counties.

The University of Arkansas Master Gardeners sponsor events in a wide range of activities including educational seminars and workshops, youth gardening programs, plant therapy work with hospitals and nursing homes, community beautification projects all helping to disseminate horticulture information. Annual plant sales are a great way to educate the public on the right plant for the right location.

Over 20 county and regional horticultural fairs or shows are coordinated annually by Master Gardeners with great success.

Master Gardeners from across the state come together to volunteer at the Arkansas Flower & Garden Show annually to promote horticulture within the state. This three-day event promotes horticulture through educational exhibits, speakers and trade show. On average, over 10,000 Arkansans visit the three-day show.

The University of Arkansas Master Gardeners hold an annual state conference which is hosted and coordinated by a different local program each year. This three-day event provides Master Gardeners the opportunity to participate in workshops, seminars, garden tours, and allows them to connect with other Master Gardeners from across the state.

I want to be a Master Gardener. How do I become one? The first step is to fill out the Master Gardener Application. Send in the application to the address listed on the form and it will be forwarded to Master Gardener program near you.
Miller County

Welcome to the
Miller County Arkansas
Cooperative Extension Service

We are part of the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service's statewide network and the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture. Our mission is to provide research-based information through non-formal education to help all Arkansans improve their economic well-being and the quality of lives. Whether it's agriculture, 4-H, health and living, or community development, the Miller County Extension Office is at your service!

Agriculture
Hay is a precious commodity to Miller County producers, especially with the last three years of drought. Quality and quantity are both important in forage production. Good quality hay is difficult to find during dry times. Producers need to optimize all elements of forage production to provide quality feed for their livestock.

Moisture in hay can stimulate the growth of microbes causing heat. If the moisture is not checked, bale temperature may rise to dangerous levels. Even at recommended moisture levels, hay will slightly increase in temperature as microbes respire over a few weeks. Therefore, moisture monitoring is necessary and helps to avoid possible spontaneous combustion of bales.

The Miller County Extension Service offers services and educational programs to producers that promote hay quality, forage production practices, forage fertility and more. For more information, contact our office at 870-779-3509.

Photo: Stacks of hay bales require moisture monitoring

Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS)
Helping Arkansans enhance their quality of life through education is the goal of the Miller County FCS agent. Educational programs and services are aimed at making life better, healthier and safer for individuals, families and communities.
Arkansas Master Gardener Facebook page -
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-Master-Gardener-Program/144470905579273
Supper Club

OCTOBER 5, 2013

by uamg

Today was a day of preparing for a dinner party—so it was house cleaning, table setting and cooking. I also got slightly over an inch of rain so I was quite happy. I took some pictures as I was prepping food, but kind of forgot to take the finished product of most things—it got busy towards the end. It was a great meal—I probably shouldn't say that, since I cooked, but it was also fun. We started with a roasted corn salad that was all a product of my garden and...
Arkansas is our Campus

Visit us online at www.uaex.edu, or contact your county extension office for information, programs and fact sheets.

Or see our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/ARextension