



MSU Extension Master Gardener Program After Year One

Congratulations! You've successfully completed the requirements to become certified as an MSU Extension Master Gardener (EMG) or have re-certified to maintain your active MSU Extension Master Gardener status. Thank you for being part of the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program®! We truly appreciate your countless contributions to improve lives and enhance communities through educating the public about science-based, environmentally sound gardening practices.

Below, you will find important information to maintain your status as a certified MSU Extension Master Gardener.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES YOU CAN COUNT TOWARD YOUR 20+ HOURS REQUIREMENT

Mission: To further the land grant university goal of disseminating scientifically based information via a network of trained volunteers who receive support and guidance from MSU Extension to educate Michigan residents on the most current and environmentally sound horticulture information.

The MSU Extension Master Gardener Program® encompasses two major functions to meet this mission: To provide instruction in basic, research-based horticulture science to motivated and active gardeners through an adult (18 years or older) educational program offered through MSU Extension.

To provide MSU Extension with trained gardeners who will educate others in the community about environmentally and economically sound practices through horticulture-based volunteer activities.

WHAT COUNTS?

YES: Educating the public with science-based horticulture information at a plant sale that financially supports the Program.

NO: Volunteering at a plant sale for a nonprofit or other organization, helping with setup, carrying, advertising, cashiering, etc.

YES: Organizing, managing, setting up, tearing down, or performing administrative duties for a pre-approved EMG informational booth at a garden-related event.

NO: Organizing, managing, setting up, tearing down, or performing administrative duties for a non-approved gardening-related event.

YES: Overseeing the removal of invasive species and providing a science-based public presentation describing Michigan's invasive species and their effect on the environment. Guiding workers and teaching them how to recognize and remove invasive species.

NO: Volunteering for an event to provide labor to remove invasive species. (If you are being taught how to identify and remove invasives, you could record hours for education.)

YES: Recording hours when volunteering for a nonprofit organization or garden club where the overall event or activity provides EMG curriculum-related education and you are identified as an EMG.

NO: Serving on a garden club and other nonprofit board, providing administrative duties, or providing labor of any type that does not directly support public education related to EMG curriculum-related subjects.

YES: Weeding and maintaining a butterfly garden at a location that provides educational opportunities through presentations, handouts, signage, etc. to adults, youth or tour groups.

NO: Maintaining a butterfly garden at a place of business, worship, or nonprofit where there is no public education provided.

YES: Planting flowers or landscaping public areas and also providing education to the public.

NO: Planting flowers in public spaces with no public education component.

ALSO, NO: Serving on a non-EMG association board, being paid to garden or volunteer at a nursery, greenhouse or private home. If in doubt, call your local coordinator, that's why we are here. You are in the D13 District and your central office (269-383-8815) is in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

REQUIREMENTS TO MAINTAIN MSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER STATUS

Maintain an updated profile in X[] c^! /O^} d aXÔD@ /s /s [/ where you record hours, as well as find a large array of EMG resources, such as forms, communications, and Program updates. Complete and report in X[] c^! /O^} d a the annual qualifying volunteer hours (20) and education hours (10). Complete the Volunteer Selection Process (VSP) once and then annually agree to a background check

Complete the three-step annual re-certification process during the designated timeframe:

1. Accept and comply with the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program® Code of Conduct Agreement.
2. Select your certification status
3. Submit the \$20 re-certification fee.

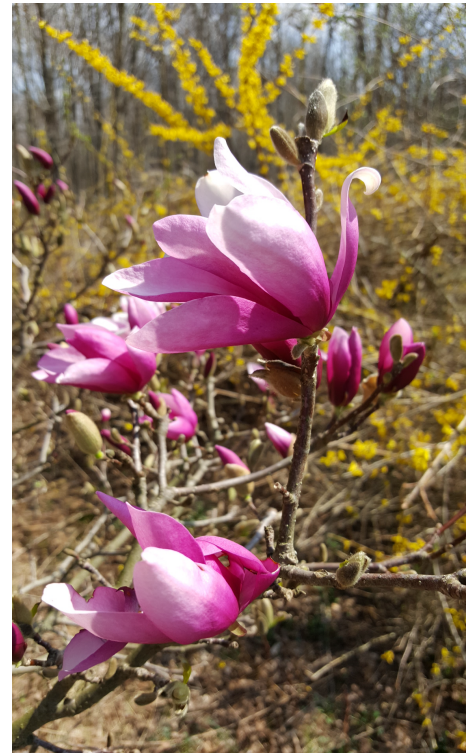
MORE TO EXPLORE

There are countless ways to stay involved!

Become an Advanced MSU Extension Master Gardener by accumulating 90 volunteer and 25 education hours.

Attend the Annual MSU Extension Master Gardener College

Volunteer to with the Help Line.



STAY INVOLVED

Frequently visit the [Kalamazoo County Extension Master Gardener website](#) to gain access to forms and downloads for a large array of important EMG resources including communications and updates to read about the program. We encourage everyone visit both the Kalamazoo County EMG website and <https://www.facebook.com/SWMichiganEMG> often to stay apprised of our EMG program activities.

Our office is here to support you, to help you find the right information, and to assist you with educating others. If you have any questions, comments or concerns, contact our office (269-383-8815) and we will be happy to help! We want to ensure everyone has fun, enjoys the program, continues their education, and that we all work together to further the MSU Extension Master Gardener Program® mission of educating the public.

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To contact an expert in your area, visit extension.msu.edu/experts or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464)