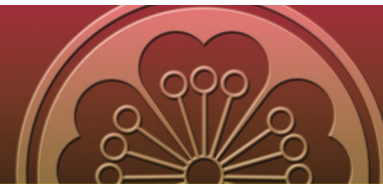


# Master Gardener Program



Snohomish County

Master Gardener Program

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

## The WSU-Snohomish County Extension Master Gardener Program

### 2019 By the Numbers

Active MGs:

**356**

New MGs Trained:

**40**

Volunteer Hours Reported:

**31,755**

Valued at:

**\$1,007,269\***

Average hours per MG:

**89**

Plant Problem Clinics:

**462 clinic days****5289 volunteer hours**

Educational Outreach:

**121 events****2051 volunteer hours**

Demonstration Gardens:

**3 gardens****4158 volunteer hours**

MG Education:

**9105 volunteer hours**

Program Support:

**11,152 volunteer hours**

\*www.independentsector.org for 2018

grew out of the need for County Extension agents to respond to the growing interest in home gardening 45 years ago. Today, Master Gardener (MG) Volunteer Community Educators promote scientifically based landscaping practices that yield environmental, economic, and aesthetic benefits. MGs provide information, classes, and demonstrations throughout Snohomish County that emphasize sustainable gardening practices, integrated pest management, water conservation, stormwater management, home-grown produce, composting, proper pesticide disposal, and overall low environmental impact.

**Plant Problem Clinics** are held at more than 25 locations around the county, many once a week during the growing season, plus a permanent weekday clinic at the Extension Office that includes a hotline that will take messages. Typical questions include plant and pest identification, soil testing, general plant care, disease solutions, and low impact landscape practices. In 2019, MGs answered 12,098 questions from more than 6997 Snohomish County citizens. Previous survey results showed that intended pesticide use was reduced by almost three-quarters by those who consulted a Master Gardener

**Community Outreach** is provided through workshops, classes, lectures, demonstrations, and mentoring to the adults and youth of Snohomish County, including the Sustainable Gardening Winter Lecture Series and partnering with Extension's Growing Groceries Lecture series. The MG Demonstration Gardens at Jennings Park in Marysville, McCollum Park in south Everett, and at the Evergreen Arboretum & Gardens at Legion Park in north Everett demonstrate a variety of sustainable garden techniques and are always open to the public with tours by request. In addition, Jennings focuses on edible landscaping practices with the produce donated to local food banks. MGs also provide education and mentoring services to community, food bank, school, and church gardens throughout Snohomish County, and those gardens donated 13,839 lbs. of fresh produce to local foodbanks in 2019.



**Snohomish County**

# Master Gardener Program



## Permanent

### MG Plant Problem Clinic

at the Extension Office  
600 - 128th Street SE, Everett  
South end of MCollum Park

#### Summer Hours, Apr.-Sept.

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Weekdays,

#### Winter Hours, Oct.-Mar.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon-Thurs,

Closed holidays, the week of Thanksgiving,  
and the last two weeks of December.

or call the

**MG Hotline: 425-357-6010**

E-mail: [snocomg@gmail.com](mailto:snocomg@gmail.com)  
<http://extension.wsu.edu/snohomish>



**WSU-Snohomish County Extension**  
**600 128th Street SE**  
**Everett, WA 98208**  
**425-338-2400**

## Partnerships

with Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Snohomish County Solid Waste, The Snohomish Conservation District, the City of Everett and other communities allow the Master Gardener Program to leverage limited resources in joint efforts to reduce solid waste through the increased recycling of organic waste and the proper use of compost; reduce stormwater runoff pollution of our lakes, streams, rivers and Puget Sound through education about rain gardens and natural yard care; and the proper use and disposal of pesticides.

## Master Gardener Education

is critical to the MG Program with every Master Gardener committing to continuing their own horticultural education through a variety of program offerings both within the program and from outside sources. Each year, the Snohomish County MG Program trains a new class of volunteer community educators in all aspects of community horticulture. Trainees spend approximately 150 hours in both classroom instruction and in WSU's MG Online Training Program. Since 1973, the Snohomish County MG Program has trained approximately 2500 volunteers and that training stays with them for a lifetime.

## Invasive species

, such as the spotted wing drosophila and the brown marmorated stink bug, are an increasing threat to Snohomish County resources. Master Gardeners are designated as first responders and are trained to identify, detect and report new invasive species. Then they help the public cope with these new threats as well as with those that are already established, such as apple maggot.

## The Snohomish County MG Foundation

provides committed support for the Snohomish County MG Program through community service, educational outreach, and fundraising. The Foundation sponsors two major fundraisers in conjunction with the MG Program, the annual MG Plant Sale and the Sustainable Gardening Winter Lecture Series, both of which provided substantial funding support to the MG program and to other related projects, such as the Community Garden Grant Program and the Foundation Scholarship program.