



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

# MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM



## Asotin and Garfield Counties 2023 Annual Impact Report<sup>1</sup>

*Cultivating plants, people, and communities since 1973!*

**2023**

**32**  
WSU MG Volunteers

**2315**  
total contacts

**1968**  
MG volunteer hrs donated

**\$74,056<sup>2</sup>**  
value of Volunteer hours

**219 lbs**  
fresh produce donated to  
Food Bank

### OVERVIEW

The WSU Extension Master Gardener (MG) Program provides people and communities with relevant, unbiased, research-based horticultural and environmental stewardship education. WSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers (WSU MG Volunteers) are trained to be community educators and are the local go-to resource for people and communities seeking innovative solutions to horticultural needs and challenges. WSU MG Volunteers are highly recognized, diverse, and valued community members. The WSU MG Program has a rich history, beginning in the Puget Sound area in 1973, and spreading to most counties in Washington. The first Asotin County WSU MG Volunteers were trained in 1995. Garfield County WSU MG Volunteers were first trained in 2004.



**In 2023**, the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program celebrated **50 years of *cultivating plants, people and communities*** – with anniversary events statewide and a final Anniversary celebration at the MG Advanced Education Conference in Tacoma. Four Asotin County WSU Master Gardener Volunteers attended.



The local WSU MG Program is financially supported by fund raising, donations, and grants; administered and managed by the **Master Gardener Foundation of Asotin and Garfield Counties**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.<sup>3</sup> The Foundation is a dependent Chapter of the **Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State**.

<sup>1</sup> As of December 31, 2023. Compiled by Ruth Monahan, Janice Reed, and Mark Heitstuman

<sup>2</sup> Independent Sector, WA, 2022, \$37.63/hr

<sup>3</sup> See 2023 State of the Foundation and 2023 Financial Report, pages 14-15.



# We Are WSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers



We are your neighbors and members of your communities. Our Programs and Priorities inform our efforts to shape healthy communities and a healthy planet. We are actively engaged in teaching research-based gardening and environmental stewardship practices.



## Our Program Priorities

	<p><b>Climate Change:</b> We teach ways to create resilient landscapes that are adapted to our changing climate.</p>		<p><b>Soil Health:</b> We encourage building healthy soils to prevent depletion and ensure the long-term viability of local food security &amp; natural resources.</p>		<p><b>Plant Biodiversity:</b> We promote stewardship of diverse ecosystems through invasive species management, native species conservation and restoration in landscapes.</p>
	<p><b>Clean Water:</b> We promote integrated pest management to minimize polluted runoff.</p>		<p><b>Pollinators:</b> We teach ways to help native bees and other pollinators thrive in home and community landscapes.</p>		<p><b>Nearby Nature:</b> We seek to increase access to plants, green spaces, and public landscapes to benefit the health &amp; well-being of all members of our communities.</p>
	<p><b>Water Conservation:</b> We promote water-wise gardening and landscaping practices to conserve water.</p>		<p><b>Local Food:</b> We promote sustainable techniques to growing local food to improve individual &amp; community health and wellness.</p>		<p><b>Wildfire Preparedness:</b> We teach landscaping principles to reduce the risk of loss due to wildfire.</p>

**2023**

**32 WSU MG**

volunteers from Asotin and Garfield Counties

**2321 residents**

contacted by WSU MG Volunteers; **9%** of the 24,871<sup>4</sup> residents in both counties - **35% increase** from 2022

**1968 total hours**

donated by WSU MG Volunteers; **slightly less** than 2022

**61.5 Avg hours**

Donated per WSU MG Volunteer; **slightly less** than 2022.

**341 hours**

continuing education earned; **16% decrease** from 2022

**535 hours**

program support donated by WSU MG Volunteers; **10% decrease** from 2022

## WSU EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

### Asotin County (22,508 residents)

- **20 Certified** WSU MG Volunteers
- **6 Emeritus** WSU MG Volunteers.
- **1743 Total Residents** Contacted by WSU MG Volunteers

### Garfield County (2,363 residents)

- **5 Certified** WSU MG Volunteers
- **1 Emeritus** WSU MG Volunteer
- **578 Total residents** contacted by WSU MG Volunteers



**In 2023**, Asotin and Garfield Counties retained 26 certified veteran WSU Master Gardener Volunteers; adding 3 new Emeritus MG Volunteers for a total of 7. Total Volunteer hours contributed and average hours per MG volunteer were slightly less than 2022.

**Certified** WSU MG Volunteers donate a minimum of 25 hours per year to community service and education, and annually receive over 10 hours of specialized continuing education training on current research based horticultural practices. **Emeritus** WSU MG Volunteers have volunteered a minimum of 500 total hours and/or have 10 years of volunteer service, and are no longer able to fully meet annual volunteer service certification requirements.



**Emeritus**

<sup>4</sup> Based on US Census data, July 2023

2023



## WSU Extension MG Volunteers Asotin & Garfield Counties

### Class of 1995

*Jerry Hendrickson, Emeritus*

### Class of 2002

*Deloris Jungert-Davisson, Emeritus*

### Class of 2004

*Sue Fitzgerald (Garfield), Emeritus*

### Class of 2006

*LeAnn Phillips, Emeritus*

*Ronda Welling, Emeritus*

### Class 2010

*Debbie Brotnov*

### Class of 2012

Bob Biegert

Becky Vivian

Anna Duman

*John Freeman, Emeritus*

*Micki Mennet-Martin, Emeritus*

Aileen Ruchert

Tana Truscott

### Class of 2014

Mary Jo Murdie

### Class of 2016

Ruth Monahan

Susan Morrow (Garfield)

Tom Van Horn

### Class of 2018

Barbara De Herrera (Garfield)

Carol Larreau

Vicki Van Horn

### Class of 2020

Karen Adams

Richard Adams

Julie Kammers

Shirley Brandon (Garfield)

Danielle Evans

Petra Hansen

Peggy Madonia

Randy Smith

### Class of 2022

Terry Brandon (Garfield)

Donna Deal (Garfield)

Kerry Eyman

Heather Herres

**Asotin County WSU MG Volunteers** maintain the Rose Garden and Pollinator Container Garden at the Asotin County Court House. The Weed Committee presented a "Weed of the Month" to WSU MG Volunteers; increasing knowledge on local weeds and management options.





ABOVE: Asotin County Master Gardeners Ruth Morahan and Tom Van Hom read questions sent in by residents during a clinic in Asotin on Sept. 13. LEFT: Van Hom, left, and Bob Biegert talk during the clinic.  
Karl Skarstein/For Farms & Ranch



## 2023

**12** hours  
advanced horticulture  
continuing education training  
was offered to MG volunteers

**37** enrolled  
from Asotin, Garfield,  
Whitman, Latah, Columbia,  
Walla Walla, and Nez Perce  
Counties

## Master Gardener Advanced Training

In 2023, Bi-Annual WSU/UI Master Gardener Advanced Horticultural Continuing Education Training was offered. The 4-week intensive university level horticultural training offered 12 hours of continuing education to 37 MG volunteers from Asotin, Nez Perce, Garfield, Whitman, Latah, Columbia, and Walla Walla Counties. The classes were offered both in-person and virtual by experts in the field of horticulture from WSU, University of Idaho, and local specialists.

**2023 WSU/UI Advanced Master Gardener Training**  
**March 7, 14, 21, 28. 1 to 4 pm**  
**\$5/ class or \$20 for all classes**  
**Attend in person or via Zoom**

To register and pay online, go to our website:  
<https://extension.wsu.edu/asotin/continuing-education/classes-and-workshops/>  
 You must register and pay by 5 pm the day prior to the class. The Zoom meeting link will be emailed to the participants prior to the class.

To register via email:  
 Send your name, email address, and classes you are taking to: [janice.need@wsu.edu](mailto:janice.need@wsu.edu)  
 Payment can be mailed to PO Box 9, Asotin, WA 99402  
 Make checks payable to 'Asotin County Master Gardeners'.  
 In-person attendees may pay in advance or on the first day of class.

\*\*March 7 class will be held at the Clarkston Campus of Walla Walla Community College, Multipurpose Room, 1470 Bridge Street in Clarkston, WA.

**March 7: Plant Diagnostics and Accessing Reliable Resources**  
**Jenny Glass** - Extension Coordinator, WSU Pullup Plant & Insect Diagnostic Lab  
 Jenny will share her 20 plus years of diagnostics skills on a wide range of plant pathology and insect identification experiences.

\*\*March 14, 21 and 28 classes will be held at the Asotin County Fire Station, 2377 Appleside Blvd in Clarkston, WA

**March 14:**

- **Tree Fruit Pruning for the Home Orchard.** Deb Pehrson - Manager, WSU Horticulture Center and Teaching Orchard, Spillman Farm, Pullman  
 Deb manages the newly planted orchard full of apples, pears, cherries and small fruits, including Cosmic Crisp. She focuses on pruning, irrigation, tree care, and automation of orchard tasks. Deb has over 30 years experience in managing tree fruit and orchards.
- **The Washington Tree Fruit Industry and the Development of the Cosmic Crisp Apple.** Karen Lewis - WSU Extension and Tree Fruit Specialist, ANR Program Director  
 Karen will give a brief overview of the Washington State tree fruit industry and the WSU - industry partnership and science that led to the development of the Cosmic Crisp Apple. She will discuss challenges and opportunities in the tree fruit industry.

**March 21: Beauty with Benefits: Naturescaping for Pest Management and Pollinator Conservation.** Dr. David James - Associate Professor, WSU Department of Entomology, IAREC, Prosser  
 Research on native plants and their associations with beneficial insects has provided the potential to naturescape farmland, parkland and gardens to optimize benefits from biological control in regulating pests. Simultaneously, we provide much-needed nectar and pollen resources for embattled pollinators like native bees and butterflies.

**March 28: Tree Selection, Care and Abiotic Challenges**  
**Phil Shinn** - Certified Arborist and UI Nez Perce County Master Gardener  
 The time to solve future tree problems is at planting. We will look at considerations Master Gardeners can use to guide clients and themselves to make good choices before digging that hole. This class will look at families of trees and their characteristics, discuss why tree identification is important, and review some of the common abiotic tree issues.

Questions?  
 Asotin County Extension: 509-243-2009      • [janice.need@wsu.edu](mailto:janice.need@wsu.edu)  
 Nez Perce County Extension: 208-799-3096      • [nezperce@uidaho.edu](mailto:nezperce@uidaho.edu)  
 Whitman County Extension: 509-397-6290      • [cathrine.wigen@wsu.edu](mailto:cathrine.wigen@wsu.edu)  
 Walla Walla County Extension: 509-769-3406      • [amy.rosentburg@wsu.edu](mailto:amy.rosentburg@wsu.edu)

# 2023

**38** plant clinics  
Staffed by WSU Master Gardener Volunteers

**392** volunteer hours responding to plant/ insect questions; **slight increase** from 2022.

**99** diagnostic contacts questions answered; **similar** to 2022.

## PLANT DIAGNOSTIC CLINICS

### Asotin County

- **20** office weekly diagnostic clinics staffed by WSU Master Gardener Volunteers
- **68** Total residents assisted at weekly office plant clinics
- **79** Total plant diagnostic contacts for the year
- **3.4** Average contacts per clinic

### Garfield County

- **18** office weekly diagnostic clinics staffed by WSU Master Gardener Volunteers
- **14** Total residents assisted at office plant clinics
- **20** Total plant diagnostic contacts for the year
- **1.1** Average contacts per clinic

**In 2023**, WSU MG Volunteers in Asotin and Garfield Counties staffed free office plant diagnostic clinics May - September in Asotin County and May – August in Garfield County. WSU MG Volunteers diagnosed plant problems, identified insects and plants, and answered a variety of questions using research-based horticultural and science-based gardening practices. Plant clinic contacts **were similar to 2022** – but still down 35% from pre-COVID levels.<sup>5</sup>

Majority of questions answered related to **Nearby Nature** landscape plants/trees, growing **Local Food**, and **Plant Biodiversity** (weed ID/management) **Program Priorities**; with tree related inquiries the most common.

**Table 1: Diagnostic Plant Clinic Summary**

<b>Program Priorities</b>	<b>Asotin County Contacts</b>	<b>Garfield County Contacts</b>	<b>Total Questions Answered/ Contacts</b>
Clean Water/ <b>Insect ID</b>	11	1	<b>12</b>
Water Conservation			
Wildfire Preparedness			
<b>Local Food</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>
Pollinators			
Climate Change			
<b>Plant Biodiversity</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>
Soil Health	2	1	<b>3</b>
<b>Nearby Nature</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>TOTAL CONTACTS</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>99</b>



<sup>5</sup> More detailed summary of Plant Diagnostic Clinics is available at WSU Asotin County Extension Office.

**2023**

**40** Community events hosted/taught by WSU Master Gardener Volunteers; similar to 2022.

**677** residents contacted at outreach clinics/events; 18% increase from 2022.

**16.5** avg. contacts per outreach clinic/event

**122** volunteer hours donated to community educational events/clinics; similar to 2022

**235** Followers On social media; 17% increase from 2022.



**COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Information & Education**

In 2023, WSU MG Volunteers in Asotin County actively engaged in community outreach; hosting and teaching **40 information and educational clinics and events** in Asotin County.<sup>6</sup> No public outreach events were held in Garfield County in 2023. Public participation **increased by 18% over 2022**; back to pre-covid levels. In addition to established programs (**Rose Clinic, Tree Clinic, Asotin Street Fair, County Fairs, Asotin Farmers Market, Asotin County CattleWomen’s Plant Sale, Brown Bag Garden Series, TriState Health Wellness Program, and Fall Garden Series**) community outreach programs expanded to include Clarkston Street Fair. While most programs and events saw an increase in participation in 2023; some programs saw a significant decrease in community participation and will be re-evaluated.

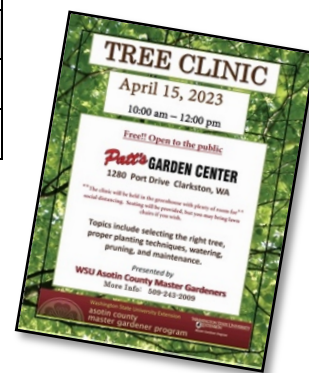
Majority of community outreach was related to growing **Local Food** and **Nearby Nature** landscape plants/trees **Program Priorities**, followed by **Water Conservation**, and **Plant Biodiversity**.



**Table 2: Community Outreach Summary**

<b>Program Priorities</b>	<b>Asotin County Outreach Contacts</b>
Clean Water	8
<b>Water Conservation</b>	<b>73</b>
Wildfire Preparedness	
<b>Local Food</b>	<b>302</b>
Pollinators	22
Climate Change	1
<b>Plant Biodiversity</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Soil Health</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Nearby Nature</b>	<b>142</b>
Other: MG Program Info	34
<b>TOTAL CONTACTS</b>	<b>677</b>

**Rose & Tree Clinics:** WSU MG Volunteers partnered with Patt’s Garden Center in Clarkson to host a Rose Clinic on March 11 and a Tree Clinic on April 15. These annual events reached a **total of 68 community residents; a 62% increase from 2022.**



<sup>6</sup> More detailed summary of Community Outreach activities is available at WSU Asotin County Extension Office.

## Brown Bag Garden Series Thursdays, Noon to 1:00

Lions Gazebo at Beachview Park  
2<sup>nd</sup> and Adams Streets in Clarkston



Bring your lunch and discuss garden-related topics with the WSU Asotin County Master Gardeners

### May

- ☼ May 18 – Getting Your Tools Ready
- ☼ May 25 – Xeriscape Landscaping



### June

- ☼ June 1 – Water Conservation
- ☼ June 8 – Growing and Using Herbs
- ☼ June 15 – Focus on Heat Resistant Plants
- ☼ June 22 – Deer Resistant Landscaping
- ☼ June 29 – Flowers for Fair – What Judges Look For



### July

- ☼ July 6 – Native Plants vs Invasive Plants
- ☼ July 13 – Companion Planting
- ☼ July 20 – Hobby Greenhouses
- ☼ July 27 – Tomato Tasting & Season Review



Questions? Call 509-243-2009 or email [janice.reed@wsu.edu](mailto:janice.reed@wsu.edu)

Persons with a disability requiring special accommodations while participating in this program may call WSU Asotin County Extension, 509-243-2009. If accommodation is not requested 2 weeks in advance, we cannot guarantee the availability of accommodation on site.

**TriState Health - Wellness Program:** WSU MG Volunteers partnered with TriState Health on their *Eat Healthy and Be Active* community program; teaching **12 sessions** (April – May and Sept – Oct) on general gardening and healthy eating. **182 community residents** were contacted; a **117% increase from 2022**.

**Asotin & Garfield County Fairs:** Both Asotin and Garfield County WSU MG Volunteers assisted with Horticultural Judging at the Asotin and Garfield County Fairs. Garfield County had an unstaffed display booth at Garfield County Fair and WSU MG Volunteers served as horticultural Fair Superintendents.

**Asotin City Street Fair:** WSU MG Volunteers provided gardening information and responded to public inquiries at Asotin City Street Fair held April 29 during the Asotin County Fair; **contacting 30 community residents; a 200% increase from 2022**.

**Asotin County CattleWomen's Plant Sale:** WSU MG Volunteers provided plant and gardening information and responded to public inquiries at the annual Asotin County CattleWomen's plant Sale on May 12-13; **contacting 6 community residents; a 62% decrease from 2022**.

**Brown Bag Garden Series:** WSU MG Volunteers hosted and led **11 Community Workshops** at Beach View Park in May thru July; teaching **165 community residents** on a variety of horticultural and gardening topics; a **19% increase from 2022**.

**Clarkston Farmers Market:** WSU MG Volunteers provided gardening information and responded to public inquiries at **8 Clarkston Farmers Markets**, contacting **137 community residents; a 191% increase from 2022**.



## FALL GARDEN SERIES



**Walla Walla Community College Multipurpose Room**  
1470 Bridge St in Clarkston  
6-8 pm; registration starts at 5:30



**Oct 19:** Market Gardening - Growing Plants for the Farmer's Market

**Oct 26:** Maintaining a Healthy Lawn

**Nov 2:** Tackling Garden Problems in the LC Valley



Cost is \$7/class or \$18 for all 3 classes  
Pay in person or register and pay on our website using credit or debit card:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/asotin/gardening/horticulture-classes-and-workshops/>

Attend via Zoom

The Zoom link will be emailed to participants. Please enroll by noon the day of the class to receive the Zoom link for that evening class.

Questions? Call 509-243-2009 or email [janice.reed@wsu.edu](mailto:janice.reed@wsu.edu)

Persons with a disability requiring special accommodations while participating in this program may call WSU Asotin County Extension at 509-243-2009. If accommodation is not requested 2 weeks in advance, we cannot guarantee the availability of accommodation on site.

**Fall Garden Series:** The Master Gardener Foundation of Asotin and Garfield Counties and the WSU MG Program sponsored **3** community educational workshops; teaching **40 community residents** on a variety of *gardening topics*; a **74% decrease in participation from 2022**. Classes were taught by experts in the field of horticulture locally, from WSU, and WSU MG Volunteers.

**Social Media:** Social media accounts (Facebook and Instagram) were slightly more active in 2023, with a **17% increase in followers compared to 2022**.

**Demonstration Garden:** WSU MG Volunteers partnered with the Clarkston Community Garden to host **1 social event and open house** to showcase gardening activities; reaching **20 community residents**.



# 2023

**54 days**  
in the classroom/events;  
**69% increase** from 2022

**425 volunteer hours**  
Donated to youth outreach;  
**62% increase** from 2022

**1545 youth contacts**;  
**47% increase** from 2022

**73 lbs**  
fresh produce donated to  
Food Bank from School  
Gardens; **24% decrease**  
from 2022

## YOUTH OUTREACH

### School Gardening Programs and Other Youth Events

#### Asotin County

- **987** Total youth contacts by WSU Master Gardener Volunteers
- **27** Total days in classroom/gardens/events
- **37** Total hours in classroom/garden/events
- **73 lbs** of fresh produce donated to food bank

#### Garfield County

- **558** Total youth contacts by WSU Master Gardener Volunteers
- **27** Total days in classroom/garden
- **18.75** Total hours in classroom/garden

**In 2023**, Youth Outreach events and formal school gardening programs at

local elementary schools continued to be a major focus of WSU MG Volunteers in Asotin and Garfield Counties, with youth contacts, days in the “indoor and outdoor” classroom, and hours donated, all **increasing from 2022**.<sup>7</sup>

Majority of Youth Outreach Contacts were related to growing **Local Food Program Priority**; followed by **Soil Health, Nearby Nature** landscape plants/trees, and **Pollinators Program Priorities**.

**Table 3: Youth Outreach Summary**

Program Priorities	Asotin County Contacts	Garfield County Contacts	Total Youth Contacts
Clean Water			
Water Conservation			
Wildfire Preparedness			
<b>Local Food</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>1159</b>
<b>Pollinators</b>	<b>117</b>		<b>117</b>
Climate Change			
Plant Biodiversity			
<b>Soil Health</b>	<b>144</b>		<b>144</b>
<b>Nearby Nature</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>TOTAL CONTACTS</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>1545</b>



<sup>7</sup> More detailed summary of Youth activities is available at WSU Asotin County Extension Office

**School Garden and Nutrition Programs:** WSU MG Volunteers continued to partner with Parkway, Grantham, and Pomeroy Elementary schools to provide hands on, science based, sustainable gardening and nutrition lessons to 2<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (Grantham), 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (Pomeroy), and 4<sup>th</sup> graders (Parkway) throughout the school year; promoting local gardening and healthy eating habits to 178 youth. The 45-minute lessons are held both in the classroom and outside at the school gardens; where WSU MG Volunteers serve as mentors and educators. Students are provided a taste of nutritious foods being grown and studied. Garfield County also has a summer garden program; raising vegetables for the local fair. School Garden at Grantham Elementary School donated 73 lbs of fresh produce to the Asotin County Food Bank. School Garden and Nutrition Programs are funded from grants received from Lewis-Clark Valley Healthcare Foundation (Asotin County) and Shepherd Foundation (Garfield County).





**Youth Arbor Day Program:** WSU MG Volunteers hosted an Arbor Day Tree program with 23 - 4<sup>th</sup> graders at Highland Elementary School in April. Students installed tree trunk protectors on previously planted trees and planted a Maple Tree seedling in a pot to take home.



**WSU Extension Youth Activity Camp:** WSU MG Volunteers hosted youth gardening related classes for 13 youth during the 3-day WSU Extension Youth Activity Camp held in July.



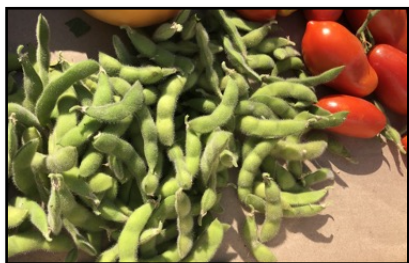
**2023**

**146 lbs**

of fresh produce donated to Asotin County Foodbank; **53% decrease** from 2022.

**145** volunteer hours supporting WSU Master Gardener Demonstration Garden; **28% decrease** from 2022

**8** volunteer hours of technical expertise to Clarkston Community Garden; **94% decrease** from 2022.



## DEMONSTRATION GARDEN Community Garden Support

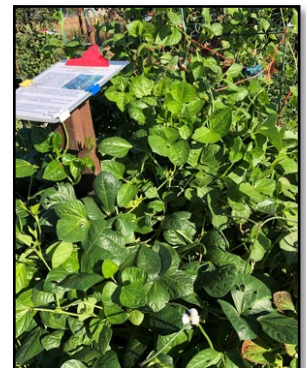
**In 2023**, the Asotin County WSU Master Gardener Volunteers continued to maintain a Demonstration Garden at the Clarkston Community Garden; aligning with growing **Local Food Program Priority**.

The Demonstration Garden consisted of 12 raised beds, 1 cold frame, a hoop frame, and vertical grape trellis; focusing on soil improvement, growing common and unique crops, presenting practical and innovative ways to improve yield in a small garden space, and sharing knowledge with the public.

**In 2023**, WSU MG Volunteers focused on sustainable gardening; by improving soil with compost produced on site, growing unique crops (edamame, SW Cowpeas, and garbanzo beans) adapted to a changing climate, presenting practical and innovative ways to improve yields in small garden spaces (Olla watering system, beets, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, herbs, grapes and pollinator flowers), and sharing knowledge with the public. The amount of produce donated to the Asotin County Food Bank from the Demo Garden, **decreased by 53% over 2022**.

Demonstration Garden also partnered with Clarkston Community Garden on a social event- **reaching 20 community members** (included in Community Outreach Contact number).

WSU MG Volunteers provided the Clarkston Community Garden with technical expertise - sharing horticultural information, teaching and demonstrating gardening and composting techniques, and coordinating pest management.



## Many Thanks to those who contributed to Asotin and Garfield County WSU Extension Master Gardener Programs and Projects 2023

**Brian Shinn, Chris Seubert, and Chuck Whitman**  
Asotin County Commissioners

**Jim Nelson, Justin Dixon, and Larry Legerwood**  
Garfield County Commissioners

**Board of Directors**  
Clarkston Community Garden

**Dr. Chad Miltenberger, Dean**  
WWCC, Clarkson Campus

**Kathee Tift & Daniele Evans**  
UI Nez Perce County Extension

**Danielle Evans, Coordinator**  
Clarkston Farmers Market

**Jen Scharffer, Wellness Director**  
TriState Health

**Margaret Cole**  
Friend of the Master Gardeners

**Cami Browne, Teacher & FFA Advisor**  
Clarkston High School

**Josh Richardson, Principal**  
**Lindsay Gamlem & Patti Phipps, Teachers**  
2<sup>nd</sup> grade  
Grantham Elementary, Clarkston

**Dan LejaMeyer, Principal**  
**Jennifer Gelineau & Chris Dotson, Teachers**  
4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Parkway Elementary School, Clarkston

**Rachel Gwinn, Principal**  
**Katie Landkammer, Teacher**  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
Pomeroy Elementary School, Pomeroy

**Deanne Ruddell, Principal**  
**Cherie Wiik, Teacher**  
4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Highland Elementary School, Clarkston

**Harold and Helen Shepherd Foundation**  
Walla Walla, WA

**Jennifer Ashby**  
Asotin County Library

**Don, Sharon, and Kate Patterson**  
Patt's Garden Center



## 2023 State of the Foundation

As of December 1, 2023

### **Current Board of Directors 2023-2024**

**President:** Becky Vivian

**Exec. Vice Pres:** Peggy Madonia

**Secretary:** Anna Duman

**Treasurer:** Aileen Ruchert

**Member At Large:** Tom VanHorn

**Founded in 2004**, the Master Gardener Foundation of Asotin and Garfield Counties (Foundation) enhances and financially supports the educational programs and projects that further the mission and goals of the WSU Master Gardener Programs of Asotin and Garfield Counties; through fundraising efforts, donations, and grants. The Foundation serves to augment and supplement the community education programs of the WSU Master Gardener programs while facilitating the exchange of ideas, information, and expertise. The Foundation prepares the annual budget and manages the funds. The Foundation is a dependent Chapter of the Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State (MGFWS), allowing the Foundation to have 501(c) non-profit status and receive tax-exempt gifts.

### **2023 Foundation Highlights**

- To date, there are 32 Master Gardeners representing both counties.
- The Foundation continues to be financially and fiscally sound with a current fund balance of ~\$20,000. The year-end 2023 Financial Report will be completed in January 2024.
- We celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Master Gardener Program in Tacoma, WA, the birthplace of the Master Gardener Program. Four Foundation members attended the 2023 AEC and celebration.
- We provided five raffle baskets generously filled with garden items, honey and wine, plus one silent auction item to the AEC fundraiser.
- Two Foundation Members serve on the Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State Board who actively participate and represent the Foundation.
- We closed out the 2019 Grant (\$5,000) from Lewis-Clark Healthcare Foundation and submitted the final report.
- We applied for and received a \$3,000 grant from the Lewis-Clark Healthcare Foundation to be used for our school programs this year. We used some of the money to replace and prep four old garden beds with new ones for Grantham School. We also used some of the grant money to purchase a compost bin for Parkway School.
- We sponsored the Fall Garden Series classes.
- We provided four advanced Master Gardener continuing education classes.
- We partnered with Tri-State Memorial Hospital in their “Be Healthy, Be Active” classes.
- We revised and updated our committees.
- Special Thank You to the Foundation membership and to the current Board for their service, support, and active participation.

### **Looking Forward to 2024**

- New Master Gardener Training classes begin in January 2024 and will be completed in April.
- Continue working on our website.
- Apply for grant money for the school garden and nutrition programs.



## **WSU Asotin and Garfield County Extension Offices**

Mark Heitstuman, Extension Director [mark.heitstuman@wsu.edu](mailto:mark.heitstuman@wsu.edu)

Asotin (509) 243-2009

Garfield (509) 843-3701

## **WSU Asotin County Extension Master Gardeners**

PO Box 9 (mailing)

Courthouse, Room B107 (physical)

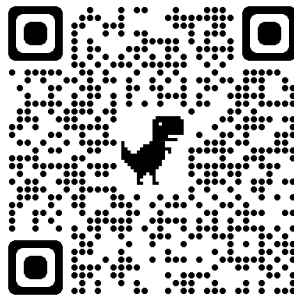
Asotin, WA 99402

(509) 243-2009

Janice Reed, Office Manager - [janice.reed@wsu.edu](mailto:janice.reed@wsu.edu)

[mgardener@co.asotin.wa.us](mailto:mgardener@co.asotin.wa.us)

<https://extension.wsu.edu/asotin/master-gardeners/>



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more info

## **WSU Garfield County Extension Master Gardeners**

P.O. Box 190 (mailing)

757 Main Street (physical)

Pomeroy, WA 99347

(509) 843-3701

Monica Bartlow, Office Manager – [mbartlow@wsu.edu](mailto:mbartlow@wsu.edu)

<http://extension.wsu.edu/garfield/>

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