

The Master Gardener Program in Marquette County started in 1991. Over 250 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 38 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2016. The UWEX Educator facilitating the MG Program is Agriculture and Horticulture Agent Scott Reuss.

#### Post Acute Care Center Garden Renovated

MGVs assisted in renovating the courtyard of a local care center to beautify the area for the residents and visiting families. A phased design for the area was created to allow for instant color followed by future plans for other plant material. The MGV-supervised installation was thoroughly enjoyed by all, including several residents. Staff was left with resources and educated on how to maintain the garden. This project planted seeds of knowledge, plants and blossomed new friendships.

### **Spring Conference Educates Gardeners**

The annual Spring Garden Conference has educated and piqued interests of home gardeners for 21 years. Reaching more than 250 attendees in 2015, this conference is proving to be the spring highlight of our gardening community. Bringing like-minded individuals together to learn and grow from the information presented and each other, a stronger local network of horticulturalists from novice to professional has been created.

### **Program for Families with Children with Disabilities**

Birth to Three parents, children and social workers visited Harmony Arboretum for a program by MGVs focused on gardening and the inclusion of children with disabilities into community settings. Participants enjoyed a garden tour, scavenger hunt, nature related crafts, and the planting of flowers to take home. Simple garden books were available for reference and healthy vegetable snacks were served. Parents appreciated the opportunity to socialize with other parents and to enjoy their children participating in a community event outside of the home.

# The Master Gardener Program in Marinette County

Marinette County UWEX Office 1926 Hall Avenue Marinette, WI 54143 marinette.uwex.edu

### Volunteer Service in 2015

Youth Ed	100	hours
Adult Ed	314	hours
Support	4,400	hours
Total	4,814	hours
Value*	\$107,063	

Since 2000: 47,621 hours at a value of over \$872,237

<sup>\*</sup> using the current estimated dollar value of volunteer time in Wisconsin of \$22.24 per hour, from Independent Sector. Cumulative value based on previous annual estimates.



## Where you can find activities by MGVs in Marinette Co.

- Harmony Arboretum
- Field of Faith Community Garden
- Harvest of Hope Community Garden
- Annual Garden Walk
- Spring Garden Conference
- Linda's Garden at Spies Library
- Isaac Stephenson Memorial Statue
- West Shore Fishing Museum

