



The Master Gardener Program in Marinette County started in 1991. Over 263 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 43 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2017. The UW-Extension Educator facilitating the MG Program is Agriculture and Horticulture Agent Scott Reuss.

### Teaching Kids about Beneficial Insects

MGVs taught 105 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Environmental Field Days about beneficial insects, why they are so important, and how and why we need to encourage them to stay in our gardens. Students also learned that each one has a different preference for a home. For a hands-on learning experience, each child created an insect hotel to take home to share with their families so they may observe insect activity in their own yard.

### Engaging Those With Disabilities

Wausaukee Enterprises provides work experiences, life skills, training and support services to maximize potential for individuals in rural Marinette County with disabilities or other barriers. MGVs hosted a day trip at Harmony Arboretum for these individuals to participate in nature activities and other educational opportunities the gardens have to offer. They created garden art, insect hotels, and a bird feeder; got hands dirty with potting flowers; and experimented with the sundial while enjoying the sensory garden. Many were quiet and reserved upon arrival but after a day with MGVs they were excited to share what they learned.

### Art Event Expands Knowledge of Gardening

New audiences learned about the MGV program and services of UW-Extension by attending *Art in Garden*, an event for both adult and youth. Different aspects of gardening were explored by creating various art projects and an up-cycled garden art contest. Many participants came for the Art aspect but left with an expanded knowledge of what MGVs do for their community and the resources to expand their gardening beyond the arts.

## The Master Gardener Program in Marinette County

Marinette County UWEX Office  
 1926 Hall Avenue  
 Marinette, WI 54143  
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### Volunteer Service in 2016

Youth Ed	77	hours
Adult Ed	315	hours
Support	3,931	hours
Total	4,323	hours
Value*	\$97,192	

Since 2000: 52,025 hours at a value of over \$971,230

\* using the current estimated dollar value of volunteer time in Wisconsin of \$22.48 per hour, from Independent Sector. Cumulative value based on previous annual estimates.



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

- Harmony Arboretum
- Amberg Community Center
- Field of Faith Community Garden
- Linda's Garden at Spies Library
- Isaac Stephenson Memorial Statue
- West Shore Fishing Museum
- Marinette Chamber of Commerce
- Annual Garden Walk

