

March 20, 2010

Hello Master Gardeners,

At our February meeting our guest speaker had to cancel her presentation. The members, at Dan Wilson's suggestion, agreed to discuss the Master Gardener program. In particular, the discussion focused on what we members might like to see in programming our activities. As noted in the discussion, MG is an educational arm of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service. As noted in our By-Laws, MG emphasizes good garden practice and provides education to the general public relating to gardening. In order to accomplish our mission, we provide hands-on teaching of how to garden through working with others in actual garden practice as well as to provide indoor and outdoor classroom instruction.

In our programming, we assist children (elementary through high school) to learn more about plants, how they grow, as well as to help children in planting and caring for plants. Some master gardeners prefer to show and teach while others prefer to dig in with hands-on labor.

In addition to working with children, other master gardeners are more inclined to work with adults to provide educational and hands-on experiences. Adult programming may include more administrative activities such as organizing and scheduling workshops and field trips.

A third and important role of MG is to provide examples of good gardening practices such as providing hands-on assistance to maintain gardens in and around the county. Assisting the Gruenewald Historic Home administration in researching and maintaining the garden around the property, helping to establish the wildflower garden at Mounds State Park, helping to plant and maintain the flower and vegetable beds at the 4-H Center in Alexandria are examples of activities that are important and fulfilling for some of our members.

In summary, the discussion session identified the many ways MCMGA can and does provide for horticulture education. Each master gardener can take interest and pride in what they most enjoy.

This survey is designed to provide each master gardener the opportunity to identify those kinds of activities of most interest to him/herself. Furthermore, this survey may provide a means whereby the membership can further program year-round activities that best fulfill the needs for everyone.

Master Gardener Survey

Please indicate your preference, and whether you do or have participated in the activity listed. In addition, feel free to comment. At the end of the survey add additional activities that you have participated in or activities you might be interested. Your ideas are important.

Please return your completed survey to any MCMGA board meeting.

Activity	Interest level	Comments
Monthly meetings: Normally attend _____	High(5) _____ Low(1)	_____
Saturday Library lecture/workshop Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Garden tours Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Mounds State Park Wildflower Planting (planting, weeding, and fall clean-up) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
4-H Grounds (planting, weeding, and fall clean-up) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Gruenewald Historic Home (maintaining the garden) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Field Trips to gardens, (1 day to 4 days) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Camp Dig-A-Lot (and other youth programs) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Earth Day (set-up and meet the public) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Local public libraries (flower bed design and plantings) Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____
Assist in developing short courses that may meet 1-5 days Normally attend _____	High (5) _____ Low (1)	_____

Additional Comments: (Add programs or comment on programming, etc.)