MSUE Master Gardener Program
2014 Summary

Number of MSUE Master Gardeners: 2,909
Number of counties with MSUE Master Gardeners: 77

Number of new volunteers trained: 450
Training locations: 11 classes (Harper Woods, Novi, Clinton Township – 2, East Lansing, Grand Rapids, Holland, Howell, Mt Pleasant, Traverse City, Marquette)
Counties with new trainees: 41

Number of reported personal contacts by volunteers educating other: 1,221,318
(70% of reported contacts are adults; 30% are youth)

Volunteer hours: 164,986 hours
Economic Value: $3.7 M
($22.50 / hour determined by the Independent Sector)

Focus areas for volunteer projects:
- Environmental stewardship (e.g. protecting and preserving water quality, invasive species education, environmentally friendly pest management, native plants)
- Improving food security (e.g. community gardens, teaching citizens how to grow their own food for better nutrition and health; giving gardens - 142,000 lbs. donated to food pantries)
- Improving community (e.g. beautification, horticulture therapy)
- Youth development through gardening (e.g. Junior Master Gardener, school gardens, after-school programs)
- Supporting MSU Extension (e.g. Smart Gardening, Ask an Expert, State Lawn and Garden Hotline, assisting with classes)

Continuing education hours: 37,648 hours

Additional contributions: (in-kind contributions)
- Miles driven by MGs for their volunteer efforts: 809,059
- Economic value: $113,268
  (Using the federal charitable mileage rate of 14 cents/mile)