

DOOR COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

Fall 2018 - Volume 24 - Number 2

A Volunteer Organization of the UW-Cooperative Extension Service



"We have lived our lives by the assumption that what was good for us would be good for the world. We have been wrong. We must change our lives so that it will be possible to live by the contrary assumption, that what is good for the world will be good for us. And that requires that we make the effort to know the world and learn what is good for it."

— Wendell Berry,

The Long-Legged House

DCMGA

Board of Directors & Officers

President - Dorry Wilner Vice President - Jeanne Vogel Treasurer - Wendy Woldt Secretary - Holly Green Past President - Mike VanEss

Board Members

Marsha Krzyzanowski Cliff White Linda Zolnosky

State Board RepresentativeGary Kemp

UW-Extension Agent Annie Deutsch

MISSION STATEMENT

The Door County Master Gardeners Association, Inc., in partnership with UW-Extension, shall strive to make a positive impact on horticulture in our community through education, community outreach, and stewardship of our environment.

President's Message

Dear Gardening Friends,

The brilliant season of Autumn is upon us. Gold, purple, and orange are colors that dominate much of our landscape. Goldenrod, asters, pumpkins and arching red and gold maple trees along our county roads are the rewards of Spring's promise and Summer's labor.

As our official year of activity comes to a close (September 30), we can reflect happily on a successful plant sale and a beautiful Garden Door public garden that was visited by over 400 people so far this year (that we've actually counted)! This year, we've witnessed the on-going generosity of time and talent by our members. A number of members have increased their time commitment to our organization by taking on new leadership roles as coordinators of Membership, Outreach, Community Projects, Marketing and Social Media, functions within the Garden Door and editorial roles for our newsletter. Others, who you will hear about at the annual meeting on October 23, have agreed to serve in leadership roles on our Board of Directors. The increased number of tours and visitors to The Garden Door has required that more members serve as guides or docents. There have also been members who, for various reasons, have stepped down from leadership roles and we value the time and energy they devoted to DCMGA.

The members who now hold or will hold leadership positions represent about one quarter of our total membership. But during my year as president, I've learned that it takes more than 25 people to perform all the tasks required to maintain the level of activity that has become part of the DCMGA culture. As many of our members age or experience health challenges, they may not be able to physically garden to the same degree as in the past. However, those same members hold the wisdom, knowledge and experience that are valuable commodities to our organization. We need them to serve on the Board or a Committee or assist with some of our outreach activities. There are many ways to participate in the life of our organization that do not require a spade, rake or shovel.

For those who are fit and able, we ask you to thoughtfully consider how you can participate more fully in our more physically challenging activities such as pre-sale greenhouse duties, the plant sale week, and the care and maintenance of our showcase gardens at the Garden Door. We need more of our members to commit time and energy at the Garden Door and during Plant Sale week. No one has to work alone (unless you want to) and there is always work to be done whether during organized work days or other times of the week throughout the spring, summer and fall. Currently there are three Garden Door areas that need a supervisor, and a number of the other areas are being cared for by only one person.

We continue to support some of our members who assist with community-based gardens throughout the county. Those gardens allow for some members to complete their service hours closer to their homes. But as a Door County Master Gardener, please consider a commitment of some time to our showcase garden, The Garden Door. As an organization of volunteers who provide and maintain a unique oasis of beauty for residents and visitors alike, in addition to quality educational opportunities, we need everyone's participation.

I am grateful for each and every one of you and look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting.

Dorry Wilner, President



DCMGA Annual Meeting

All MGVs are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting, **Tuesday**, **October 23**, **2018**, **at Crossroads at Big Creek**. This meeting will revisit accomplishments and activities of the past year, what's new for next year, awards of recognition, and the election of board members. In addition, we'll have a drawing for a wonderful gift basket!

The meeting will begin at 5:00 PM, followed by delicious hors d'oeuvres from Door County Creamery of Sister Bay. Water and decaffeinated coffee will be available, or BYOB (Bring

Your Own Beverage) is suggested.

Cost is \$16.00 per person, and MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE. Your payment is your reservation, and is non-refundable. **RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!**

Please send your check, made out to DCMGA, to Marsha Krzyzanowski, 9331 Maple Grove Road, Fish Creek WI 54212. Questions? Call Marsha at 920-421-3318.





Notes from the Board of Directors

Here are some decisions and information from recent Board meetings that may be of special interest to the membership:

July 18

Approval of new community projects will come from the Extension office, per Annie D. They will also be reviewed and approved by the Board.

Shawn Mathys will be the new treasurer for the organization when Wendy Woldt's term expires.

Comments on The Garden Door Open House: "Great band, simple event, plants in TGD looked great". Attendance was 150-200 people.

The 2019 Plant Sale has been moved to the Saturday prior to Memorial Day. The time will be changed to 8:00 to noon.

The Welcome Service provides DCMG information to new residents. Please contact Jan Gigstead if you know names of new residents.

September 19

Up for approval at the Annual Meeting on October 23 will be the 2018-2019 budget, Board candidates, and dues increase to \$15.00.

Seed Library proposal, a new community based collaborative project, was approved with Penne Wilson taking the lead.

Carrie Sherrill has updated all community projects, active and no longer existing.

Sunny MacLachlan reported seven organized tours of The Garden Door with about 200 visitors. There were additional groups that toured informally and over 150 visitors to the Open House in July.

Considerable discussion about the need for more members to be involved during Plant Sale Week and with the care of the Garden Door.

Jumping Worms have invaded Door County! How might that impact the plant sale?

Sunshine report from Holly Green reveals that three members lost loved ones this summer and there have been a number of illnesses and surgeries among members.

Notes from the Education Committee

The Education Committee has been planning the Fall Seminar to be held November 3, as well as the slate of winter lecture programs at Crossroads. These are important educational events for our group and the public. Here are some excerpts from the August 7 minutes.

Winter lecture series discussion:

- ~ Should we consider increasing the amount budgeted for speakers in order to attract better known experts?
- ~ Could we better attract the general public by publicizing more, particularly for high profile speakers?
- ~ Has attendance in recent years been below expectations?
- ~ Is the strategic goal outreach, or is it education of the membership?

Scheduled and tentative 2019 winter programs:

Nate Bremer of Solaris Farms, January 22 - woody peonies

Mark Konlock, Green Bay Botanical Garden, April 9 - subject TBD

Mark Dwyer, Rotary Gardens, April 23 – subject TBD

Kori Zawojski, SunnyPoint Gardens - January

Brian Forest, Soil and Water Conservation, Door County – water related topics

Charlotte Lukes, naturalist – animals of Door County

Ron Amos, Evergreen Nursery – container gardening

Upcoming WDOR 93.9 FM Programs:



Every month, Carrie Sherrill and other MG volunteers are featured on WDOR's talk show with Eddie Allen. Don't forget to tune in to 93.3 FM at 10:20 AM on the following dates.

October 18 - Gary and Michelle Kemp - monthly MG update; information on Master Gardener training; fall garden cleanup and planting fall bulbs, if time permits.

November 15 - monthly update; information on winter lecture series at Crossroads with Chris Holicek; Christmas gift suggestions for gardeners; rock garden with Lee Ann Casper.

December 20 - monthly update; care of houseplants with Nancy Goldberg and/or Marsha Kryzanowski; community projects review; training class update.

Notes from The Garden Door

The Garden Door saw many summer visitors, including tour groups, families and individuals. They viewed the ever changing beauty and interest of flowers, foliage and edibles. Now in fall, the Garden wears its final colors and textures as we move towards preparations for winter. Here is information from the **September 10 meeting** of The Garden Door committee.

~ The donation box designed and executed by members has been installed on the edge of the rock garden. Signs to indicate its purpose will be added. This is in addition to the donation box at the entrance.

~The large cedar trees protruding onto the walkway on the east side have been trimmed so everyone can walk by more easily.

~Much work has been done in the rose garden, with clearing out of the overgrown shrub roses, plans for an area of specimen roses, and a metal trellis proposed for climbing roses.

~Considerable discussion of the need for MG trainees, and indeed all DC Master Gardeners, to get acquainted with TGD and to contribute some time there.

~ When (free) group tours take place, it will be mentioned that donations are welcome.

~Mike Van Ess has been working on a Garden Door brochure with an aerial photo of the Garden and descriptive and historical information. It would be available to visitors and on the website. This idea was well received and he will proceed.



Magical! Check out our beautiful new donation box butterfly sculpture at The Garden Door! The donation box sculpture is a wonderful collaboration of welded steel and fused glass and many creative minds. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this dream a reality.

Members of the committee were Doug Henderson, Barb Ottum, John Kierstyn, Chriss Daubner, Dale Vogel, Jeanne Vogel, Barbara Henderson and non-DCMGA member Art Lutzke. The welding was done at NWTC in Art's "Art in the Garden" welding class with materials donated by Mastercraft Welding Systems. The fused glass inserts were made at the Henderson's fused glass studio.

The donation box sculpture is located between the Rock Garden and the Grass Garden. Make sure you check it out the next time you visit The Garden Door.

Coffee and Camaraderie

Thanks to all the folks who came out for "Monday Morning in the Garden" this summer. Every Monday morning starting in June through August, at 8:00 AM, MG members would head to The Garden Door with gear in hand. It is a great opportunity to spend time with your gardening buddies and keep the GD in ship-shape condition. Coffee and donuts were available.

This was the second year for "Monday Morning in the Garden" and we plan to continue again next summer. It is always great to work in the TGD, but working alongside your friends kicks it up a notch.

You do not need to be an area supervisor to come on Monday mornings; there is always plenty to do for everyone and the supervisors need and appreciate the help. If you're not able to do any physical work, your friendship and support are always welcome. If you weren't able to join us this summer, we truly hope next summer will work out for you.

We also want to remind you about the <u>Fall Clean-up at TGD on Thursday, October 18, from 10:00 to noon</u>. A light lunch will be provided. Many hands make light work, so please mark your calendar.

Thanks again!!

— Jim Baxter, Dale Vogel, Nancy Anschutz

DCMGA Welcomes Nine New Members



Master Gardeners gathered at the home of Carrie and Peter Sherrill on August 12 to celebrate the graduation of this year's class. Prior to the Mexican themed potluck, gardeners toured the astounding prairie at Chriss Daubner's lovely home.

Pictured are, from left to right: Kris Lewis, Karen Newbern, Annette Heck, Lonnie Vitsie, Sue Kunz and Shawn Mathys. Not pictured are Dan Waszak, Jeanine Brennan and Marty Ross.

Congratulations and welcome to the Master Gardener organization!

Garden Door Open House, July 14





MGVs Sue Kunz and Nancy Anschutz answering questions for visitors.



Thanks to Jan Gigstead for her beautiful photos!





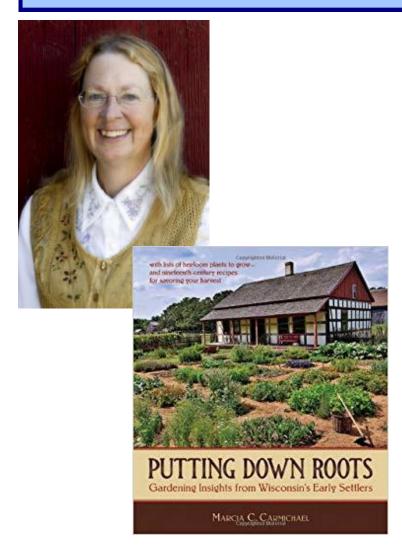
Bubble and Squeak provided eclectic Irish music throughout the Open House.

DCMGA Fall Symposium Saturday, November 3 Crossroads at Big Creek

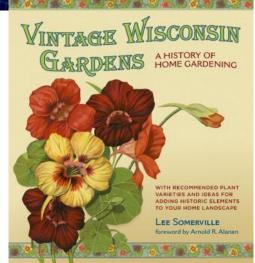
The Education Committee is in the final stages of preparation for the biennial Fall Symposium. This year's event will be held at Crossroads on November 3rd.

We have two exceptional speakers. The keynote is Marcia Carmichael, who is the historical gardener at Old World Wisconsin and author of <u>Putting Down Roots</u> - a discussion of early settlers' gardens in Wisconsin. Our own Lee Somerville will present "Victory Gardens" and also briefly discuss the history of our own heritage garden at Crossroads. Both speakers will offer their books for sale at the symposium.

This will be a morning and afternoon event with lunch provided. More details and registration information will follow, but MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW - NOVEMBER 3!







DCMG Fall Events

Thursday, October 18 10 AM – 12 noon with lunch

Fall Cleanup at The Garden Door

Thursday, October 18

10:20 - 11:00 AM

WDOR radio program

Tuesday, October 23

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Education Committee Meeting at PARS

Tuesday, October 23

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Annual Meeting with Awards, Elections and Hors d'oeuvres

Crossroads at Big Creek

Saturday, November 3

Fall Symposium at Crossroads

Monday, November 12

5:30 PM

The Garden Door Committee Meeting at PARS

Thursday, November 15

10:20 - 11:00 AM

WDOR radio program

Thursday, November 27

(or sooner)

Signup Deadline for 2019 MG Training Class

November 14

6:00 PM

Board Meeting at Crossroads

Thursday, December 20

10:20 - 11:00 AM

WDOR radio program

Check Out the "Members" section of the Door County Master Gardener Website

The DCMGA website, www.dcmga.org, has a section just for members! Here you can read complete minutes of the Board and committees, download forms such as the Volunteer Hours Record Sheet, or view the current membership roster. Even more information will be posted in the future.

However, in order to access all this great information, you will need to create an account using your email address and a password you create. 75% of our members have already established an account providing them access to the "Members" section. If you haven't already done so, it's time to jump on board!

If you have any problems creating an account, please contact Mike Van Ess. He will be happy to assist!

The 2019 plant sale needs your immediate assistance with an important issue!

Jumping worms have been documented by the DNR as being in Door County. The most recent location is Fish Creek. We don't know how long they have been here but with the information that is currently being circulated, gardeners and nature lovers alike are more aware as they work and move around in their gardens and natural areas.

That is why we need your help. Now is the time to look for the Jumping worms. They stay just under the surface of mulch, leaf and plant debris. They look like the common earth worm or large night crawler except they tend to twist around like a snake and wiggle and jack knife aggressively when disturbed. They have a white collar on them not a pink one like the earth worm, and are not as slimy as an earth worm.

The worms will die back in the winter but their egg cocoons can over winter. The cocoons look like a black mustard seed and can barely be detected in the soil. The eggs will not hatch until May/June and that is after many of you have dug your plants to donate to the Plant Sale. So it's critical that worm detection is done now before a hard freeze.

Why are Jumping Worms a threat?

Jumping worms are voracious eaters that quickly consume more of the soil's organic matter than other worm species, and consequently deplete the soil of nitrogen. Nitrogen enables plants and trees to absorb micronutrients in the soil for survival and health. The eventual end result is soil the consistency of coffee grounds, absent of any nutrients, and weakened, dying plants and trees. Jumping worms can also produce multiple generations in one season. Once the soil warms and overwintered eggs hatch, it only takes the worms 60 days to maturity. Besides being aggressive eaters, they are aggressive to other worm species and will completely take over an area forcing out or eliminating other organisms.

What can you do now?

Go to the DNR's web site, https://dnr.wi.gov, and enter jumping worms in the topic area. A whole page of information will pop up. Please familiarize yourself with as much information as you can about them.

Walk your property or a contact that is donating plants to inspect for worms. If digging around looking for the worms is not an option, Annie Deutsch has suggested using a solution of water and mustard powder that will take the oxygen out of the soil and bring the worms to the surface. However, you really don't have to dig to find the worms if they are present. Just moving the soil and debris around a bit will reveal them if they are present. (There will most likely not be just one). Check several areas. Wash off your shoes, tools and gloves after inspecting an area.

Spread the word to as many people you can and caution them about purchasing plants from non nursery sources that dig their plants directly from a garden or field. Caution people about bringing back plants from known highly infected areas like Northern Illinois, the Milwaukee area and Dane County. Be cautious of where you get topsoil and mulch. The preferred mulch should be heated to kill off any pathogens and pests. The worms have only been in Wisconsin since 2013 but their spread has been rapid as they are being transported through plants, soil and mulch.

Sign up to assist with the dig team in Spring. They will really need your help this year. All dug plants will have to have their roots washed off with water, and then repotted in a sterile soilless medium.

The Master Gardener Dig and Donate team dig and pot hundreds of plants each year for the Plant Sale, and their efforts contribute to approximately 1/3 of the Sale's profits. As Master Gardeners, we have to make absolutely certain that our methods used for selling donated plants are without scrutiny. We owe that to our community, our beautiful County and the Extension Service.

Contact Karen Kidd at karengardens@yahoo.com with questions, concerns and to volunteer for the plant root cleanse and potting.

Note: if we do not get a strong team of at least 20 committed volunteers to assist with the donated plants next year, proceeds from our only fund raiser, the Plant Sale, will decrease. That means that The Garden Door budgets, the Education budget and all the various activities the Plant Sale profits contribute to will also. So please be willing to step up to assist with whatever is required to insure the donated plants are handled appropriately.

Thank you for your attention to this concerning issue. Don't despair, research is being done on control of the worms and hopefully will provide some results soon.

Karen Kidd



Jumping worms:

- Brown or gray
- Body is sleek, dry, smooth and firm
- Thrash violently when disturbed; snake-like movement
- Mature worm 4-5 inches long
- Light colored, smooth clitellum that is flush with body and completely encircles worm



European earthworms:

- · Pink or reddish
- Body is thick, slimy and floppy
- Wiggle and stretch when disturbed
- Mature worm 6-8 inches long
- Reddish or pink clitellum, slightly raised from rest of body. Partially encircles body (like a saddle)

Spotlight on Community Projects

A new outreach project for the Master Gardeners this year is the Bay View Terrace gardens project located on County Road G at the five corners stop-sign just west of Egg Harbor.

This project began when the Village of Egg Harbor purchased the property formerly owned by the Troup family. The Troups had a family summer home with terraced gardens on the property in years past, but the gardens had become overgrown over time. The village acquired the property to extend the public beach area below, and then village workers restored the terraced walls and removed cedars along the road to open up the view across the water.

A local family with longstanding ties to the Egg Harbor area donated memorial funds to acquire a sculpture of cranes which overlooks the beautiful terraced gardens leading down to the bay. The cranes, which have made a comeback after being nearly endangered, signify stewardship of the earth; water, land and animals. Several memorial benches grace the area also.

Once the terraced walls were restored, Shawn Mathys, a Master Gardener in this year's class approached the village about designing the perennial beds. She then drew up her plan which was approved by the village of Egg Harbor. Plants were ordered by the Village, and the actual planting of the area took place on June 19, 2018.

Twelve volunteers, including Shawn Mathys and Jeanine Brennan (another Master Gardener student in this year's class), assisted with the plant placement. Four members of the Troup family, the Chair of the Village Board, three village employees and several neighbors also helped.

The plantings include hardy perennials such as Bleeding Heart, Hostas, Coral Bells, Day Lilies, Oriental Lilies, Grasses, Peonies, Monarda, Black-Eyed Susans, Shasta Daisies, Sedums and Bird's Nest Spruce. Other areas on the property will be gradually revitalized as well.

The garden is an official Village Garden, but volunteer help is accepted. Any Master Gardeners interested in helping to maintain this beautiful space can contact Shawn Mathys at smmathys56@gmail.com.

— Carrie Sherrill





What was growing in the Raised Beds this year? Luscious Legumes!

When some of our Raised Bed committee members met in January (2018), we decided on a multitude of beans to try. Last year's huge tomato plants led us to try to grow something a bit more manageable. So 'Luscious Legumes" became the theme. After perusing the Burpee Seed Catalog, we came up with the following beans.

- 1. Purple Podded Pole Beans were grown on a tall wooden obelisk in the center of the highest raised bed. They produced long purple stringless pods in abundance. According to the Burpee seed packet, this heirloom bean was discovered in the 1930's by Henry Fields while walking an Ozark garden.
- 2. Purple Queen Bush Beans had some beautiful fuchsia pink colored blossoms that developed into dark purple pods. As with most purple colored beans, they cook up green, which is kind of a disappointment! This is listed as an heirloom variety.
- 3. Mascotte Bush Bean had slender five inch green beans in abundance. They seemed to produce all at once instead of being spread over a couple of weeks. The plants are 20" dwarf bushes, good for growing in small spaces.
- 4. Dragon's Tongue Wax Shelling Bean was very unusual in that it produced large, long (6"-8") light yellow pods with purple streaks. These beans were edible as pods and if left to ripen further for another month or so, developed white shelling beans. The shelling beans are perfect for soups and stews.
- 5. Fordhook Lima Beans were the last to develop their pods but have bright green outer pods with light green beans inside. Lima beans are also good in soups and stews.

In addition to the bean varieties, we also grew red onions and 'Cherry Belle' radishes in the lowest two raised beds. When the radishes were all harvested, we planted a variety of lettuces and Swiss chard. Our committee members are Carole Connelly, Linda Kolberg, Susan Morgan, Marian and Rod Schlise, Dorry Wilner and myself. In addition to our committee members harvesting the vegetables, the local food pantries benefitted from all the extra produce. It's amazing how much can be grown in small spaces!

— Barb Henkelmann, Raised Bed Supervisor



Four Women and a Wence

how Kaye Knutson and friends built a remarkable structure in The Garden Door

Visitors to The Garden Door comment more often about the wence than any plant or structure in the garden. MG Volunteers cannot imagine the place without the wence (wall + fence), silhouetted against the skyline, dividing The Garden Door from the Garden Next Door.

This eye-catching feature is now ten years old. It is the work of DCMG alum Kay Knutson with the inspiration and collaboration of three others: Kaye's friend from the Algoma Master Gardeners, who had previously built wences, Kaye's cousin Helen Bacon who is a member of DCMG, and another friend, who is a mosaic artist in the area.

In the early 2000's, Kay Knutson took the Master Gardener training in Door County and got active in The Garden Door. She says she worked a lot with the raised beds, which she had helped construct at the home of JR Jarosh, who was in her training class.

To obtain wood for the wence, the women wandered through the wooded acreage belonging to a friend in Sturgeon Bay. He allowed the women to cut any branches they wanted from his trees. Kaye recalls it was a beautiful day and they had fun looking through the woods for crooked and curved branches.

When they were ready to assemble the wence, there was no plan. It was to be a free form creation formed from a big pile of branches. But first, some straight branches that had been specially selected were put in place to serve as supporting posts. Long screws were used to attach the various branches and empty spots were filled in with shorter pieces.



Other Master Gardeners were invited to TGD and the wence building process became an event. Some people participated by holding pieces in place before they were attached; some watched. Ladders were a necessity to construct the tall creation. It was a several day process, done in large part by the four women.

Kaye Knutson has long been an active achiever. Her early years were spent in Door County where she attended school in Liberty Grove and in Sturgeon Bay (Hainesville School). Moving to West Bend when she was twelve, her love of sports led her to becoming a physical education and health education teacher in the Wisconsin Rapids school system. There she wrote a K-12 phy ed curriculum for the district and was Teacher of the Year.

Kaye retired in 2000 and moved back to the Sturgeon Bay area, eventually moving her parents here in order to help them. She built a new home.

Besides her work with the DC Master Gardeners, Kaye was one of the very first volunteers at the Third Avenue Play-

house in Sturgeon Bay, painting the stage floor and ushering. She volunteered at the Humane Society and was a poll worker.

As for gardening, Kaye has always favored flowers. At her former home, the entire backyard consisted of garden beds with walkways among them. She worked at Target for seven years as a security guard, expressly to support her gardens. Now she has all the pots of coleus, geraniums, lobelias and other plants that she has room for on her apartment patio.

Besides the wence, in The Garden Door we can see a mosaic bench made by Kaye in memory of her Grandmas, both gardeners. The bench has a lizard on it and is in the area of the tunnel in the middle of the garden.

These days, after major heart surgery last October as well as previous surgeries, Kaye has had to slow down. She spends a lot of time at the Senior Center in Sturgeon Bay, doing her therapy exercises and having her main meal of the day. At home, Kaye is kept busy by her 8-1/2 pound chihuahua's requests to go out.

When asked to comment on The Garden Door, Kaye remarks she has found that first time visitors cannot believe that this garden is the work of all volunteers. She thinks that people should make a point of coming every month.

We thank this spirited woman and the others for providing such a creative and functional piece of art in The Garden Door, and we wish Kaye well on her path to improved health.





- * Volunteers needed to assist with beautification and maintenance of local showcase garden (The Garden Door)
- * Must be current Master Gardener Volunteer or Master Gardener student
- * Previous experience helpful, but not essential
- * Jobs available for any Master Gardener Volunteer

BENEFITS

- * Excellent learning opportunities as well as teaching opportunities
- * Great socialization with like-minded people
- * Exercise program included free of charge 😃
- * Leadership opportunities available please inquire!
- * Feeling of pride in your work
- * Fun way to give back to the community
- * Plenty of opportunities to show off your workplace to visitors and family
- * 1:1 mentoring available if desired
- * Coffee and treats on Monday mornings throughout the growing season

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT

- * Garden Door Coordinators: Nancy Anschutz, Dale Vogel, Carrie Sherrill/ Sue Kunz, Doug Henderson (The Water Guy)
- * or any Garden Door Area Supervisor

