Green Spring Master Gardeners

Sharing Knowledge. Empowering Communities.
MISSION OF MASTER GARDENERS

We are volunteer Master Gardeners, in partnership with Green Spring Gardens and the Virginia Cooperative Extension, dedicated to working through community outreach to educate and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices.
Home:
Green Springs Gardens (GSG)
Alexandria Virginia
Who We Serve: Fairfax County, VA

• Suburban County of DC in Commonwealth of Virginia

• Population: 1,081,726

• Most populous jurisdiction, with 13.6% of Virginia's population

• 22 Watersheds

• 1 county extension agent
The Message

- Public Education and Outreach through
  - Programs,
  - Projects,
  - Communication
How We Serve

‘Hort’ Line: GSG + County Extension Office sites

‘Garden Talks’ Programs & Speakers Bureau

Garden Projects
How We Serve: Garden Talks

Power Point Programs with notes and handouts used for presentations, county library and community market displays.

1. Amazing Annuals, Perennials & Tropicals
2. Bees, Gardening to Support
3. Birds, Gardening for
4. Bulbs for Every Season
5. Butterflies, Gardening for
6. Composting
7. Container Gardening
8. Deer and Gardening
9. Design Your Garden
10. Edible Landscaping
11. Fall Beauty, Gardening for
12. Fall Garden and Lawn Maintenance
13. Ferns
14. Garden Makeover Tips
15. Gardening on a Shoestring
16. Garden Naturally & Save the Bay, Eco-Savvy Outside
17. Gifts from the Garden
18. Groundcovers
19. Growing Less Grass
20. Herb Gardening
21. Hosta Gardening
22. Hummingbirds, Attracting to your Garden
23. Indoor Plants, Eco-Savvy
24. Invasive Plants, Stop Their Spread
25. Native Plants
26. Ornamental Grasses
27. Plant Purple
28. Planting Trees and Shrubs
29. Pollinators, Importance in the Garden
30. Pruning Trees and Shrubs
31. Rock Gardening
32. Roses, Gardening with
33. Seeds, Growing Plants from
34. Shade Gardening
35. Shrub, Easy to Grow
36. Soil-Food Web, Gardening with
37. Spring Garden Maintenance
38. Tips for the Transplanted Gardener
39. Trees of Green Spring Gardens
40. Turf Talk: Healthy Lawns
41. Vegetable Gardening for Fall
42. Vegetable Gardening in Spring
43. Vegetables and Herbs, Getting Started with
44. Veggie Gardening in Small Spaces
45. Vines
46. Virtual Tour of Green Spring Garden
47. Water-wise Garden Design
48. Wildlife Garden: Creating a Backyard Habitat
49. Winter Beauty in the Garden
How We Serve

- Docents at GSG
- Creative Exhibits
- Photography
- Fairfax County Libraries
How We Serve: Children

- Children’s Garden and Wildlife Garden at GSG
How We Serve: Children and Families

- Ready-Set-Grow Program
- Wolftrap Woodlands Garden
- Garden Programs at GSGP
- LEAP
How We Serve: Annual Eco Savvy Symposium

- 100 registrants annually
- Themes developed by GSMGs
- Faculty recruited by GSMGs
- Revenue for MG Program
How We Serve: County Crisis Care Center

- Partner with Fairfax County Crisis Care Program (CCP) at Woodburn Place
How We Serve: MG Intern Recruitment, Training, Retention

Training and Recruitment

Mentor Program
How We Serve: Networking

- Groundbreakers E-newsletter
- Quarterly All Hands Meetings
- GSMG Garden Tours
- Publicity and Outreach team
How We Serve: Advocacy

- Virginia Master Gardener Association (VMGA)
- 2007 Recognition by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for contributions to the health and well-being of the county’s citizens.
GSMG PROGRAM HISTORY

- BUILDING YEARS: 2002-2007
  - Hire Director, Community Horticultural Coordinator
  - Develop Training Pgm (VT Cooperative Extension)
  - Onboard Classes of 20-25
  - Develop Ed Projects/Pgms (with local extension office & Green Spring Gardens)

- ORGANIZATION: 2008-2011

- MAJOR GROWTH: 2011-2017
GSMG PROGRAM HISTORY

- BUILDING YEARS: 2002-2007
- ORGANIZATION: 2008-2011
  - 6 Team leaders
  - 17 Project Leaders
  - Eco-Savvy Symposium
  - Connection with GS Gardens
- MAJOR GROWTH: 2011-2017
GSMG Program Today

- **BUILDING YEARS:** 2002-2007
- **ORGANIZATION:** 2008-2011
- **MAJOR GROWTH:** 2011-2017
  - 150 Certified GSMGs
  - Improved Retention
  - Class Size-30 (2017-18)
  - Waiting list of 10-15
  - Online Volunteer Management System (VMS)
FUNDING

- Annual Eco-Savvy Symposium
- Garden Talks Fees
- FROGS
- Annual Recertification
IMPACT
2002-2017

- 70,443 hours of service in Fairfax County
- $1,620,189 County Operations Contribution
- 375 GSMG Interns Certified
- 7,000 Continuing Education hours reported by GSMGs
Impact 2002-2017

‘NO GO’ Without GSMG’s:

- Library Displays
- Garden Talks
- Speakers Bureau
- Childrens’ Programs at GSG
- Childrens’ Garden at GSG
- LEAP at GSG
- Wolftrap Woodland Garden
- Woodburn Crisis Center Garden
GSMG PROGRAM: Sharing Knowledge. Empowering Communities.

Thank You!
Green Spring
Master Gardeners

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Virginia Cooperative Extension
Virginia Tech • Virginia State University