

average 343.5



The Master Gardener Program in Racine County started in 1994. Over 447 people have been trained since that time, and there are currently 109 certified Master Gardener Volunteers (MGVs) for 2017. The UW-Extension Educator facilitating the MG Program is Interim Horticulture Educator Jeanne Hilinske-Christensen.

Beyond the Shelves at Graham Public Library

In Union Grove, a small town library extends its educational energy beyond its building to the gardens which border it. Informational signage is prominently displayed within carefully maintained perennial and ornamental beds. MGVs post the times they are scheduled to work in the gardens to notify patrons when they are available to offer plant advice or to converse about gardening. This “Horticulturist On Duty” approach is well received.

Reality Gardening at “Real Racine”

The demonstration garden at the Racine County Visitors Center in Sturtevant not only beckons visitors through its colorful pathways but offers a unique relaxation retreat for weary travellers. The site became a Monarch Waystation and was awarded a beautification award by Discover Racine for the creation of its butterfly garden. Items not traditionally used for gardening have been repurposed and displayed within the garden. Colorful painted posts offer informational and educational signage throughout the garden.

The Vintage Advantage

Located adjacent to the historical cabin in Burlington’s town square is the MG Pioneer Cabin Vintage Garden. Plants with historical significance predominate the fenced vegetable garden as well as the surrounding gardens. This park also serves as the location of the weekly Farmer’s Market, so the cabin and gardens receive a lot of attention during the growing season. Plants are labelled, and reflections of the past are shared. Area schools visit the site as part of their history curriculum.

The Master Gardener Program in Racine County

Racine County UWEX Office
209 North Main Street
Burlington, WI 53105
racine.uwex.edu

Volunteer Service in 2016

Youth Ed	503	hours
Adult Ed	1,053	hours
Support	2,956	hours
Total	4,513	hours
Value*	\$101,458	

Since 2000: 74,279 hours at a value of over \$1,369,183

* 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 Racine Co.

- Botany in the Classroom
- Garden of Giving
- The Teaching Garden
- Racine County Fair
- Wind Point Lighthouse
- WI Veterans Home, Union Grove
- Green Works
- Gardens of De Koven Center

