



# PennState Extension

## **Grow with Us: Join the Penn State Extension Master Gardeners of Washington County**

Did you know that just 30 minutes of gardening can reduce stress, improve mood, and support physical health? Whether you're growing vegetables or flowers, gardening promotes wellness and strengthens communities—and you don't need a "green thumb" to start.

The **Penn State Extension Master Gardener** program in Washington County welcomes anyone with an interest in nature and community service. No prior gardening experience is required. Volunteers receive 40 hours of horticulture training and complete 50 hours of volunteer service in their first year to become certified Master Gardeners. To maintain certification, Master Gardeners complete 20 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education annually.

Washington County Master Gardeners make a lasting impact through education and hands-on projects. Volunteers lead gardening classes, teach *Seed to Supper*—a statewide vegetable-growing program—and deliver poison prevention and chemical safety programs to hundreds of local students each year.

Master Gardeners also staff the county's Garden Hotline to answer plant and pest questions, organize the annual Native Plant Sale, give speaker presentations, and support demonstration gardens, therapeutic horticulture, and pollinator-friendly spaces across the county—from the Washington County Fairgrounds to the Mon Valley.

Each volunteer brings a unique perspective, united by a shared passion for plants and public outreach. For more info go to:

[extension.psu.edu/programs/master-gardener/counties/washington/become-a-master-gardener](https://extension.psu.edu/programs/master-gardener/counties/washington/become-a-master-gardener)

## **Ready to grow with us? Scan here to apply:**



Let your love of plants grow into something bigger—right here in Washington County.