

## Florida Master Gardener Awards and Recognition Form Awards of Excellence

Each county is allowed **ONE ENTRY PER CATEGORY**. Although your Master Gardener Coordinator may have been heavily involved in this effort, only the efforts of the Master Gardeners themselves are to be evaluated. Points will be deducted if it is perceived that most of the effort or submission of entry forms came from the Master Gardener Coordinator.

Only efforts made since the last awards ceremony will be considered by the judges. Any new or re-certified active Florida Master Gardener(s) are eligible. In the event your entry does **not** take top honors in this category this year, we would encourage you to improve your submission and resubmit your entry next year should you *repeat or continue* this project. If your project has won in **ANY** year, it **CANNOT BE RE-ENTERED** again, despite any significant changes in format or participants.

Judges for the awards shall be appointed by the State Master Gardener Program Leader, University of Florida. Decisions by the judges will be final.

### ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT

#### SEE BELOW FOR APPLICATION CRITERIA:

The correct and completed award application forms including:

- A typed application form not to exceed 3 pages in length. Supporting materials (where requested may be additional pages)
  - The three pages must include the 150 word project summary.
- 12 point font
- No more than 8 photographs in addition to the three pages of text. (Photos no larger than 8 x 10)
- This form typed and completed including: appropriate category checked
- Name of MG Coordinator (The coordinator must approve application prior to admission)
- Application, photos and supporting materials must all be in PDF format and packaged into one document. Submissions are to be emailed to: [twichman@ufl.edu](mailto:twichman@ufl.edu)

County: Santa Rosa

Name of Project: Garden Mosaics

Project start date: September 30, 2011 Project end date: April 25, 2012

Name of person(s) typing application: Joanne C. Connor

Name or names of Master Gardeners preparing application: Joanne C. Connor

Name of Agent: Theresa Friday (retired)

**CATEGORY: Indicate only one category per entry form. You must assign your entry to a specific category to be considered for an award in that category. Entries are limited to the categories indicated below.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 11 Beautification                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 18 Personal Communications                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 12 Demonstration Garden              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 19 Service to 4-H and other youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 13 Educational Materials Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 20 Special Audiences                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 14 Extension Awareness               | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 22 Written or Verbal Mass Comm.              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 15 County Displays/Exhibits          | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 23 County Master Gardener Newsletter         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 16 General Achievement               |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 17 Outstanding Master Gardener       |  |

**Email PDF Applications to:**

Tom Wichman

**TO BE ELIGIBLE ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 1, 2012**

**FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER  
SERVICE TO 4-H AND/OTHER YOUTH AWARD  
Santa Rosa County – Joanne Connor**

**A. Objectives of youth educational activity**  
(100 words or less):  
(10pts.)

The Garden Mosaics program educated 239 seventh grade students 5 different times in horticultural and environmental topics related to the science curriculum.

Program objectives:

- Gain an insight and appreciation of the interdependence of living things in their environment
- Citizen Scientist objective - observations helping to draw conclusions and problem solve through hands-on activities
- Ecological concerns of our community:
  - The use of beneficial insects and non-toxic chemical methods
  - Understanding composting and recycling of living matter
  - Benefits and use of organic material
  - Environmental requirements of plants and animals to maintain the balance of nature

**B. Master Gardener's Role**  
(100 words or less):  
Provide a listing of MG who participated in project. (25 pts)

The Master Gardeners developed, coordinated, implemented and taught each program in the Garden Mosaic series. A MG Committee created the programs presented and conducted training classes for additional Master Gardeners needed to instruct the students. Master Gardeners taught and guided students at 3 instructional stations accommodating 50-60 students at one class period. The program was repeated for 6 class periods for each program. Master Gardeners taught, used real life materials and assisted students in observations and conclusions. The expertise of individual Master Gardeners was integral.

1195 Student Contacts, 42 MG Training & 273 MG Program hrs., plus Committee Planning hrs.

Garden Mosaic Committee:

Katie Tankersley, Kay Zilka, and Joanne Connor

Master Gardener Instructors:

Pam Beasley, Lisa Carver, Mary Colling, Noreen Gideon, Lynne Gough, Shirley Hibbard, Lorraine Hubbard, Ann Jeffcoat, Monika Meier, Kay Ottley, Nelda Seever, Meta Seltzer, and Cliffogene Stillwell

**C. Brief description of activity**  
(100 words or less):  
(10 pts)

**Format for 5 programs**

- Introduction – Topic importance
- Activity - Stations
- Reinforcement - Student Worksheet
- Conclusion – Student Discoveries
- Evaluation - Pre & Post Test questionnaire

**Example: Vermicomposting Program**

**Introduction** – Composting and importance of recycling.

**Three Stations** –

- Station # 1- Habitat - Vermicomposting requirements, Students start bin with bedding materials
- Station #2- Anatomy - Observe worm model, Handle red wigglers learn anatomy, digestion, castings and reproduction
- Station #3 – Observe plants grown in different amounts of organic material, Students determine organic amount needed

**Conclusion:** Students will observe, maintain, and record findings of vermicomposting bins

**D. Major benefits to 4-H and/or other youth**

(100 words or less):  
(25pts.)

- Students enjoyed learning horticultural and environmental science through hands-on activities using actual living and simulated materials. This was noted through their letters to Master Gardeners
- Horticultural and environmental science was brought to real life experiences for the students
- Citizen Scientists awareness, use concepts of observation and recording
- Two students became volunteers at the Panhandle Butterfly House operated by the Santa Rosa County Master Gardeners as a result of the Garden Mosaic programs
- Students developed awareness of their individual contributions to the interdependence of humans and nature; for example, yard planting, animal/insect life and environment.

**E. Other recognition received for this activity**

(50 words or less):  
(10pts.)

The National Association of County Agricultural Agents, NACAA, presented a national finalist award to Theresa Friday, UF/IFAS Santa Rosa County Residential Horticulture Extension Agent (now retired), at its August 2011 conference for the Garden Mosaic program. Category: “Excellence in 4-H Programming”

**F. Educational components and other relative information**

(100 words or less):  
(10pts.)

The Garden Mosaic program was designed to interface with the seventh grade science curriculum. Specific topics requested by the teachers were included in the programs. The Florida Sunshine State Standards benchmarks were included to enhance the science program and reinforce science concepts increasing performance on school and state testing. Students completed worksheets on each station in each program to reinforce knowledge. Pre and Post tests were given to assess the knowledge gained through Garden Mosaics. A 64% increase in horticultural and environmental science knowledge was documented with the testing.

**G. Documentary materials such as photographs, illustrations, and news clippings**

(2 pages or less)  
(10 pts)

Photographs of Master Gardeners and students involved in hands-On activities are enclosed.

**H. A 150 word (or less) summary of your project so that we can let others know of your accomplishments. Your application will NOT be judged without this summary included.**

Woodlawn Beach Middle School teachers requested the programs, a third year, for excellent programs and student enjoyment. It related horticulture and environmental sciences in 5 programs to 239 seventh grade students through groups rotating to stations each period for interactive instruction & hands-on activities. Reinforcement learning worksheets; follow-up activities; and observation, recording and conclusions skills were incorporated. The school curriculum and Sunshine State Standards were included.

- Vermicomposting – Anatomy & Behavior; Organics importance, Vermicomposting bins made.
- Wildlife/Birds – Experiment with beak types (obtain foods); Microscopic viewing feathers (types & function); Nesting (requirements and behavior); Nesting materials available by students, Bird habitat
- Butterfly/Monarch Migration – Metamorphosis; Flight ability-wing area and weight, Environment factors & host plants on migration, Migration tracking,
- “CSI” – Forensic entomology, Instars, Critical thinking, Apply to horticulture
- Plant ID – Methods of ID: dichotomous key, Leaf characteristics, Plant description: students ID plant samples & on grounds

Pre/Post tests were changed to fill-ins, Worksheets were edited, and some stations were changed to meet the needs of this years accelerated students and the desire for improvement to the programs.

The Vermicomposting program had a station change. Plants grown in different amounts of organic material and grown for different length of times were displayed with instructions on the components of soil. Students enjoyed this more advanced station.

Butterfly Migration mapping was added to the Butterfly/Monarch Migration program. Students tracked the host plant seasons with migration on a computer site. Integrating various media and real time data was interesting to students.

Plant ID was altered to include dichotomous keys and leaf characteristics.

Changes to the program over 3 years have improved the Garden Mosaics program. Changes may be needed again depending on the students we will be working with.

- Vickie Mullins, 4-H Extension Agent provided information for the “CSI” 4-H program.
- Theresa Friday, UF/IFAS Santa Rosa Co. Residential Horticulture Extension Agent (retired) was an integral part of the creation and application of the Garden Mosaic program.
- The Santa Rosa County Master Gardeners Association provides funds for the hands-on, visual, and printed materials for Garden Mosaics program. These funds are derived from plant, Vidalia onion and yard sales.

# Garden Mosaics Photos



Students observe worm characteristics and behavior

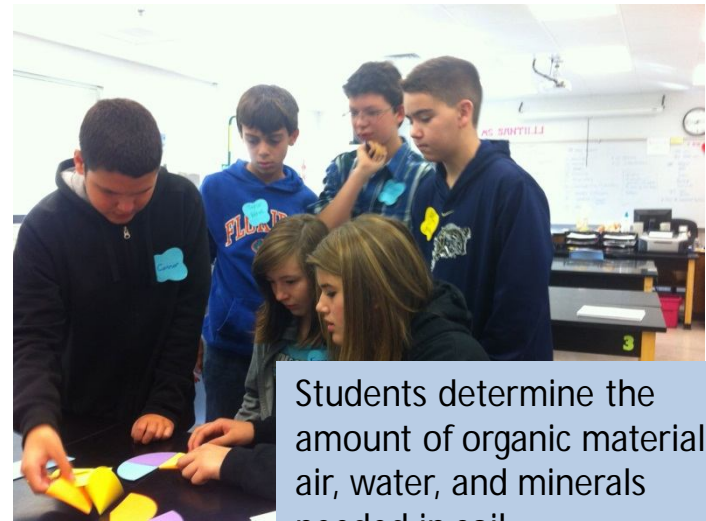


Students make bedding for Vermicomposting bin



Students observe plants grown in different organic amounts of material and at different intervals

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R  
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P  
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G



Students determine the amount of organic material, air, water, and minerals needed in soil



Students identify plant and leaf characteristics

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L  
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D



Students find plants from plant and leaf descriptions discovering the plant name



Students use Dichotomous Key to identify plants