



Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Awards of Excellence Instructions

Each county is allowed one entry per category. Although your Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator may have been heavily involved in this effort, only the efforts of the Master Gardener Volunteers 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 Volunteer Coordinator.

Only efforts made **between August 1, 2022 and August 1, 2024** will be considered by the judges. Only new or re-certified active Florida Master Gardener Volunteer 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 again 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 Volunteer Coordinator, University of Florida. Decisions by the judges will be final.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

- Application form, photos, and supporting materials must all be in PDF format and packaged into one document.
- Entry Form
 - 1 form per entry
 - Typed
 - Signed by Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator
 - Appropriate category checked
- Award Application
 - 12-point font
 - NOT to exceed 3 pages in length (must include 150-word project executive summary)
 - Supporting materials (where requested) are not included in the 3-page limit
 - No more than 8 photographs in addition to 3 pages of text

Please complete and return this entry form by **August 23, 2024** to Wendy Wilber.



Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Awards of Excellence Demonstration Garden

This award recognizes the efforts made in the creation, maintenance, and education in Extension demonstration gardens by Master Gardener Volunteer(s). Garden planning, funding, creation, maintenance, signage, and usage of the garden are all topics that will be judged in this category. Include landscape plans, photographs (before and after are helpful), newspaper clippings, newsletters, etc. that will help to describe the demonstration garden efforts.

See the Award of Excellence Instructions for submission rules. For this award application, cover the following in your 3-page narrative.

- Summary (5 points)
 - A descriptive summary of your project. Your application will NOT be judged without this summary included.
 - Provide a list of all Master Gardener Volunteers who participated in this project and their roles.
- Scope of Demonstration Garden (30 points)
 - Describe the educational components (signage, handouts, website, etc.). Include the timeline and purpose of the garden. Who were the target audiences who might benefit from this project? List community partners if applicable. Provide the budget for the project.
- Horticultural Accuracy (25 points)
 - Explain the correct choice of plants and materials for the area; the right plant for the right place. Please provide a plant list.
- Maintenance (15 points)
 - Explain ease and the method(s) for on-going maintenance including long-range plans with names of those responsible.
- Outcome (15 points)
 - Provide a written account with pictures (optional) of the site or area before and after completion of the project. Describe the publicity received. What was the potential impact on the extension audience as the result of these efforts?
- Learnings (10 points)
 - Describe any challenges you encountered or things you might change if you were to do the project again.



Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Awards of Excellence Demonstration Garden Judging Sheet

This award recognizes the efforts made in the creation, maintenance, and education in Extension demonstration gardens by Master Gardener Volunteers. Garden planning, funding, creation, maintenance, signage, and usage of the garden are all topics that will be judged in this category. Include landscape plans, photographs (before and after are helpful), newspaper clippings, newsletters, etc. that will help to describe the demonstration garden efforts.

County:	Project Name:		
Category	Possible Points	Points Awarded	Notes from Judge
<u>Summary</u> Descriptive summary of project. List provided of all Master Gardeners who participated in this project and their roles.	5		
<u>Scope of the demonstration garden</u> Good description of the educational components (signage, handouts, website, etc.). Timeline and purpose of the garden included. Target audiences described. Community partners listed and budget provided.	30		
<u>Horticultural Accuracy</u> Plant list provided. Right plants used in the right places. Good explanation of plant choices and materials.	25		
<u>Maintenance</u> Long range plans for maintenance described. These plans should demonstrate the sustainability of the project with ongoing support.	15		
<u>Outcome</u> Narrative and photographs demonstrate the finished project. Publicity about the project demonstrated. A strong description of the impact on the community or target audiences.	15		
<u>Learnings</u> Describe any challenges you encountered or things you might change if you were to do the project again.	10		
Total Points	100		