



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 Outstanding Master Gardener Volunteer Judging Sheet

This award recognizes the **individual** Master Gardener Volunteer who has made outstanding efforts in several projects/activities while being a Florida Master Gardener Volunteer. Total effort is judged collectively over a number of projects. Therefore, degree of involvement, evaluation, and educational impact are very important in this category.

If you apply for this award, you cannot compete in any of the other award categories as an individual. However, if you are a part of a group or team from your county, you can compete in another award category. Remember this award is just like the other awards in that it **only** applies to the activities/projects that you have been involved in during the time period of August 1, 2020 to August 1, 2022.

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

- Summary (10 points)
 - A descriptive summary of your participation and projects with your county Master Gardener Volunteer program. Provide the length of time with the Master Gardener Volunteer program and the number of hours served. Your application will NOT be judged without this summary included.
- Projects, Roles, and Leadership Activities (30 points)
 - Give a brief description/explanation of the projects and activities and how you have been involved.
- Educational Impact (30 points)
 - What was the educational impact of the projects that you were involved with (ex. Change in attitude or practice due to your efforts, number of people reached, benefits to clients, etc.)?
- Extension Impact (15 points)
 - What impact has the Master Gardener Volunteer had on the extension office and community? Provide a written account with pictures (optional). Describe any publicity received. How were the projects distributed? What was the potential impact on the community or audience?
- Learnings (15 points)
 - Describe any challenges encountered over the Master Gardener Volunteer's career and how the challenges were overcome?



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County:	Project Name:		
Category	Possible Points	Points Awarded	Notes from Judge
<u>Summary</u> Descriptive summary of the MGJV projects. Length of time with MG program, number of hours served.	10		
<u>Projects, roles and leadership activities</u> Impactful projects, active roles in the MGJV program, and leadership activities with wide reaching effects.	25		
<u>Educational Impacts</u> Projects and activities educational impacts reached a wide audience and benefited extension clientele	25		
<u>Extension Impacts</u> Impactful extension work in the community that benefited the clientele. Change in attitude or practices due to the efforts of the MGJV's. Publicity received documented	25		
<u>Learnings</u> Challenges described that demonstrate growth in the Master Gardener Volunteer career.	15		
Total Points	100		