

Master Gardeners of Nevada and Placer Counties



The UCCE Placer and Nevada Master Gardener Programs provide volunteer training in horticultural knowledge to enhance home landscaping and garden experiences while striving to improve community health and preserve the quality and resources of our natural environment. Through the encouragement of growing food at home and practicing sustainable garden practices, the programs reflect a benefit to the broader community in the prevention of endemic and invasive pests and diseases, maintenance of healthy communities, creation of sustainable food systems, and preservation of natural resources.

UC Master Gardener volunteers aid in identifying specific issues and gardening needs of Placer and Nevada County residents. They actively develop and promote educational activities to help address specific concerns of home gardeners and composters, which continues to grow in popularity as a family and community activity.

In 2023, both programs celebrated 40 years of community education and engagement, highlighting the upward growth of each county's program from their original establishment in 1983. From conception to the present time, the presence of the Master Gardeners continues to be a community resource for the at-home and community members.

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Program Highlights 2022-23:

- Celebrated 40 Years of established program activity.
- 255 certified Master Gardener volunteers provided 25,600 hours of service.
- Master Gardener outreach and education reached over 15,000 people, providing research-based gardening and composting information.
- Volunteers delivered 50 workshops and presentations spanning various topics, including Perennials and Flowering Shrubs, Vegetable Gardening, School and Community Gardens, Integrated Pest Management, Pest Prevention and Diagnosis, Recycling Garden Waste, Soil and Irrigation, waterwise Wise Gardening, and Firesafe Landscaping.
- 235 community members expressed interest in joining the Master Gardener programs as volunteers for 2024.



Contact info

Kathy Gee

Master Gardener

Community Education Specialist

530.889.7385

katge@ucanr.edu

Placer County MG Hotline

530.889.7388

mgplacer@ucanr.edu

pcmg.ucanr.org

Nevada County MG Hotline

530.273.0919

mgnevada@ucanr.edu

ncmg.ucanr.edu