

# SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY UC MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTIONS

06/2016

Master Gardener activities include a diverse assortment of projects. The following are just a small sampling of the activities available for volunteer participation. New projects are always being suggested by members in our group and by the community.

## **Horticulture Phone Calls and Visitors (Hotline Office)**

- At the San Joaquin County Cooperative Extension office there is a Master Gardener office with an extensive reference library. One or two Master Gardeners are scheduled Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to answer telephone and visitor home gardening questions.

## **Speaker's Bureau**

- Garden clubs, homeowner's associations, schools, civic organizations and others request Master Gardener presentations. Topics vary greatly, including fruit tree pruning, container planting, pest management and composting.

## **Informational Displays**

- Master Gardeners participate in many local fairs and festivals throughout the county. We provide handouts and information at events such as the home and garden shows, county fair, farmers' markets, Earth Day festivals, Manteca Pumpkin festival, Lodi Sandhill Crane festival, Stockton is Magnificent and many more.

## **Media**

### **Newspapers and Writing**

- Writing opportunities include writing news releases and gardening articles for local newspapers, blog articles, preparing leaflets for the Cooperative Extension and writing for the Master Gardener newsletter.

### **Website and Social Media –**

- Master Gardeners maintain our website and Facebook pages. They contribute the photographs and written material posted on these sites. SJMG also has a Twitter and Pinterest account.

## **Gardening with Youth**

- Master Gardeners educate teachers, youth leaders, and students on how to establish and maintain school gardens. The program provides the younger generation with horticultural information, an important component of a complete education. Master Gardeners do onsite evaluations and phone consultations.

## **Numerous Other Activities:**

- Master Gardener learning Landscape (demonstration garden)
- Water quality education
- Backyard composting
- Help establish community gardens, work with senior citizens, mentally ill and physically challenged.
- Committee participation – hospitality, speaker's bureau, school & community gardens, newsletter, and more.
- Assist in the administration of the Master Gardener program, including computer work, filing, phone calling, record keeping, and general Cooperative Extension office clerical duties.
- Beautification projects