

# Master Gardeners of Nevada and Placer Counties



## Program Highlights 2021–22:

- 270 certified Master Gardener volunteers provided over 15,000 hours of service.
- Master Gardener outreach and education reached over 12,000 people with gardening and composting information.
- Volunteers delivered 30 workshops on various topics, including: Water Wise Gardening, Firesafe Landscaping, Pest Management, Vegetable Gardening, Pest Prevention and Diagnosis, Recycling Garden Waste, School Gardens, Perennials and Flowering Shrubs, Soil and Irrigation, Community Gardens.
- Trained 70 new Master Gardeners Volunteers.



The UC Placer and Nevada Master Gardener Program provides volunteer training and horticultural knowledge to enhance home landscapes and garden experiences while striving to improve and preserve the quality of our natural environment.

Our Placer and Nevada County programs were initiated in 1983 to meet the demands of the growing population and to provide home gardening and related information.

Interest in home gardening and urban horticulture continues to grow. Gardening is the most popular hobby in the United States, and landscape/nursery crops are now the third largest agricultural crop in California. UC Master Gardeners identify issues and needs of Placer and Nevada County residents and develop educational activities to address these concerns in the areas of home horticulture and composting.

With the goal of shifting public perceptions of yard and garden debris from “wastes” to “resources,” UCCE’s volunteer Master Composters have engaged the public in recognizing the importance of organics management through composting, vermi-composting, and shredding/chipping/mulching. These activities alone can divert between 20 and 35 percent of a family’s garbage from the landfills and have helped Placer and Nevada Counties meet state mandated diversion rates.

In the 2021-22 year, the Master Gardeners were able to get back to in person public workshops as well as continue to deliver online public workshops. The Master Gardeners decided that combining both outreach methods allows greater community reach, giving folks a virtual option if they cannot attend in person. The Master Gardeners gave 30 public workshops on a variety of topics reaching over 5,000 people, in person and online. From January through April 2022, two separate Master Gardener volunteer trainings were held – one for Placer County with 40 in the class and one in Nevada County with 30 in class. This is the first time a volunteer training was done separately in each county to take advantage of the increased interest in the program.



## Contact info

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