2016 Annual Summary of Master Gardener Activities

- 380  # of New Master Gardener Extension Volunteers (completed training this year)
- 2,445  # of Active Master Gardeners returning
- 2,825  Combined Volunteers
- 191,654  Total # of volunteer hours this year x ($23.56 per hour*) = $4,515,368
- 474,105  Total # of in person contacts
- 3,807,319  Total # of telephone/email contacts
- 853,123  Total # of miles traveled x (0.54 per mile**) = $460,686
- 1,780  Total # of advanced training hours
- 7,669  Total # of continuing education hours

Hours Volunteered by State Initiative

Georgia MGEV projects fall into five initiative, or priority, areas.

- **Environmental Stewardship**
  - teaching citizens to protect and enhance the environment through use of sustainable landscape management practices
- **Value of Landscapes**
  - utilizing horticulture and landscaping to enhance community development and economic growth
- **Gardening with Youth**
  - using horticulture and landscaping to change attitude, behavior, knowledge, and skills of youth
- **Home Food Production**
  - teaching others how to produce food in private and community gardens
- **Health Benefits of Gardening**
  - using horticulture to improve human health, well-being, and quality of life

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Self-reported data collected from MGLOG, the recordkeeping system for the Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program, as of February 14, 2017. *The wage rate of $23.56 per hour was used. The value of volunteer time is based on the average hourly earnings of all production and nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls (as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics) increased by 12 percent to estimate for fringe benefits. The information was supplied by the Independent Sector (1602 L Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036; 202-467-6100; http://www.independentsector.org), a national forum to encourage giving. **The mileage rate is based on $0.54 per mile.