

Criteria for Statewide Master Gardener Awards

Helpful Hints for Developing a Competitive Narrative for Statewide Master Gardener award winners.

1. Please carefully read and follow the directions, provided. If the application asks for 2-3 paragraphs, please do not submit 2-3 pages of text.
2. Please focus on the activities and the accomplishments of the nominee, rather than their personality. Assume that all nominees could be described as helpful, fun to work with, or enthusiastic. Spending more than 1-2 sentences detailing the personality of the nominee will not help to distinguish your nominee from the other nominations submitted.
3. Please nominate a single individual. Dual or team nominations are discouraged, unless there is a particularly compelling reason to do so (i.e. you are nominating two family members, who work and contribute as a team).

PLEASE CONTINUE TO NEXT PAGES FOR CRITERIA FOR SCORING THE STATEWIDE MASTER GARDENER OF THE YEAR AND THE BEHIND THE SCENES AWARD WINNER.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 15TH FOR FULL CONSIDERATION.

Scoring Criteria for Oregon State Master Gardener of the Year

Please complete application on a separate sheet of paper, addressing points 1-6, below.

Applicants will be scored, based upon the criteria outlined below (50 points possible):

1) Number of Years as a Master Gardener (5 Points): For every TWO years of service, nominees will be awarded $\frac{1}{2}$ point, up to 5 points, total.

- # Years as an Oregon Master Gardener Volunteer = _____ years

2) Number of Hours of Master Gardener Volunteer Service (5 Points): For every 100 hours of service over the LAST FIVE years of the nominee's Master Gardener career, $\frac{1}{2}$ point will be awarded, up to 5 points, total.

- Hours Volunteered in the last FIVE years of Oregon MG Career = ____ hours

We are not specifically scoring volunteer service hours over the nominee's entire Master Gardener career. However, this information will help to provide context ~ *or* for nominees that have been very active over their entire Master Gardener career, but have had to slow down in recent times, this information may be taken into consideration.

- Hours Volunteered over entire Oregon MG Career = _____ hours

3) Support of MG Program Educational Mission (10 points): The mission of the Extension Master Gardener Program is to support sustainable gardening via education and outreach. In 2-3 paragraphs, please describe the nominee's work to support the educational mission of the Master Gardener Program. Examples of work to support the educational mission of the program include work on Plant Clinic/Help Desk, teaching Master Gardener or public classes on sustainable gardening, serving as a Master Gardener mentor, lead work on a Master Gardener conference or seminar series, work with the Junior Master Gardener Program, or other appropriate activities.

- No Volunteer Support of the MG Educational Mission = 0 points
- Limited and Background-level support of the MG Educational Mission = 1-2 points
- Active but Background-level support of the MG Educational Mission = 3-6 points
- Active and Extensive Support of the MG Educational Mission = 6-8 points
- Extensive, Exemplary, and Lead-Level Support of the MG Educational Mission, including Lead Work = 9-10 points

4) Leadership Within the Association (10 points): Master Gardeners who serve as leaders within their chapter or the statewide Master Gardener Association should be recognized for their contributions.

In 1-2 paragraphs, please describe the nominee's leadership within their chapter Master Gardener Association, or within the OMGA. Examples of leadership positions include board leadership, board membership, advisory committee membership, and committee chairs.

- No Leadership Positions within the Master Gardener organization = 0 points
- Occasional Service as a Master Gardener Committee Chair or Board Member = 1-2 points
- Regular Service as a Master Gardener Board Member, Committee Chair = 3-6 points
- Regular Service as a Master Gardener Board Leader or Advisory Committee Member = 3-6 points
- Extensive and Exemplary Service as a Master Gardener Leader, Above and Beyond Typical Board Service = 9-10 points

5) Impact (15 Points): The statewide Master Gardener of the Year is someone who has impacted volunteers, beyond the borders of their own county or regional Master Gardener Program. In 2-3 paragraphs, please describe the nominee's impact on the Master Gardener Program, at large, via the development of novel programs or approaches. Programs and approaches are considered IMPACTFUL, if other County Master Gardener Programs have adopted them. Programs and approaches may also be considered IMPACTFUL if they have significant and positive change (in knowledge, attitudes, or behavior) in other Master Gardener volunteers, or in the public that we serve.

- No Significant Impact = 0 points
- Small-Scale Impact, that has resulted in a change in a local Master Gardener Program = 1-5 points
- Impact that has resulted in change in multiple Master Gardener Programs Across the State = 6-10 points
- Impact that has had positive effects across the entire Oregon Master Gardener Program = 11-15 points

6) Comments from Extension faculty and staff (5 points). The comments from the staff are important and independent support for each nominee. If you are not able to get comments from the Extension Master Gardener coordinator in your county, please ask another Extension faculty or staff member who knows the nominee to provide comments. Examples of other faculty or staff members who might provide comments include: the statewide Master Gardener coordinator; Extension county coordinator; Extension Master Gardener administrative or educational program assistant; Extension Regional Director. Nomination forms will NOT be accepted without comments AND a signature from an appropriate Extension faculty or staff member.

- No Comments or Signature Provided = **Nomination Form will Not Be Accepted**
- General Comments that Focus on the Personality of the Volunteer = 1 point
- General and Measured Comments that Address the Volunteer's Contributions to the Master Gardener Program = 2-3 points
- Strong and Enthusiastic Support of the Nominee, and their Contributions to the Master Gardener Program = 4-5 points

Scoring Criteria for Behind the Scenes Award

Please complete application on a separate sheet of paper, addressing points 1-5, below.

Applicants will be scored, based upon the criteria outlined below (40 points possible):

1) Number of Years as a Master Gardener (5 Points): For every TWO years of service, nominees will be awarded ½ point, up to 5 points, total.

- Number of Years as an Oregon Master Gardener Volunteer = _____ years

2) Number of Hours of Master Gardener Volunteer Service (5 Points): For every 100 hours of service over the LAST FIVE years of the nominee's Master Gardener career, ½ point will be awarded, up to 5 points, total.

- Hours Volunteered in the last FIVE years of Oregon MG Career = _____ hours

We are not specifically scoring volunteer service hours over the nominee's entire Master Gardener career. However, this information will help to provide context ~ *or* for nominees that have been very active over their entire Master Gardener career, but have had to slow down in recent times, this information may be taken into consideration.

- Hours Volunteered over entire MG Career = _____ hours

3) Support of MG Program Educational Mission (10 points): The mission of the Extension Master Gardener Program is to support sustainable gardening via education and outreach. In 2-3 paragraphs, please describe the nominee's work to support the educational mission of the Master Gardener Program. Examples of work to support the educational mission of the program include work on Plant Clinic/Help Desk, teaching Master Gardener or public classes on sustainable gardening, serving as a Master Gardener mentor, lead work on a Master Gardener conference or seminar series, work with the Junior Master Gardener Program, or other appropriate activities.

- No Volunteer Support of the MG Educational Mission = 0 points
- Limited and Background-level support of the MG Educational Mission = 1-2 points
- Active but Background-level support of the MG Educational Mission = 3-6 points
- Active and Extensive Support of the MG Educational Mission = 6-8 points
- Extensive, Exemplary, and Lead-Level Support of the MG Educational Mission, including Lead Work = 9-10 points

4) Behind the Scenes Contributions (15 points):

In 1-2 paragraphs, please describe the nominee's behind the scenes contributions to their chapter Master Gardener Association, or within the OMGA. Examples of leadership positions

include board leadership, board membership, advisory committee membership, and committee chairs.

- A recognized leader within the organization = 0 points
- Supports the organization with a series of short-term efforts (e.g. taking tickets, stuffing envelopes, setting up coffee) = 1-5 points
- Supports the organization via long-term, but often unrecognized efforts (e.g. committee member who does a lot of the work, but is not the recognized leader or a project or program) = 6-10 points
- A long-term and regular supporter of the Master Gardener Program, whose work often goes unrecognized (e.g. lead work on special projects that are not often seen by the other volunteers or the general public) = 11-15 points

5) Comments from Extension faculty and staff (5 points). The comments from the staff are important and independent support for each nominee. If you are not able to get comments from the Extension Master Gardener coordinator in your county, please ask another Extension faculty or staff member who knows the nominee to provide comments. Examples of other faculty or staff members who might provide comments include: the statewide Master Gardener coordinator; Extension county coordinator; Extension Master Gardener administrative or educational program assistant; Extension Regional Director. Nomination forms will NOT be accepted without comments AND a signature from an appropriate Extension faculty or staff member.

- No Comments or Signature Provided = **Nomination Form will Not Be Accepted**
- General Comments that Focus on the Personality of the Volunteer = 1 point
- General and Measured Comments that Address the Volunteer's Contributions to the Master Gardener Program = 2-3 points
- Strong and Enthusiastic Support of the Nominee, and their Contributions to the Master Gardener Program = 4-5 points