



November 6, 2025

3130 E. Main St.
Springfield, Ohio 45505
937-398-7600

Dear Potential Master Gardener Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in the OSU Extension (OSUE) Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) program. Volunteers are an integral part of our organization and make a significant contribution to consumer horticulture programming throughout Ohio. Following is important information about the OSUE volunteer selection process. All individuals interested in volunteering with OSUE must follow these selection procedures.

All potential volunteers will:

- (1) Receive a copy of the Master Gardener Volunteer Program Policy Statement.
- (2) Receive a position description.
- (3) Complete an application online.
- (4) Provide at a minimum of two references.
- (5) Complete an interview with OSU Extension staff (you will be contacted).
- (6) Complete an online background check.
- (7) Review and sign the Volunteer Standards of Behavior, the Master Gardener Volunteer Pest Management Information Policy, and the Activities and Programs with Minor Participants.

To complete the application process, go online at **osu.handsonconnect.org** and establish an account. To do this, go to the Potential Volunteers tab across the top and click on Create an Account. Fill out the details. Once you have an account, go to this tab once again and click on About the MGV Program and then MGV Application process. Fill this out completely. OSUE will be notified once you have completed this. If you do not have internet access, call Beth at 937-398-7602 and a hard copy of the application packet will be mailed. **Applications are due by December 1st, 2025.**

Please know that all personal information is kept secure. The release of this information will follow The Ohio State University and OSUE operating procedures and will be in accordance with Ohio law.

Serving others in your community brings immense satisfaction as you help them grow, learn, develop, and succeed. Additionally, volunteering provides you an opportunity to gain new skills, help others, and meet new friends. We hope that you recognize the tremendous benefits of volunteering and will join us in helping assure that everyone involved has a positive, educational experience.

We are excited to have you join this outstanding volunteer program to further your horticulture education as well as to make a difference in your community

Sincerely,

Beth Brooks, Program Assistant
Pamela J. Bennett, Professor, Horticulture Educator