MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF PASSAIC COUNTY

The purpose of MGAPC is to promote community awareness and participation in programs related to horticulture.

#### DUES

\$20 yearly– Includes a monthly digital newsletter

#### MEETING

Every fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm via Cisco Webex during the COVID pandemic.

#### RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER HELPLINE

1310 Route 23 North Wayne, NJ 07470 Hours Monday through Friday 9:30am to 12 noon Phone: 973-305-5743 Email mastergardenerhelpline@njaes.rutgers.edu

#### RCE MASTER GARDENER TRAINING

Master gardeners are trained volunteers who assist Rutgers in its mission to deliver university research information and programs.

Classes are held Tuesday mornings, January through June, at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension office in Wayne. The 3 hour lessons, taught mostly by Rutgers faculty and staff, range in topics from lawn care, plant propagation, botany entomology to understanding soils. The cost of training is \$300. Sixty hours of volunteer time including 10 hours on Rutgers Master Gardener Helpline are required to become certified. Master gardeners remain active by providing 25 hours of service and completing 10 hours of continuing education yearly.

Anyone with an interest in gardening and a commitment to volunteer service can become a Master Gardener. No previous education or training is required. To apply for the next class, call: 973-305-5740 or email cd765@njaes.rutgers.edu. MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF PASSAIC COUNTY



Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station - Cooperative Extension of Passaic County 1310 Route 23 North Wayne, NJ 07470 973-305-5740

Email: mastergardenerhelpline@njaes.rutgers.edu Website: www.mgapc.org https://passaic.njaes.rutgers.edu/garden/



New Jersey Agricultura Experiment Station COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PASSAIC COUNTY

### WHAT DO MASTER GARDENERS DO?

- Staff Rutgers Master Gardener Helpline to answer home gardeners' questions
- Provide gardening demonstrations
- Offer horticultural therapy at local nursing homes
- Staff information booths at county fairs and other public events
- Grow crops for food banks
- Speak about gardening topics to community groups
- Deliver community and youth gardening programs
- Continuing education programs



# PROJECTS Community beautification

- Bloomindale Senior Center
- Clifton Public Library

### **Pollinator gardens**

- Morris Canal Park
- Clifton Library
- Garrett Mountain Reservation Boathouse
- Preakness Healthcare Center
- Rutgers High Tunnel

### Horticultural therapy

• Preakness Healthcare Center

### Arboretum

- Friends of Laurelwood
- New Jersey Botanical Garden

## Library programming

- Seed starting program
- Tomato programs
- Tie Dye with plants

## **Community outreach**

- Passaic County Fair
- Boys and Girls Club
- The Great Tomato Tasting Event

# Volunteer through Horticulture

The Extension Master Gardener program was started in 1972 in the state of Washington. Passionate gardeners were trained to provide horticultural education in communities to assist the Extension Service. New Jersey held its first class in 1984.

In Passaic County, the first training program was offered in 1996. Since then, thousands of Master Gardeners have been trained through the state and given hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours in service to the residents of the Garden State. Rutgers Cooperative Extension Education programs are offered to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status.

