

2014 Lubbock County Master Gardeners

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The Lubbock Master Gardeners continue to be a strong presence and key component to horticulture education in Lubbock County. Taking the charge to educate Lubbock County residents about water conservation and home gardening seriously, the Master Gardeners directly educated over 200 participants during their Master's Touch classes in February and March and their Rainwater Harvesting Workshop in April. Additionally, the 65-member association reached over 55,000 people every Friday through their radio/television program on AM 950 and Suddenlink Channel as a part of the West Texas Ag-Life show with Eddie Griffis. This program always produced a fun, light-hearted conservation with serious educational content on everything from water conservation to home vegetable gardening and everything in between. The Lubbock Master Gardeners also maintained a monthly newsletter, active e-mail communication, website, and a Facebook page full of interesting, exciting, entertaining, and factual information.

Understanding well the incredible value and power in partnerships, the Lubbock Master Gardeners have worked extensively in the past year with the City of Wolfforth, City of Lubbock, Lubbock County, High Plains Water District, Lubbock Downtown Farmer's Market, local schools, and many more. These partnerships have fostered an environment and educational program which can best address the horticultural questions, concerns, and needs of residents of Lubbock County. From the 2014 Water Conservation Expo in Wolfforth which reached 300 people to the Lubbock Downtown Farmer's Market which reaches more than 1000 people every Saturday from June through October, the Master Gardeners have been a part of many great events and organizations throughout the area.

In 2014, 42 active master gardeners gave 2,350 hours of service time worth an estimated \$55,000 in volunteer equivalency time.

In 2015, in addition to the high quality programming which will be offered throughout the year, the Lubbock Master Gardeners will be starting their next intern class to find new friends and volunteers for the organization! If you're interested in becoming a member of the Lubbock Master Gardeners, please visit <http://www.LubbockMasterGardeners.org/> or call the Lubbock County Extension office at 806-775-1740 for more information. The course fee will be \$200 and will include all study materials and anything else needed for the course and will be held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from February 3 through April 7 from 2:00-5:00 PM at 916 Main Street.

The Lubbock County AgriLife Extension staff would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the Lubbock Master Gardeners for their hard work, time, and dedication to high quality education in Lubbock County!