

Master Gardeners™

Demonstration Garden Projects

Each year the current Master Gardener class is responsible for planning, planting, weeding and watering the garden areas and raised beds at the Demonstration Gardens, Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Garden and at the Ocean View Therapeutic Adaptive Garden. The purpose of the Gardens is to provide a learning experience for Apprentices, a volunteer opportunity for Master Gardeners, and ongoing educational demonstrations to the public. The Demonstration Gardens are open / visible to the public year round. **These gardens are a showcase for the public to admire, to learn gardening techniques; and, for you to demonstrate your gardening abilities.**

Under the guidance of Demonstration Garden Coordinators and Mentors, Apprentices do the following:

- Choose one of the demonstration gardens for a project.
- Identify and plan a team or solo project.
- Plant and maintain the bed(s) and assist in the garden as needed.
- Prepare instructional materials, such as plant labels.
- Prepare educational information displayed at the bed(s) and handouts for Open House/MG Events.
- Participate in the public Open House/MG Events.
- Prepare and keep updated the Project Data Sheets (PDS).
- Prepare an end-of-season report about the project, including photographs taken during the growing season. Copies of the report and photographs should be provided to the Extension MG Program Coordinator. A copy of the PDS & photos will be provided to each demo garden to include as part of their historical record.
- Winterize the bed(s).

Time working in the demonstration garden and preparing material count toward your 30 Apprentice community volunteer service hours.

Apprentices may work together sharing care of the beds (such as watering), but ultimate responsibility rests with each apprentice.

Each bed should illustrate a gardening idea or theme, such as the use of cloches, cover crops, adaptive gardening, square foot or vertical gardening, variety trials, the use of windscreens or some other technique that has an educational focus. The gardens should be planned, planted and maintained throughout the growing season. This is an opportunity to put into practice techniques you have learned or to experiment as part of the learning process.

It is the job of Demonstration Garden Coordinators/Mentors to provide you with educational material, guidance and monitoring so you can better understand what is required to implement your garden project plan.

Coordinators need to document meetings along with a list of attendees and provide a 1 page summary sent to the MG Program Coordinator and a cc: to the LCMGA President at least on a monthly basis prior to the Board meetings.

Demo Garden Coordinators also have the responsibility to maintain a record of funds allocated to the garden. LCMGA Treasurer sends out spreadsheet at the beginning of the calendar year and as transactions are posted to the account. Coordinators also need to pre-authorize expense claim forms that are submitted and forwarded to the Treasurer for payment or reimbursement.