



QUOTES

COMMENTS FROM NEW MASTER GARDENER TRAINEES:

"I will definitely deal with pesticides differently, if I use them at all."

"I look forward to serving the community in increasing people's knowledge of gardening and protecting the environment."

"I won't weed and feed my lawn."

"I had no idea how much it would change my life. I feel blessed to have become part of the community."

"I will share what I learned—all of it—with neighbors, friends, etc. so that they can make use of it in decision-making."

"I will try to use products not harmful to the environment."

"This program is very well organized and provides many diverse opportunities to participate in promoting gardening practices in the community."

"I am understanding better how horticulture and mother nature work together."

"I came to Washington a stranger and through this program I have made so many good friends and have learned so much about Kitsap that it might have taken me years to learn."

IMPACTS

42 citizens attended Kitsap Master Gardener Training, a 12 week program with online horticulture curriculum from WSU and 10 weeks of in class lectures on topics such as Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Gardening & Water Quality, and Plant Problem Diagnosis. Trainees are taught where to locate science-based resources with efficacious and safe pest control information to use at home and share with the public. 41 of those students went on to graduate as certified WSU Kitsap Master Gardeners. Certified Master Gardeners return to the trainings annually to earn required continuing education hours.

Post-certification evaluation indicated that all of Master Gardener Trainees (100%, 21 of 21 respondents) began new environmentally conscious natural resource and environmental stewardship practices or increased these practices since becoming a Master Gardener. All of the Master Gardener Trainees increased their knowledge through the MG program and 100% (21 of 21) indicated that participating in the MG Program improved their quality of life.

Kitsap Master Gardeners provided advice for homeowners at 269 regularly scheduled plant diagnostic clinics at 5 farmers market locations (Port Orchard, Bremerton, Poulsbo, Bainbridge Island, Kingston), our business office and other locations countywide. "Home Composting Made Easy", "Natural Yard Care" and "Kick the Weed and Feed Habit" booklets are popular publications Master Gardeners reference and distribute to the public. A total of 5771 people received individualized help from MG volunteers and 3128 specific garden related questions were answered for citizens.

All the demonstration and community gardens MGs plan, manage and lovingly tend are maintained with organic methods to protect our water resources. Sustainable methods are on display at these gardens for citizens to adopt at home including composting demonstrations in partnership with Kitsap County Solid Waste. 114 individuals in total attended classes on the safe and proper use of pesticides from WSU and Master Gardeners. Kitsap Master Gardeners succeeded in coordinating 142 workshops, demonstrations and field days for adults and children that focused on stewardship of natural resources and environmental protection.