

GARDENER GAZETTE

Quarterly Newsletter of AJMPU Unit Master Gardeners

COVID-19 UPDATE

After consideration and approval by Extension administration, on July 6, Illinois Extension Master Gardeners will have the option to start volunteering at their local volunteer project sites, with the requirement that no more than 10 people be present and established safety guidelines are followed.

Before returning to volunteering, you must confirm with your Master Gardener Coordinator, Erin Garrett, that the activities you plan to participate in have been approved. Be prepared to give details about location, time, and contacts. Pre-approval is required.

Please note that all Extension sponsored events and public programs continue to be postponed or hosted virtually until July 31. Master Gardener volunteers have received special permission to return to volunteering and it applies only to working solo or in very small groups with fellow volunteers at approved sites. Volunteering with the general public and any other audience is not permitted at this time.

REMEMBER, because of limited volunteer opportunities available, the 30-hour volunteer requirement to maintain your active status for 2020 has been waived.

This is an evolving situation, so these guidelines are subject to change, based on guidance from the University of Illinois and guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control. We appreciate the commitment of our volunteers to these volunteer programs, as well as your patience and commitment to safety as we navigate these times.

Updates will be emailed as they become available. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out.



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**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

Questions?

Erin Garrett

emedvecz@illinois.edu | 618-833-6363

Master Gardener Coordinator for
Alexander, Johnson, Massac, Pulaski,
and Union Counties

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AS OF JULY 6

Below are volunteer opportunities as of July 6. Please contact Erin Garrett and the respective site staff prior to volunteering.

- Fort Massac State Park – pollinator garden care
 - Contact Amy Keigher - 618-524-4712 - amy.keigher@illinois.gov
- River to River CWMA – boot brush project
 - Contact Nick Seaton - rtrcwma@gmail.com
- Giant City State Park – pollinator garden care
 - Contact Jennifer Randolph - 618-457-4836 - jennifer.randolph@illinois.gov
- Cache River State Natural Area – pollinator demonstration garden care, various other landscaping tasks, assistance with cleaning signs along trails
 - Contact Molie Oliver - 618-657-2064 - molie.oliver@illinois.gov

CONTINUING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

University of Illinois Extension has developed a wealth of content since March, including numerous recorded webinars, blog posts, and podcasts. Check out this website for links to learning opportunities!

<https://extension.illinois.edu/global/online-resources>



NEW WAYS TO CONNECT

Illinois Extension Horticulture Group

Do you have a gardening question? Snap a picture and post it in the new Illinois Extension Horticulture Group on Facebook! This group brings all University of Illinois Extension Horticulture Experts together to answer your gardening questions. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/ILextensionHorticulture/ to join the group!



Illinois Master Gardener Website

U of I Extension Master Gardener program has a new statewide webpage on Extension's new website. Visit extension.illinois.edu/mg as a central page for volunteer resources, reporting, and upcoming online learning opportunities!