

Total contact reach
154,320

Total dollar value of service
\$3.6 million

Total volunteer hours
127,698

Total pounds
of produce donated
40,197

Total continuing
education hours
21,381

Total social media reach
10,105

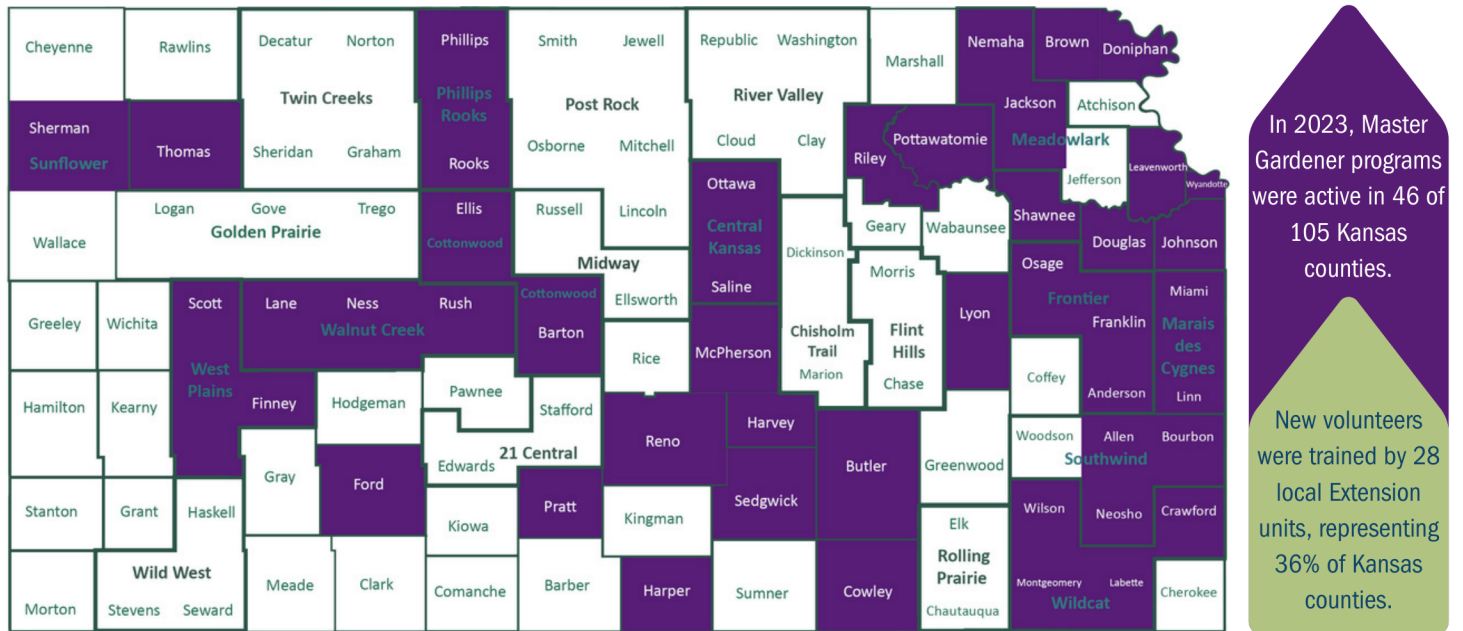
Total number of volunteers
2,021

Total new trainees
229

Total number of counties
46



Growing Master Gardeners in Kansas



Community Projects

Service & Fundraising

Western Kansas

West Plains District Extension Master Gardeners participated in a variety of community service and fundraising projects during the 2023 season. During Food Truck Fridays at Stevens Park in downtown Garden City, volunteers hosted an educational booth selling donated potted plants and answering gardening questions, such as best varieties for the area and best cultural practices. Food Truck Fridays attracted nearly 300 visitors and was a great venue to talk all things gardening!



The West Plains volunteer program also began establishing a grant-sponsored handicap accessible raised bed garden site at the Finney County Extension office to support mobility impaired gardeners. (Janet Harkness, 2023 Report)

Kids in the Garden

Central Kansas



Kids in the Garden, an educational program for kindergarten classes, began in 2023 and has reached over 500 youth in Butler County. Local Extension Master Gardeners visited classrooms, libraries, and home-school groups to teach youth about plant parts, how plants grow, and the importance of pollinators and composting. Youth participated in interactive activities, such as creating a butterfly, planting seeds, learning which ingredients in pizza rely on pollinators, and even holding a worm!

A teacher thanked volunteers stating, “This is the best guest speaker series I have ever had in my years of teaching. The youth love it! It’s very hands-on and educational.” (Calla Edwards, 2023 Report)

Horticulture Therapy

Eastern Kansas

Wyandotte County Extension Master Gardeners make a difference and develop lasting friendships with disabled and senior residents at Delaware Highlands Assisted Living (DHAL) through on-site horticultural education and therapeutic gardening. Volunteers actively involved residents in planning, planting and harvesting the vegetable garden, as well as cutting flowers for vases. The program has become an integral part of the residents lives and participation continues to grow.

"The garden projects have really kept me up and going," says Bob, DHAL resident. "It keeps a lot of people excited."



(2023 Search for Excellence Award Video, Wyandotte County Extension Master Gardener Program)