

Total contact reach
170,329

Total dollar value of service
\$3.8 million

Total volunteer hours
128,979

Total pounds
of produce donated
56,975

Total continuing
education hours
19,855

Total social media reach
10,600

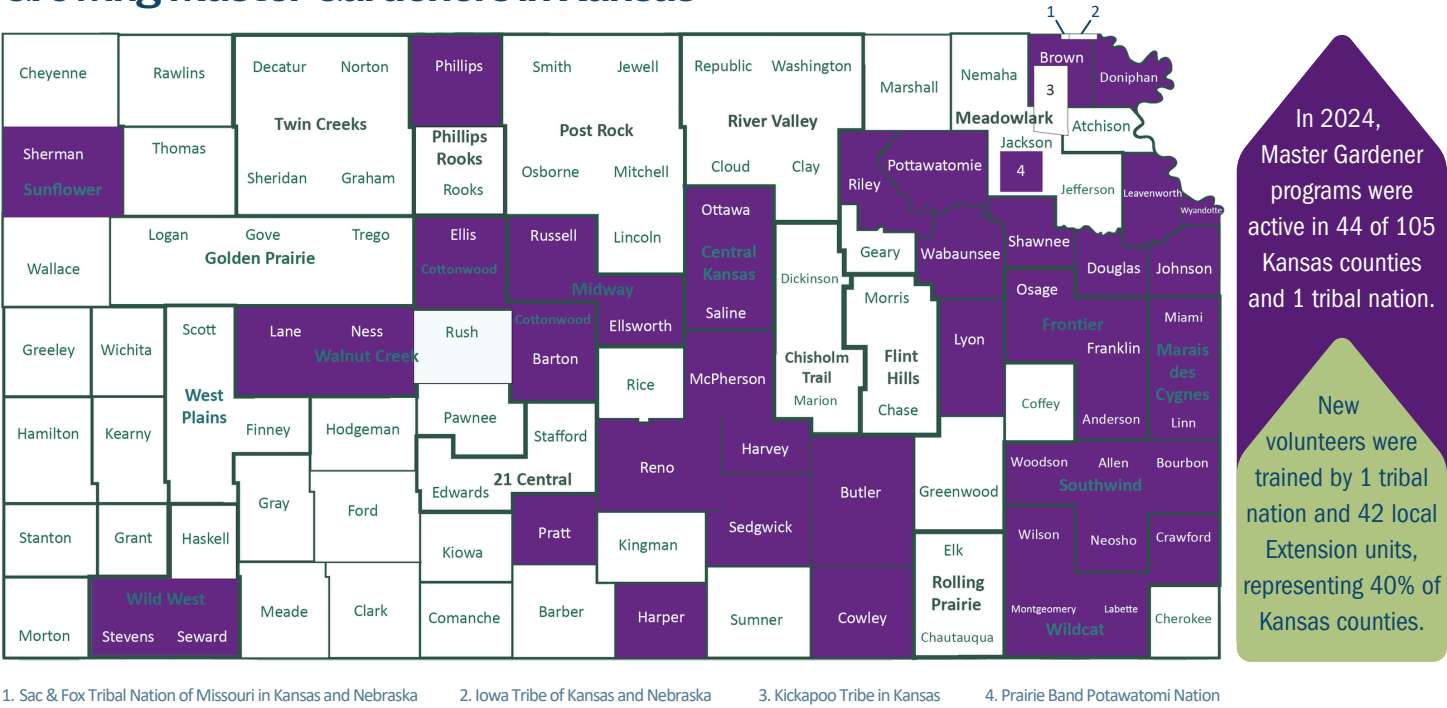
Total number of volunteers
1,830

Total new trainees
264

Total number of counties
44



Growing Master Gardeners in Kansas



Community Projects

Reviving Roots

Western Kansas

The Golden Prairie Extension District has successfully started the process of re-establishing the Extension Master Gardener program locally. Five enthusiastic participants completed basic training in 2024 and are eagerly planning new community projects. After several years without an active local volunteer program, the District plans to begin installing demonstration gardens and hosting educational outreach events for youth and adults alike.



The group's first project will be collaborating with an existing seed exchange program at the Oakley Public Library with the goal of further educating the public on how to save seeds from the garden and why it is important. By reinvigorating the program, they hope to increase community awareness and involvement in consumer horticulture.

Shared Abundance

Central Kansas



For 25 years, the national *Plant a Row for the Hungry* program has encouraged gardeners to share their harvests to help combat hunger. In Sedgwick County, this initiative thrives through a partnership between the Extension Master Gardener program, ICT Food Rescue, and local businesses. Fresh produce is redistributed or prepared as healthy meals, reaching those who need it most.

In 2024, Sedgwick County Extension Master Gardener volunteers, along with local gardeners, grew and donated 4,404 pounds of fresh vegetables, fruit, and herbs, contributing to 3,670 meals with an estimated value of over \$8,456. With 10.9% of county residents facing food insecurity, the program provides an opportunity for volunteers to make a direct impact in their community.

Growing Knowledge

Eastern Kansas

The Lyon County Extension Master Gardener program has been cultivating a love for gardening through its *Grow Your Garden* educational series since 2019. In 2024, volunteers connected with 68 learners to expand their gardening knowledge through hands-on plant-related activities. Participants took part in interactive workshops including DIY seed paper, flower preservation, floral design, seed starting, garden hardscaping, and crafting seasonal decor such as pumpkin centerpieces and holiday wreaths.



By engaging with attendees in a fun and educational setting, these workshops teach valuable skills and foster interest in gardening while introducing the community to the Master Gardener program while encouraging potential new volunteers to join and contribute to future outreach efforts.