TEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION









Texas Master Gardener 1978-2018

2018 marked the 40th Anniversary of the Texas Master Gardener Program. Over the past 40 years, 31 thousand trained volunteers donated more than 12-million hours of service to fellow Texans, which equates to an economic impact greater than \$200 million dollars.

Over 835 attendees celebrated the accomplishments of the program at the 40th Anniversary Conference in April 2018. The profit from the conference was \$63,255, divided between the Texas Master Gardener Association, Brazos County Master Gardeners, and the Texas Master Gardener State office for their efforts coordinating the conference. The fee-based programming return to the agency was \$7,700.

Texas Master Gardener Program Annual Benefits

In 2018, over 7,500 volunteers gave 609,500 hours of service. Master Gardener volunteers served by answering over 15,000 questions; providing more than 2,000 presentations reaching 80,000 attendees; and teaching in excess of 600 youth and adult demonstration gardens. Master Gardeners grew 58,800 lbs. of produce and donated 45,700 lbs. to local food banks.

The service Texas Master Gardeners provide is equivalent of 304 full-time employees and imparts an economic impact of \$12 million dollars annually.