

**2010 Annual Report
Louisiana Master Gardener™
Extension Volunteer Program**

Overview

There are 23 Louisiana Master Gardener (LMG) programs encompassing 44 parishes which represent 96% of Louisiana's population centers. LMGs are partners with LSU AgCenter personnel and officially represent the LSU AgCenter. The program allows Extension to extend education to an ever-increasing gardening audience and meet the public demand for information. The increased need for consumer horticulture information and improved public access to the LSU AgCenter has proven that highly trained LMGs presenting research-based information are recognized in their community as a primary resource for unbiased information. No other one program has contributed more visibly and effectively to the overall productivity of the horticultural area of the LSU AgCenter in the last 15 years than the LMG Program.

Impact

Volunteer opportunities identified and activities approved by Extension faculty are varied and meet local parish needs. They include working with school and 4-H youth, nursing home residents, home gardeners, answering telephone calls, e-mail communications, performing on-site plant health care clinics, utilizing demonstration and community and school gardening programs, public presentations and workshops, pest identification and recommendations, best management practices, garden shows and plant sales, municipal and community landscape projects, media efforts (newsletters, cable TV broadcasts), partnering with civic organizations and municipal entities, educational tours, plant trials and evaluation, urban tree protection and preservation, state conference, and on-site consultations. In 2010, the Louisiana Master Gardener program trained 222 new volunteers increasing the active number of LMGs statewide to 1736. These volunteers provided 55,841 hours of their time to Extension educational projects. Through the efforts of these volunteers 1,649,687 people were exposed to research-based consumer horticulture information. This volunteer service, equivalent to 34.9 full-time employees, increases the human capacity of Extension by 16.2 percent. The economic value of this service translates to a \$1,309,861 dollar benefit to the State of Louisiana.

Volunteer Contribution

LMGs Trained in 2010	222
LMGs Returning from Previous Years	1,514
Active LMGs (Reporting)	1,736
Volunteer Retention	77%
Volunteer Hours for 2010	55,841.3
Average Individual LMG Hours	32
FTE Value @ 1920	29.08
Value of Volunteer Hours @ \$20/hr	\$1,116,826.00
Total Volunteer Contacts for 2010	1,649,687
Average LMG Contacts	950
CEU Hours for 2010	13,496.51
Average Individual CEU 6 hrs per LMG required	7.77
LMG Mileage for 2010	333,052.33
Value of LMG Mileage @.48	\$159,865.12
Unreimbursed LMG Volunteer Expenses	\$33,169.71
Total LMG Volunteer Value	\$1,309,860.83

2010 Louisiana Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program Annual Report

LMG Program Name	Total LMGs Trained in 2010	LMGs Trained from Previous Years	Returning LMGs	Active LMGs	Volunteer Retention	Volunteer Hours for 2010	Average Individual LMG Hours	FTE @ 1920	Total Volunteer Contacts for 2010
CenLa	23	1	22	23	96%	369.5	16	0.19	30996
Delta	5	1	4	5	80%	8	2	0.00	120
EBR	194	15	161	176	83%	9934.2	56	5.17	99608
Greater New Orleans	206	29	170	199	83%	5218.68	26	2.72	99174
Lafayette	188	16	158	174	84%	7079.55	41	3.69	145917
LaTerre	124	10	64	74	52%	2965.6	40	1.54	23568
Livingston	14	0	14	14	100%	245	18	0.13	3990
Natchitoches	31	0	31	31	100%	282	9	0.15	2439
Northcentral	32	4	27	31	84%	612.02	20	0.32	10756
Northeast	114	18	67	85	59%	2345.75	28	1.22	300052
Northwest	242	30	180	210	74%	7622.27	36	3.97	159042
Piney Hill	117	17	99	116	85%	3270.45	28	1.70	43868
Plantation	72	6	66	72	92%	1934.25	27	1.01	33942
Tri Parish	38	10	28	38	74%	625	16	0.33	27574
River Region	30	0	30	30	100%	762.25	25	0.40	8370
Sabine	34	0	34	34	100%	746.5	22	0.39	12551
Southwest St. Martin/Iberia	18	1	17	18	94%	36.2	2	0.02	4351
St. Tammany	200	26	111	137	56%	5682.4	41	2.96	370998
Tangipahoa	87	0	80	80	92%	1871.93	23	0.97	127847
Washington	29	0	29	29	100%	114.5	4	0.06	391
W. Feliciana	43	13	27	40	63%	903.4	23	0.47	22210
TOTAL	1962	222	1514	1736	77%	55841.3	32	29.08	1649687

2010 Louisiana Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program Annual Report (Continued)

LMG Program Name	Average LMG Contacts	CEU Hours for 2010	Average Individual CEU 6 hrs per LMG required	LMG Mileage for 2010	Value of Mileage @ \$.48	Unreimbursed LMG Volunteer Expenses	Total LMG Volunteer Value
CenLa	1348	177	7.70	3441	\$1,651.68	203.00	\$9,614.18
Delta	24		0.00	6	2.88	0.00	170.88
EBR	566	1661.74	9.44	29894.1	14,349.17	2,800.66	225,768.03
Greater New Orleans	498	1255.05	6.31	23526.82	11,292.87	3,858.01	124,743.16
Lafayette	839	1168.5	6.72	51989	\$24,954.72	\$1,517.50	\$175,142.77
LaTerre	318	726.55	9.82	18384.14	\$8,824.39	\$294.00	\$71,395.99
Livingston	285	86	6.14	1402	\$672.96	\$17.00	\$5,834.96
Natchitoches	79	99	3.19	1139	\$546.72	\$462.00	\$6,930.72
Northcentral	347	201.5	6.50	4988.5	\$2,394.48	\$651.96	\$15,898.86
Northeast	6530	774.45	9.11	15545	\$7,461.60	\$1,390.28	\$58,112.63
Northwest	757	1545.33	7.36	34965.92	\$16,783.64	\$2,166.44	\$179,017.75
Piney Hill	378	1058.5	9.13	20701.55	\$9,936.74	\$1,523.16	\$80,139.35
Plantation	471	489	6.79	11394.5	\$5,469.36	\$1,506.90	\$47,95.51
Tri Parish	726	573.7	15.10	9403.5	\$4,513.68	\$886.49	\$18,525.17
River Region	279	262.5	8.75	3750.28	\$1800.13	\$194.00	\$18,001.38
Sabine	369	276	8.12	9325	\$4,476.00	\$2,594.00	\$22,746.50
Southwest St. Martin/Iberia	242	5.75	0.32	588	\$282.24	\$0.00	\$1,042.44
St. Tammany	2708	1176.55	8.59	35445.5	\$17,013.84	\$4,597.39	\$140,941.36
Tangipahoa	1598	623.64	7.80	32354.02	\$15,529.93	\$2,924.35	\$57,764.81
Washington	13	24	0.83	710	\$340.80	\$252.35	\$2,997.65
W. Feliciana	555	188.25	4.71	3166.5	\$1,519.92	\$975.00	\$21,466.32
TOTAL	950	13496.51	7.77	333052.33	\$159,865.12	\$33,169.71	\$1,309,861.13

Program Highlights

The Louisiana Master Gardener program in partnership with extension faculty has allowed for a continued expansion of programs and increased educational outreach to new audiences. In 2010, the 23 LMG programs statewide that involved 1,736 Master Gardener volunteers reached more than 160,000 Louisiana residents through a variety of educational program activities and training. Following are highlights of the various LMG program activities conducted during 2010.

Assoc. of Natchitoches LMG Program (Natchitoches, Sabine Parishes)

- 61 active MG volunteers
- Gardening symposium "Blooming on the Bricks"
- Greenhouse training program for inmates on basic gardening and landscaping

Atchafalaya LMG Program (Iberia, St. Martin Parishes)

- 18 active MG volunteers
- Beautification program for Main Avenue in New Iberia
- Educational workshop and presentation to the public "Blooming on the Bayou"
- Youth gardening program at parish schools
- Landscape projects at parish libraries

Beauregard LMG Program (Beauregard Parish)

- 12 active MG volunteers
- Demonstration gardens at Parish Fairgrounds
- Jr. Master Gardener programs
- Educational exhibits, presentations at Parish Spring Garden Forum and Parish Fair
- Community Education demonstrations on Gourds Living Wreaths, Hypertufa containers and roses
- Open house with garden information presented to the public
- Vegetable garden contest for parish school students

Cenla LMG Program (Rapides, Avoyelles Parishes)

- 19 active MG volunteers
- Demonstration vegetable garden at Kent House Plantation

Delta LMG Program (E. Carroll, Franklin, Madison, Richland, Tensas, W. Carroll Parishes)

- 5 active MG volunteers
- Spring gardening workshops
- School educational programs
- Landscaping projects at Madison Parish High School

East Baton Rouge LMG Program (East Baton Rouge Parish)

- 188 active MG volunteers
- Speakers Bureau providing horticulture educational programs to the public
- Gardening programs including 13 community garden projects
- Annual Plant Sales and Plant Health Clinics for providing gardening information and education
- Assistance on landscape care to Habitat for Humanity residents

Greater New Orleans LMG Program (Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, Plaquemines Parishes)

- 200 active MG volunteers
- Assistance to mentally disabled at ARC Uptown with conducting cut flower and perennial gardening programs
- Maintain butterfly garden at Audubon Zoo
- Educational booth at Gretna Farmers' Market
- Gardening projects for youth at Holly Grove Farm and Market
- Maintain camellias at Longue Vue Gardens
- Educational presentation and displays at New Orleans Botanical Garden Spring and Fall Garden Shows

Lafayette LMG Program (Lafayette Parish)

- 173 active MG volunteers
- Distribution of horticulture hints to area businesses
- Publish and distribute monthly LMG newsletter
- Media broadcasts on local TV news channel
- Monthly garden talks for home gardeners
- Annual plant sales
- Annual Garden Show "Festival De Flues"
- Establishment of demonstration garden - ornamental and vegetable
- Construction and maintenance to children's demonstration garden
- Educational booths at festivals and fairs
- School gardening programs throughout the parish

LaHouse LMG Program (East Baton Rouge Parish)

- 16 active MG volunteers
- Development and construction of landscape and vegetable demonstration gardens
- Seasonal gardening programs, workshops, and seminars on lawn care, fruit trees, vegetables, ornamentals, disease and insect maintenance
- Educational exhibits, demonstrations, presentations and plant sales at Annual Spring Garden Show

LaTerre LMG Program (Lafourche, St. Mary, Terrebonne Parishes)

- 74 active MG volunteers
- Assistance and training to homeowner for Habitat for Humanity
- Development of various community gardens
- Landscape assistance at Folk Life Culture Center
- Educational displays, presentations and plant sales at Bonne Terre Garden Fair
- Assistance to National Park Service with design of landscape beds – "First Bloom Program"
- Vegetable garden field day events held twice yearly for home gardener education
- School gardening educational programs
- Vegetable gardening programs for the mentally challenged at TARC and senior citizen homes

Livingston LMG Program (Livingston Parishes)

- 13 active MG volunteers
- Plant Health Clinic at local farmers' market
- Restoration of Crape Myrtle project for Watson Blvd.
- Establishment of school butterfly garden
- Plant swap clinics at local libraries
- Christmas tree recycling projects

- Tomato variety demonstrations

North Central LMG Program (Bienville, Jackson, Lincoln, Union Parishes)

- 31 active MG volunteers
- Youth gardening programs in Lincoln Parish
- Community Garden Program that involved networking with students from La. Technical College

North East LMG Program (Ouachita Parish)

- 85 active MG volunteers
- Displays, programs and presentations for Ag Expo
- Educational classes to regional clientele on bulb gardening, indoor plant care, sustainable gardening, pruning woody plants and rose culture
- Educational booths and demonstrations at local farmers' market
- Planning committees and hosting of 2010 State LMG Conference
- Public programs on roses, butterfly and gardening
- Community and school gardening workshops

North West LMG Program (Bossier, Caddo, Desoto Parishes)

- 213 active MG volunteers
- Building community garden support city-wide
- World of Gardening quarterly seminar series
- Landscape maintenance of the Pioneer Heritage Center
- Speakers Bureau providing garden talks and presentations
- Hotline for answering gardening questions
- Write and distribute quarterly newsletter
- Greenhouse production programs
- Garden tour – "Annual Le Tour des Jar dins"

Piney Hills LMG Program (Webster, Claiborne, Bienville Parishes)

- 117 active MG volunteers
- Gardening seminar at annual "Buds and Blooms" and "Jonquil Jubilee Garden Festival"
- Garden tours for public education "Trails and Trellis"
- Youth gardening program at schools and 4-H club programs
- Sponsoring and conducting annual 4-H garden contest
- Educational programs on wildflower projects
- Demonstration gardens planted at Community Health Center
- Quarterly newsletter written and published
- Speakers bureau for conducting garden talks and presentations
- Answering horticulture calls at parish Extension offices

Plantation LMG Program (Ascension, St. James Parishes)

- 72 active MG volunteers
- Educational booths at local festivals and garden shows
- Gardening workshops on tree care and plant disease management
- Pumpkin project for senior citizens' home
- Fact sheets for educational gardening newsletter

River Region LMG Program (St. Charles, St. John Parishes)

- 30 active MG volunteers
- Community gardening workshops in spring and fall on butterfly gardening, propagation, roses, composting, landscaping, citrus and vegetables
- Educational booth at festivals, local garden shows and farmers' markets
- Beautification projects at nursing homes, parks and local high schools
- Educational projects involving greenhouse tomatoes and historical vintage gardens
- Youth gardening projects involving Heritage Day, Farm Day and school vegetable gardens

South West LMG Program (Calcasieu Parish)

- 103 active MG volunteers
- Beautification projects for parish tourist center
- Gardening programs for senior citizens and parish home gardeners

St. Tammany LMG Program (St. Tammany Parish)

- 136 active MG volunteers
- Planning committee for LMG program events
- Vegetable workshops at local libraries
- Displays, presentations at annual North Shore Garden Show
- Plant sales for awarding horticulture scholarships
- Educational programs at Herb Festival
- Write and distribute parish monthly LMG newsletter
- Gardening demonstration for rehabilitation therapy to recovering hospital patients
- Gardening advice and leadership to various parish school gardening programs
- Bi-monthly walking nature tour – "Mandeville Walk in the Woods"

Tangipahoa LMG Program (Tangipahoa Parish)

- 80 active MG volunteers
- Public workshops on trees and ornamental plant care
- Spring vegetable workshops
- Garden tours – "Camellia Stroll"
- Educational presentation at Spring Garden Day
- Assist school gardening projects
- Garden talks to local garden clubs
- Plant Health Clinics at local feed stores
- Displays at various events throughout the year

Tri-Parish LMG Program (Iberville, Point Coupee, W. Baton Rouge Parishes)

- 38 active MG volunteers
- Advisement on landscape projects for Habitat for Humanity
- Establishment of landscape beautification projects at nursing home
- Construction of greenhouse and demonstration vegetable gardens
- Establishment of patriotic school gardens

Washington LMG Program (Washington Parish)

- 29 active MG volunteers
- Vegetable gardening workshops for Head Start Center
- Educational displays and presentations at parish fair

- Pruning project training of parish workers
- Landscape beautification projects at parish courthouse

West Feliciana LMG Program (W. Feliciana Parish)

- 43 active MG volunteers
- Public garden tour – Spring Stroll”
- Educational booths at farmers’ market
- Gardening programs at parish schools
- Establishment of vegetable garden and assistance to veterans at War Veterans’ Home
- Educational gardening seminars for home gardeners
- Assist with annual parish school program “Wetlands Day”
- Assist with environmental school lessons on “Deer Day”