



## Park County Master Gardeners

### 2015 Community Outreach

#### About us... *we are a community*

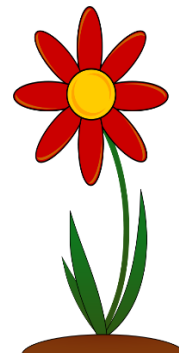
- ❖ Our Master Gardener program was founded in **1997**.
- ❖ We have **23 Active Master Gardeners & 15 Interns**.
- ❖ We are **trained UW Extension volunteers** who assist clients with horticultural concerns/needs in Park County and adjoining Big Horn Basin communities. In addition to enhancing our individual expertise through continuing education programs, Park County Master Gardeners also augment their knowledge and love of gardening by networking with other Big Horn Basin gardeners and friends of horticulture.
- ❖ We assist with Master Gardener education and training activities, by partnering with UW Extension educators, in Park and adjacent Big Horn Basin Counties.
- ❖ Master Gardeners are available to answer inquiries seeking horticulture assistance and/or advice and are available to make occasional home visits and/or yard calls.
- ❖ Master Gardeners speak to local groups and participate in workshops that focus on a variety of horticultural topics of interest to the public.
- ❖ Master Gardeners aid, assist and support the following local educational venues:
  - *Community Garden projects... enhance/beautify public areas*
  - *Demonstration garden projects... create and maintain a cultural garden displaying period specific plant types/species*
  - *Farmers Markets... growers, participants and facilitators*
  - *Park County School District 1st Grade outreach... provide exposure to age appropriate plant science; good bugs/bad bugs in the garden; etc.*
  - *Youth gardening... expose kids to plant science and experience vegetable gardening*
  - *Tree Board, Arbor Day activities, etc.*
- ❖ We publish a monthly newsletter, the **Sage Gardener** that contains upcoming events, topical horticultural features and noteworthy gardening 'bits & pieces'.
- ❖ We have supported the following educational endeavors:
  - *Tuition aid for the Master Gardener 'instructional education program' for Trainee's.*
  - *Aid for local, regional and national workshops for Master Gardeners "in good standing".*

## 19 years of volunteering & supporting rural and urban horticulture 1997 ~ 2015

### By the numbers...



- ❖ Park County Master Gardeners contributed **1174 hours** of volunteer time to public horticultural endeavors in their respective communities.  
  
The **economic value** of those horticultural volunteer hours to the State of Wyoming is estimated to be **\$27,542** (value of volunteer time derived from independentsector.org for Wyoming).
- ❖ Park County Master Gardeners also make countless **community contacts** with benefactors on a variety of horticultural issues and topics throughout the Big Horn Basin.
- ❖ Park County Master Gardeners also acquired **305 hours** of supplemental horticultural education, thus enhancing their combined horticultural knowledge and expertise.
- ❖ Moreover, each year, Park County Master Gardeners participate in the following **Community Service fundraisers**: *Rotary Club Christmas Tree Decoration contest & Cody Festival of Wreaths*.
- ❖ Park County Master Gardeners have also organized and donated fresh produce to **Community Assistance Programs** over the years.



Bob Prchal 02/13/16