2011 U of I Extension Master Gardener Accomplishments and Stats

Hours of Service
2011 volunteer hours: 190,196   (the equivalent of 91 full-time staff)
2011 continuing education hours: 40,140
Number of adult contacts: 65,000+
Number of youth contact: 24,000+
Number of active MGs and interns: 3440
2011 Value of volunteer service (based on the value of a volunteer hour of $22.25 from the Independent Sector): $4.23 million dollars
2011 estimated pounds of produce donated to PAR and the needy: 180,000

Training
2011 new Master Gardeners trained: 683 including 130 online
168 face-to-face class sessions @ 6 hours/session = 1,008 hours of class time taught by educators (does not include prep time for lessons)
33 Extension educators were involved with training- Horticulture with help from Crops, IPM, NRES and state specialists
2011 Pre and Post Master gardener training results: 183 trainees participated 26.8% increase in score from pre-test to post-test

Accomplishments
--The manual which was released in Dec 2009, received the 2010 ASHS (American Society of Horticultural Science) Extension book award.
--In 2011, Illinois MGs received three International Search For Excellence awards: Emerald Ash Borer/Ash Tree Inventory- Boone County (1st place award); Rain Barrel Workshops-Macon County and the Juvenile Detention Center Youth Project- Champaign County.
--The MG program has pioneered use of technology for training- both with the online Compass training course and the use of LIVE and taped Elluminate sessions for core course training and continuing education.
--Volunteer reporting system launched statewide for use by staff and volunteers.