

Signature Program Action Plan

Team	Horticulture and Forestry
Program Title	Home Horticulture - Master Gardener Program
Program Coordinator(s)	Dr. Ron Smith
Situation	With the increasing urbanization of ND, greater horticultural knowledge is needed.
Objective(s)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage citizens interested in horticulture in the Master Gardener program 2. Encourage volunteerism in the community and county offices to assist with horticulture related questions
Extension response (planned activities – meetings/workshops, bulletins, field days, etc.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct IVN-based training every fall semester 2. Sustain the training with streaming for students unable to physically attend classes 3. Provide opportunities for initiation to horticultural knowledge as well as advanced knowledge through NDSU Extension’s “Gardening Saturdays” during spring semester 4. Institute a recertification program for Master Gardeners on an annual basis once the initial 48 hours of volunteer work is satisfied; extend that to an “Advanced Master Gardener” certification with 3 consecutive years of recertification 5. Continue with Face-to-Face programs beyond the “Gardening Saturdays” by responding with various media to county agent requests.
Evaluation plan/tool	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Document hours of service from Master Gardener volunteers 2. Tally the number of new participants
Anticipated impacts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greater volunteerism throughout the state of North Dakota 2. More ‘grass root’ support for NDSU Extension Horticulture programs 3. Better management of home landscapes in a responsible manner 4. More local food production from back yard gardening efforts by Master Gardener