NC STATE EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Buncombe County

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Master Gardener volunteers in Buncombe County.

Across Buncombe County, volunteers with the NC State **Extension Master Gardener**[SM] program strengthen Extension's delivery of research-based knowledge to community members, helping them transform science into everyday solutions that improve their lives and grow our state.

SNAPSHOT

91
Volunteers

6,754
Client Contacts

7,789
Volunteer hours

$270,979
Value of volunteer time

Learn. Grow. Share.

Extension Master Gardener[SM] volunteers provide educational outreach connecting Buncombe County residents with the environmental, economic and health benefits of gardening. Here are highlights of their work.

2025 WNC Gardening Symposium

The 2025 WNC Gardening Symposium, with over 300 participants, was a great success. *The annual event is a multi-county* initiative, led by Buncombe County EMG volunteers and has a thirty-one member committee representing six counties—Buncombe, Catawba, Haywood, Henderson, McDowell, and Polk. The committee members work on the symposium the entire year, sharing their expertise, knowledge, leadership, and individual skills along with kindness and sense of humor. Working together, toward a shared goal of presenting a quality event, they have become friends, always supporting and helping each other.

The success of the symposium is the result of the synergy between the EMG volunteers, the speakers, and the sponsors/vendors and caterers. It truly takes a village!

School Garden Grant - Weaverville Primary School

In the words of the Teacher: “Our children were able to see the garden grow literally from the soil provided. We started with the filling of our garden beds and then planted our spring (and now fall) crops. Through getting their hands in the dirt, they have helped grow multiple vegetables, harvested, taste tested, and shared with their families.

Our students…LOVE our garden projects. The families think it is one of the things that helps our school stand out from others and provides their children with quality hands-on learning. We have many parents and community members that volunteer to help each week as we tend our plants.”

Helping grow new gardeners is well worth the effort!

CONTACT

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