

Adult Behavioral Expectations for Master Gardener Volunteers

These Adult Behavioral Expectations give Master Gardener volunteers the opportunity to reaffirm their commitments and dedication to the well being of Indiana citizens. When Master Gardener volunteers sign a copy of this document, individuals are making a collective statement that youth and adult audiences are being treated with respect, dignity, and attention to individual needs.

In my role as a Purdue University Master Gardener volunteer, I will:

- Accept my responsibility to represent Purdue University and Master Gardener programs with dignity and pride by being a positive role model for the citizens of Indiana.
- Conduct myself in a courteous, respectful manner, and do my best to cooperate with others.
- Respect, adhere to, and enforce the rules, policies, and guidelines established by the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, including all laws related to child abuse and substance abuse.
- Understand that the “Indiana Master Gardener” title may only be used for approved volunteer activities within the Purdue University Master Gardener program, and not for commercial purposes.
- Provide non-biased information to the general public with no intended endorsement of specific products, companies, or services. I understand that I am to make recommendations only in the area of consumer horticulture. When it is necessary to make recommendations that include the use of pesticides, I will follow Purdue University policy regarding this issue.
- Understand that being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while representing Purdue University as a Master Gardener volunteer may result in termination as a Purdue University Master Gardener volunteer.
- Operate machinery, vehicles, and other equipment in a safe and responsible manner.
- Recognize that verbal or physical abuse, failure to comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws, or committing criminal acts may be grounds for termination as a Purdue University Master Gardener volunteer.

Procedures and Due Process for Termination of a Master Gardener Volunteer

1. A letter of reprimand will be sent to the volunteer by the program administrator.
2. Follow-up meeting with the administrator and the CED (County Extension Director).
3. Probation period with explicit goals and/or termination.
4. Final appeal of termination with County Extension Board.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to abide by the behavioral expectations in this document. I understand that my failure to comply with these expectations may result in my termination as a Purdue University Master Gardener volunteer.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

A signed copy of the Adult Behavioral Expectations for each Master Gardener volunteer will be on file in the respective administrative office.

It is the policy of Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to its programs and facilities without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action employer.