

GEORGIA MASTER GARDENER EXTENSION VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



Spotlight: Environmental Stewardship

The Tucker Butterfly Garden (tuckerbutterflygarden.org), a project begun in 2008, was designed and is maintained to attract butterflies. This pollinator garden demonstrates the cultivation of host and nectar plants that support the complete life cycle of butterflies. Through the garden, children and the general public are provided with education about these wonderful, colorful creatures.

The garden was the idea of two DeKalb County Master Gardener Extension Volunteers (MGEVs) who presented the idea for the project out of love for gardening and butterflies. The garden was created to benefit the public and is situated in a highly visible area in front of Tucker Recreation Center. It has many visits from garden clubs, children, and adults.

MGEVs have taken an innovative approach to teaching children at the garden. They have created a special garden host, Mrs. Fritillary. Mrs. Fritillary is a dressed mannequin, developed as a fashionable art attraction for the site, who shows off a seasonal wardrobe. Citizens in Tucker recognize Mrs. Fritillary and know to visit the garden often.

Each summer, The Tucker Butterfly Garden has an educational Butterfly and Friends Day for the children in summer camp at the Tucker Recreation Center. Activities include a butterfly and insect craft, learning a song, the butterfly dance, story-telling to act out the life cycle of a monarch butterfly, visiting the butterfly garden, and looking for gulf fritillary caterpillars. Lastly, they play a pollinator game to learn about how pollination works. Children end the day's activities with a ladybug release in the Butterfly Garden.

Tucker Butterfly Garden
Tucker, GA
Served by MGEVs from DeKalb County



2015 Project Contributions:

Volunteer Hours: 654
MGEV Work Days: 26
Planning Meetings: 12

Special thanks to MGEVs working at the Tucker Butterfly

MGEVs have worked hard to develop and maintain the site, raising money to start the garden, for signage, and to print publications. Through the hard work of MGEVs, the Butterfly Garden has become a focal point for the community.



The Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program prepares volunteers to support UGA Cooperative Extension in delivering gardening information to Georgia's citizens and communities. Since 1979, Master Gardeners and UGA Extension have helped Georgians become healthier, more productive, financially independent and environmentally responsible.