

Foundation Grants and Grant Support

Through grant funding and donations, the Foundation provides additional funding support for the WSU Extension Spokane County Master Gardener Program.

The Grant Writing Committee actively searches for grants that benefit the Foundation and the Program, determines the appropriateness of the grant, writes and submits the request for a grant to the appropriate grantor. Through grant funding and donations, the Foundation provides additional funding support for the WSU Extension Spokane County Master Gardener Program.

- **Current Grants.**

- A two-year \$160,000 grant funding from the Washington State Department of Ecology supports the Master Gardener Program's goal to build capacity to decrease food and garden waste by taking waste out of our rivers.
 - This grant funds the building and installation of 54 compost bins at community gardens, food banks and other community sites in Spokane County.
 - It also provides support for educating the community about composting.
 - We developed composting videos to increase successful use of compost bins:
<https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/the-essentials-of-composting/>
 - The videos are also located on WSU Extension MG website:
<https://mastergardener.wsu.edu/priorities/soil-health-tips/>
- If you are interested in applying for a compost bin for your community garden or food bank. Please contact us before June 1, 2025:
events@spokane.mastergardenerfoundation.org
- Interested in composting? See the composting information available on the Program Composting Page: <https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/the-essentials-of-composting/>

- **Past Grant Support**

- BECU People Helping People Grant supporting Community Gardens

Spokane MG received a \$15,000 grant in 2017 from BECU (Boeing Employees Credit Union) to support community gardens in underserved areas of Spokane. Publicity about the grant garnered an additional \$5,940 and in-kind donations of materials. The following year, master gardeners raised \$4,000 to contribute to this project. The initial effort involved the following gardens:

- Underhill Community Garden (lower south hill)
- Fresh Start Community Garden (Spokane valley)
- Hifumi En Garden (lower south hill)
- Holy Cross Nepali-Speaking Bhutanese Community Garden (northside)
- Chief Garry Community Garden (east central)

By the time the grant ended, we had consulted with and assisted with the development of at least 12 gardens in the Spokane area.

- Associated Garden Clubs grants
 - 2015: Funding to establish a demonstration rock garden at Extension.
 - 2019: Funding to establish a demonstration herb garden at Extension.
- Kids Gardening Grant (www.kidsgardening.org)

This grant supported the Youth Program school gardens by providing equipment, tools and plants.

- **Other In-Kind Support:** Waterwise Demonstration & Research Garden funding from the City of Spokane
 - The City of Spokane Water Department SpokaneScape Program focuses on reducing water use through turf removal rebates for residential landscapes (www.waterwisespokane.org)
 - SpokaneScape provided labor and hardscape materials to create the demonstration and research garden at the Extension building.
 - Throughout the year, SpokaneScape offers many public events in partnership with master gardener speakers who teach responsible turf removal and creation of resilient, waterwise landscapes.
 - Every year SpokaneScape and master gardeners work together to create a free, very useful publication full of landscape hints and plant lists for area residents: SpokaneScape Guide (<https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/publicworks/water/water-wise-spokane/spokanescape/2025-spokanescape-guidebook-2025-04-10.pdf>)
- **Donations:** Donations are very welcome. By donating you are supporting our efforts and commitment to the stewardship and sustainability of our natural resources here in Spokane County. <https://secure.givelively.org/donate/master-gardener-foundation-of-spokane-county>
- **The WSU Extension Spokane County Master Gardener Program is seeking grant support for our:**
 - **The Youth Program:** Active in schools and after school programs instructing children about growing their food and environmental stewardship. For more information on the Youth Program, please contact MGardener@spokanecounty.org
 - **Community Garden Program:** Helps interested community members learn to grow their own food. We assist in establishing and maintaining community gardens and educating the community about sustainable gardening practices. If your community garden has needs for resources to support your garden, please contact MGardener@spokanecounty.org
 - **Speakers Bureau:** Master gardeners are in high demand as community educators. We offer many gardening courses and have a Speakers' Bureau <https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/mg/request/> to provide MG speakers to public events and community groups.
 - **Public Education:** We provide educational classes and events to individuals in the community. For more information check out the calendar for classes/events and other activities. <https://extension.wsu.edu/spokane/mg/calendar/>