Volunteering is integral to the University of Maryland Extension Master Gardener Program. We are fortunate to have so many opportunities to interact with the many diverse communities in our city on lots of different levels.

Your first year of volunteering is a huge commitment—40 hours—an entire work week to squeeze in with the rest of your life. We want you to get started right away so we created a mentoring program. We partner you up with an experienced Master Gardener to help you navigate through the training program and we plan 20 of those required hours for you. This way you get the full experience and have help at the same time. You will hear more about this throughout your training program.

Here is a list of volunteer opportunities that are ongoing throughout the city. New opportunities will come up as the growing season develops.

**At Cylburn Arboretum**

**All-American Selection Garden (AAS), The Rain Gardens, and the Vegetable Garden**: AAS is a large ornamental garden at Cylburn that tests new cultivars from seed to garden-ready transplants. Work is both in the greenhouse and the garden. The Rain Gardens (there are two) and the vegetable garden are maintained by Master Gardeners and form one of the cornerstones of our teaching curriculum. All are welcome.

**Contact**: Valerie Griffith, MG Demonstration Gardens Committee Chair griffithvg@gmail.com

**Gardening**: Work and learn with Master Gardeners Jennifer Forrence and Patricia Sherman, Mondays and Saturdays throughout the year; Wednesdays in the summer. Learn a variety of garden practices.

**Contact**: Patricia Foster, Executive Director, CAA, patricia.foster@cyburnassociation.org

**Growing Vegetables in the Greenhouse**: Join an experienced Master Gardener committee of vegetable propagators who welcomes help in growing vegetables and herbs for sale at Market Day at Cylburn, for the demonstration garden at the State Fair Grounds in Timonium, and for the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden at Cylburn. Work in the greenhouse, February through April, on Thursdays and Saturdays.

**Contact**: Paula Campos BCMA9TL1@gmail.com

**Trails**: There are miles of trails at Cylburn and if that’s your thing, the Trails Committee of the Cylburn Association are always looking for some help.

**Contact**: Patricia Foster, Executive Director, CAA, patricia.foster@cyburnassociation.org

**Blue Water Baltimore**: Blue Water Baltimore works to restore the quality of Baltimore’s local waterways and harbor. Skilled and knowledgeable volunteers are critical to our work. Master Gardener volunteers are especially needed to assist during sales and workdays at our native plant nursery, provide leadership during tree plantings, conduct specialized maintenance on storm water projects and share information during Bay-Wise presentations. They may also serve as site captains for city-wide stream clean ups.

**Contact**: Katie Dix, Volunteer Manager volunteer@bluewaterbaltimore.org

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The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
**In the City**

**Community Greening Resource Network (CGRN):** Part of the Parks and People Foundation, CGRN provides tools, seeds, and volunteers to member gardens. They have myriad ways to volunteer.  
**Contact:** Anna Evans-Goldstein community.greening@parksandpeople.org

**The Rawlings Conservatory and Botanical Garden:** The great staff welcomes all volunteers and the needs range from hands-on activities to reception desk greeters to guides. The Rawlings is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2013 and is planning some big events. Join them in the celebration.  
**Contact:** Ann Green, Volunteer Coordinator conservatoryvolunteering@gmail.com

**Mt. Vernon Park Conservancy:** Seasonal maintenance of the historic gardens around the Washington Monument in Mt. Vernon. There’s weeding, pruning, and planting in the shadow of George.  
**Contact:** Martha Dougherty marthaadougherty@aol.com

**Patterson Park:** The Friends of Patterson Park is the nonprofit group who oversees some aspects of park maintenance. Volunteer opportunities include Weedin’ Wednesdays, the Tree Team, the Pagoda Team, the Boat Lake Team and many other activities throughout the year.  
**Contact:** Callie Schwartz (410) 276-3676 or volunteer@pattersonpark.com

**TreeKeepers:** TreeKeepers is a program of the Baltimore Tree Trust and is foremost a training program for urban tree stewards. You can become a TreeKeeper or just volunteer to help plant trees all over the City. See [http://baltimoretreetrust.org/treekeepers](http://baltimoretreetrust.org/treekeepers) for details

### How We Learn About Projects and Workdays

As we near the growing season, opportunities will crop up for Special Events, Community Gardens, School Gardens, and others. SignUp Genius will let you know about these opportunities.

**SignUp Genius** is an online system that Baltimore City Master Gardeners are using to make volunteer opportunities available to our members and to keep track and remind you of activities you have chosen. Please take a moment or two to explore the SignUp site ([www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com))and register so that when you receive the SignUp requests you will be ready to go and can sign up.  
**Contact:** Jim Hejl (pronounced Hale), Volunteer Coordinator dunnsgr@comcast.net

There are many other organizations looking for volunteers throughout the city. These represent only a few. If you currently volunteer with an organization, please let your mentor or another board member know so we can determine if it will count towards your hours. The board meets monthly and with the Urban Horticulture Educator, approves the activity.

**Great Kids Farm:** A working small farm owned by Baltimore City Public Schools.  
Great Kids Farm would not exist without the passion and enthusiasm of a cadre of committed volunteers. There are many ways to contribute your time, including: Leading tours for adults or children, Helping with field trip activities – including tastings, planting, and harvesting, Working in the fields, and much more!  
**Contact:** volunteer@friendsgkf.com

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