



Learning for Life at the Garden Expo

This year more than 19,000 winter-weary Wisconsinites got a jump start on spring at the annual Garden Expo in Madison. The Garden Expo showcases all aspects of gardening from flowers to vegetables, from live plants to metal garden sculptures, from power mowers and inventive garden tools to stately gazebos and tranquil landscape water features. The event – open for three days in February and sponsored by UW-Extension Horticulture Team, Wisconsin Public Television (WPT) and the Friends of WHA-TV – raised funds of Wisconsin Public Television and the program “The Wisconsin Gardener.”

Extension Response

Thousands of Garden Expo visitors stopped at educational displays mounted by UW-Extension Horticulture Team. These included UW-Madison/Extension Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic, UW-Madison Department of Entomology, UW-Extension Soil and Plant Analysis Lab, Dane and Milwaukee County Master Gardeners, “Got Dirt” program, Dane County Tree Board and UW Agricultural Research Stations. Horticulture Team members answered questions, provided educational seminars, led horticulture-related discussions, and distributed written information.

Outcomes

At the Expo, UW-Extension Horticulture Team members and Master Gardeners...

- answered hundreds of horticulture-related homeowner questions.
- presented seminars on diseases of vegetables, diagnosing diseases, insect pests, tree selection and use, and gardening for children. Several hundred Garden Expo visitors participated in these seminars and discussions.
- distributed almost 20,000 publications including “Wisconsin Garden Facts,” the Extension Publications catalog, and dozens of other booklets, brochures and fliers with information about everything from rooting out non-native plants to enriching the soil.

Contact: Brian Hudelson, 608-262-2863, bdh@plantpath.wisc.edu
<http://wihort.uwex.edu/>

February 17, 2006+