

URI Master Gardener Program Pollinator Education

January 26, 2017



URI Cooperative Extension

Providing juried, verifiable, science- and knowledge-based information to the public via education in...

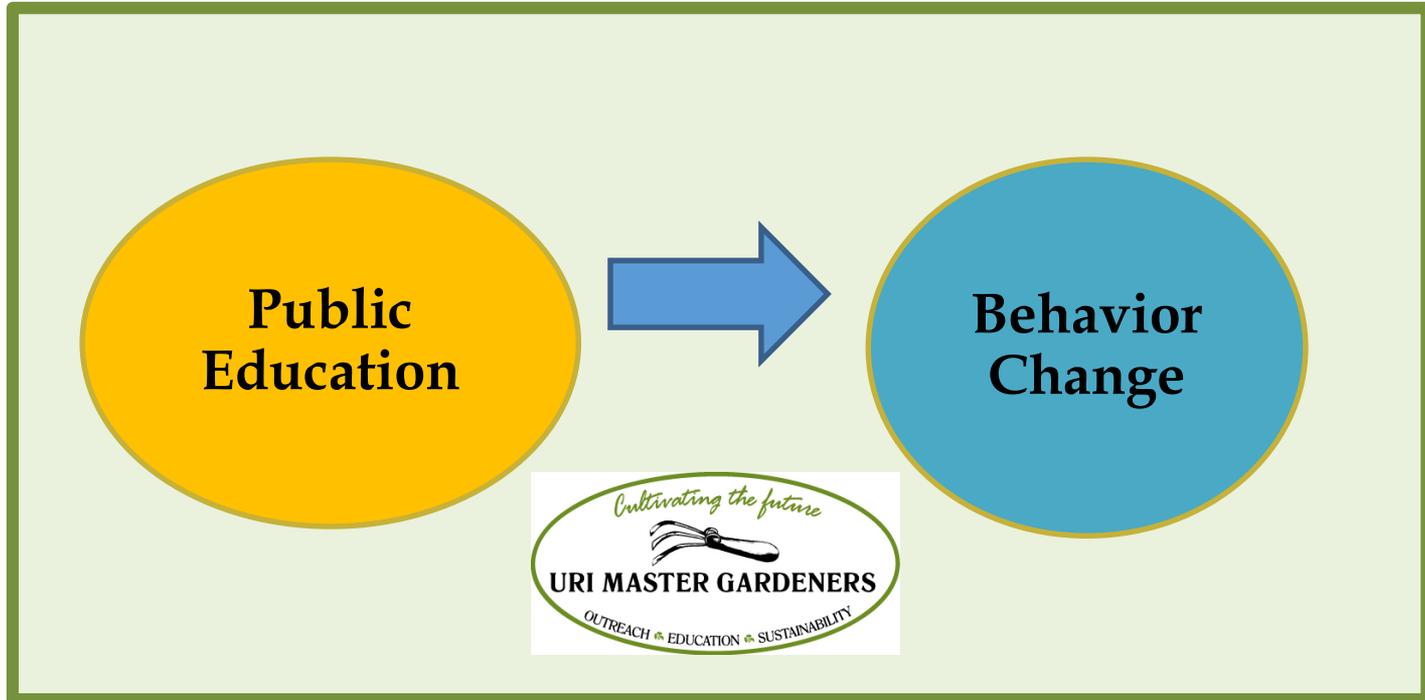
Consumer Horticulture
Youth Environmental Education
Small-scale Livestock
Water Quality
Sustainable Agriculture
Food Safety
Nutrition
4-H Leadership Development
Sustainable Energy
Plant Protection
Aquaculture



We bring University resources to EVERYONE.

URI Master Gardener Program Mission

The mission of the URI Master Gardener Program is to educate RI citizens in environmentally-sound gardening practices through the dissemination of factual, research-based information

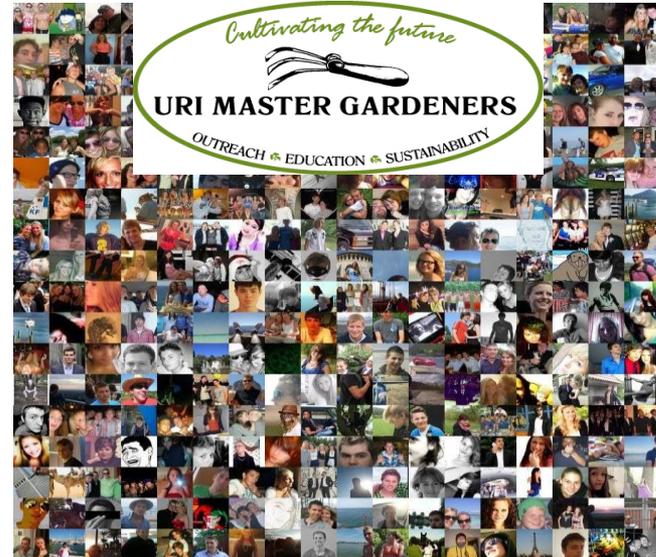


Train the Trainer

Phase 1: Volunteers
Learn Something New



Phase 2: Teach Others



40th Anniversary

URI Master Gardener Program 1977- 2017!

- 600 active volunteers
- 115 class of 2017



Our Services in 2016 Reached...

8000+ people

URI Gardening & Environmental Hotline

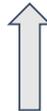


9% 

1,943 clients

Public Information Risks and Soil Testing

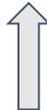


75% 

4,562 clients

“Learn Locally” Public Presentations



42% 

2,590 clients

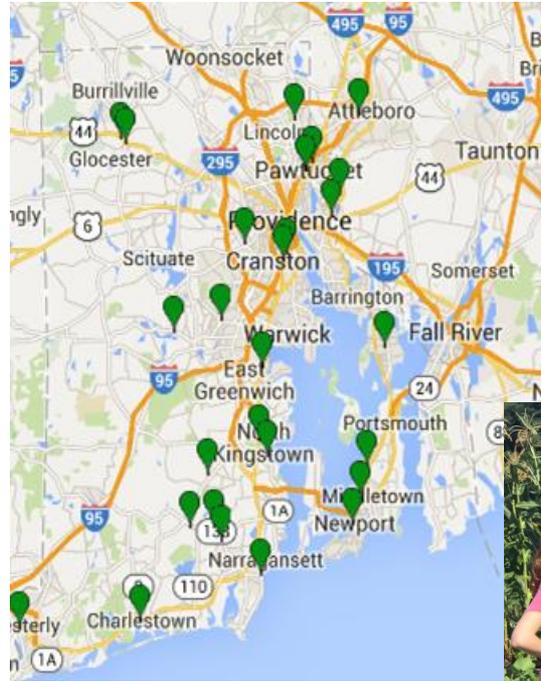
Demonstration Projects

40 + Demonstration Projects

Educated	2016
Youth:	1,943
Adults:	10,000

Pollinator Emphasis in 2016

- Norman Bird Sanctuary
- East Farm Demonstration Garden
- Charlestown Schoolhouse Garden
- Newport Harbor Walk



Desourdy School Garden Mentors

- Trained URI Master Gardeners paired with schools to offer technical guidance and advice to ensure long term success
- 40+ schools in program, 22 municipalities
- Plant donations, free seeds, full soil test, other resources
- Many teachers interested in butterfly and pollinator gardens

500 adults educated, 12,000 students pre-K - 12



Winner!
International Extension
Master Gardener
Search for Excellence



Public Education Events

Project Open House

- 16 projects | 800 visitors
- A brand new event!

Symposium

- 242 attendees
- Sessions on natives, pollinators, edible gardening

East Farm Spring Festival

- 4,000 visitors | 33% 
- Project showcase, hands-on gardening demos, and a learning walkway

5,000 total visitors!



RI Native Plant Guide

in collaboration with:



locally sourced | locally grown



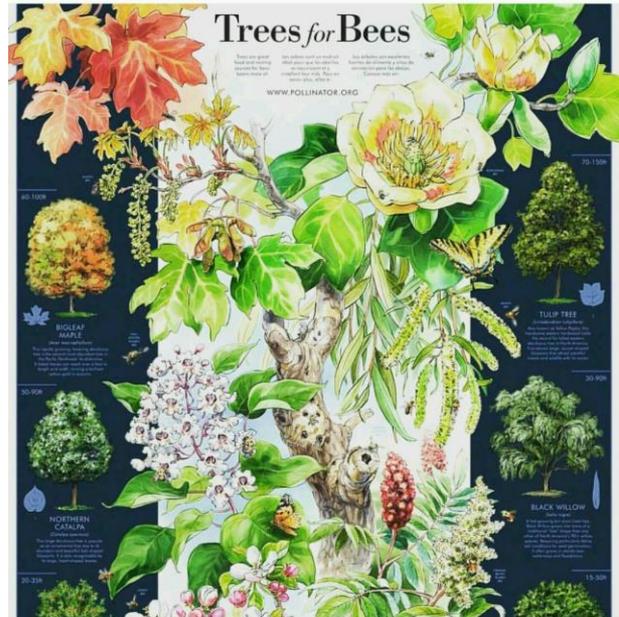
A screenshot of the RI Native Plant Guide website interface, framed in orange. The header includes "THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND" and a search bar. Below the header is a banner for "RI NATIVE PLANT GUIDE" by the "COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES", featuring a butterfly on a yellow flower. A large image of a monarch butterfly on purple flowers is displayed below the banner. The URL "www.web.uri.edu/rinativeplants/" is shown. The search interface includes a search box with the placeholder "scientific or common name" and several filter dropdown menus for "Type (T)", "Exposure:", "Moisture:", "Wildlife:", "Uses:", and "Height:". There are also checkboxes for "Coastal (CT):" and "Rhody Native™ (RN):". At the bottom are "Search" and "Clear Filter" buttons.



♥ jeffcogardener, veelvee and 49 others
urioutreach Happiness is to see beneficial #insects in
your #garden @ourbackyardri #gardening
#pollinators #coopext #cooperativeextension
#flowers

Digital Media

756 followers – Instagram



♥ jeffcogardener, leen.on.me and 41 others
urioutreach Comment one fact of why are
#pollinators important for a chance to win a

URI Master Gardeners educated 15,000-20,000
clients educated in 2016!

Did we change their behavior?

Top 3 Behavior Changes We Encouraged Year End Survey

1000 clients surveyed, 20% return rate

94% learned something new

MGP Clients began or increased the following:

1. Identify plant problems before taking action against them
2. Grow food plants
3. Amend soils correctly for vegetables, garden beds or lawn





Public Events
Demonstration Projects
Pollinator Emphasis
2016

THINK BIG  WE DO™



Symposium: Gardening with a Purpose

March 5, 2016

Natives, Pollinators, Edible Gardening



East Farm Spring Festival

May 14, 2017

Learning Walkway - Pollinator Conservation Kiosk

Pollinator Conservation Demonstrations

Pollinator plant displays



2016 School Garden Conference



- Pollinator Workshop at 2016 Conference, East Farm Demo Garden
- 100 attendees

East Farm Demonstration Garden



- Pollinator emphasis for 2016
- Open House - 500+ visitors

Friends of the Waterfront's Harbor Walk Garden Project

In Collaboration with URI Master Gardener Program
Help Us Set A New Course for Public Access
Plant Dignity Planters Along the Newport Waterfront

Volunteers Needed

Coming This Year
Monarch Butterfly Habitats



He who plants a garden, plants happiness.
Proverb



www.newportwaterfront.org
Contact - info@newportwaterfront.org
Like us on facebook



Partnership of local groups

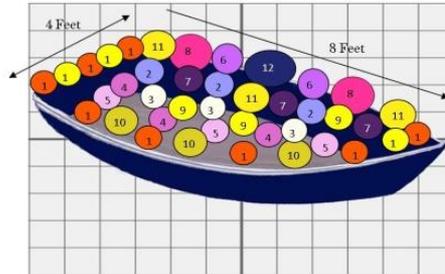
Newport Harbor Walk

Newport Maritime Center Monarch Butterfly Habitat Demonstration

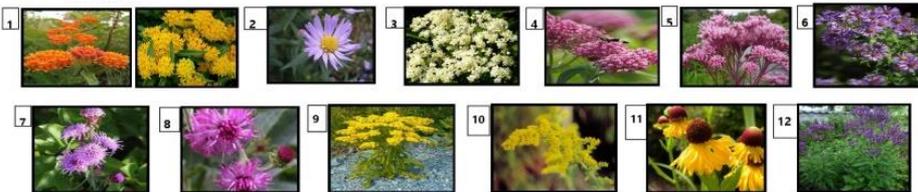
- 1. *Asclepias tuberosa*
Orange Butterfly Weed
- 1. *Asclepias tuberosa*
Hello Yellow Butterfly Weed
- 2. *Symphoricarum nova-belgii*
New England Aster
- 3. *Asclepias incarnate* - White
- 4. *Asclepias incarnate*
Rose Milkweed - Swamp Milkweed
- 5. *Eurochium dubium*
"Baby Joe"
- 6. *Aster novae-angliae*
New England Aster
- 7. *Liatris novae-angliae*
Northern blazing star
- 8. *Vernonia noveboracensis*
New York ironweed
- 9. *Solidago sempervirens*
Seaside golden rod
- 10. *Solidago nemoralis*
Old Field Goldenrod
- 11. *Helenium flexuosum*
Purple-headed Sneezeweed
- 12. *Verbena hastata*
Blue Vervain



Monarch Butterfly Boat Planter



URI Master Gardener Harbor Walk Garden Project





Spring Wharf

Monarch Butterfly Habitat



Pollinator Education Future Efforts

THINK BIG  WE DO™



Desourdy School Garden Mentors



2017 Goal:

Strengthen collaboration between school gardeners in need of guidance on pollinator gardens and



and URI Master Gardener Volunteers engaged in RI Wild Plant Society Seed Starters projects and Rhody Native

Focus Area

Why?

An opportunity to concentrate our internal training, volunteer efforts and partnerships in a strategic way toward a relevant issue facing RI communities.

Step 1: Train MG Volunteers



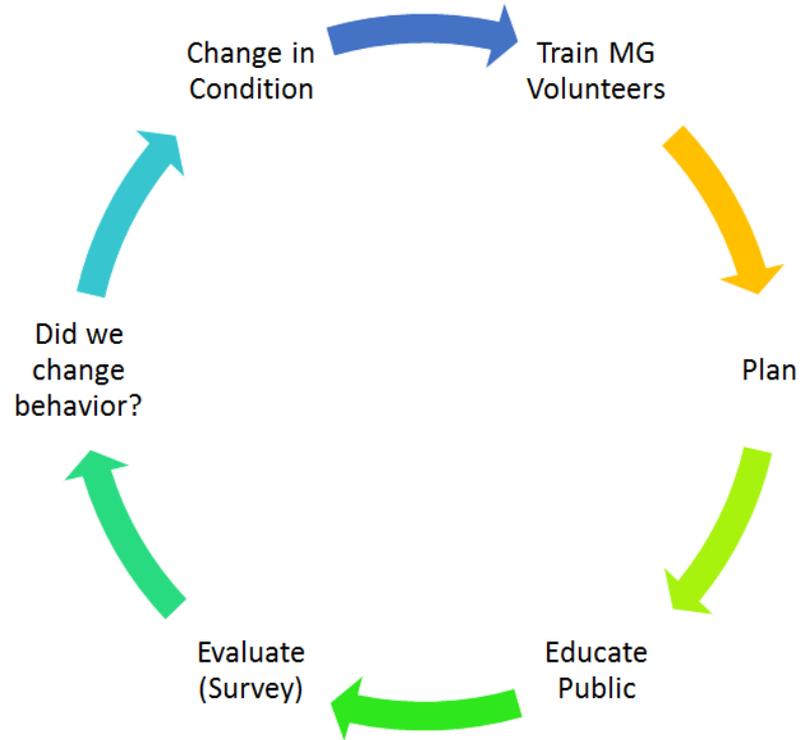
Step 2: Educate the Public



Step 3: Measure knowledge gain and behavior change



Focus Area Process



Focus Area Development

How can the URI Master Gardener Program be value added to other efforts in the state and University?

We consulted the following partners:

- Pollinator working group (RIDEM and RI House of Representatives)
- RI Invasive Species Council
- Civic Alliance for a Cooler RI
- RI Natural History Survey
- RI Wild Plant Society
- Sue Anderbois, Director of Food Strategy

URI Faculty:

- Dr. John Taylor, Agroecology (URIMGP FACULTY ADVISOR)
- Dr Laura Meyerson, Natural Resource Science Department
- Brett Still, Natural Resource Science Department

Focus Area: Land Stewardship 2017-2019



Photo: Sue Dunn

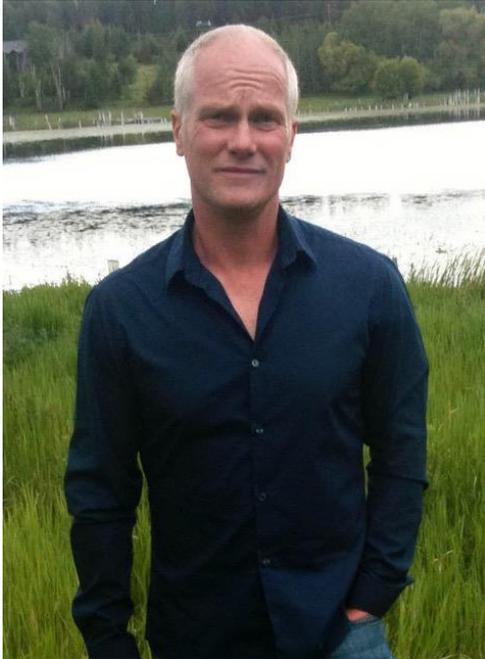


Land Stewardship Behavior Change Goals

1. Recognize URI Cooperative Extension as a science-based resource
2. Preserve biodiversity and pollinators
3. Conserve water and soil resources
4. Reduce pesticide use through Integrated Pest Management



Land Stewardship Volunteer Training



- Jan 21 Ecobeneficial Gardening, Kim Eierman
- March 23 MG Meeting at 6pm - Resilient Landscapes, Dr. Taylor



Goal: Preserve Biodiversity and Pollinators

Behaviors to promote:

- Plant natives
- Avoid invasives
- Habitat for pollinators and beneficials



Biodiversity and Pollinator Volunteer Training in 2017

- April 27 Cont Ed class - Cutting Edge Pollinator Conservation, Scott MacIvor
- May 23 MG Meeting at 6pm - Pollinator Working Group

Field Sessions

- Invasive removal and restoration at Canonchet
- Native plants, Rhody Native at Norman Bird Sanctuary



Goal: Reduce Pesticide Use (Integrated Pest Management)

Behaviors to promote:

- Identify diseases/pests before taking action
- Right plant for the right place
- Use alternatives to pesticides whenever possible



Photo: Sue Dunn

IPM Volunteer Training



Diagnostics Skill Building Series:

Taught by URI Extension Staff

- Part 1 - Pest Updates and Resources - February 23
- Part 2 - Trees, Shrubs and Perennials - May, 2017
- Part 3 - Vegetables - August, 2017

Questions?

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URI Cooperative Extension