

Get Involved! Volunteer at Matthaei-Nichols

Our volunteer program offers diverse opportunities to learn, connect, and give back. As a volunteer, you'll develop new skills while supporting our mission of education and stewardship through hands-on service. We welcome new volunteers

to join us in every season at the Arb & Gardens. Pre-registration required for all trainings. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator for more information: **734.647.8528**.



MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS
AND NICHOLS ARBORETUM
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Visit our website for more information: **mbgna.umich.edu**.

Visitor Engagement – Ambassador Trainings (preregistration required)

Garden Ambassador Training

Sat., April 22, 9 am–4 pm

Training provides an introduction to the Visitor Engagement department, best practices for working with the public, and an overview of the most popular points of interest in the display gardens, Gaffield Children's Garden and beyond. We seek volunteers with a love of learning and interest in working with a diverse population of visitors, including children and families.

Monthly garden tours/talks are led by our horticulturists throughout the season. Shifts are available daily, May–October.



Above: Peony ambassadors and curator David Michener (back right, in hat) ready for another season in the Nichols Arboretum Peony Garden. Peony ambassadors not only get to spend time in the largest collection of heirloom peonies in North America; they also enjoy learning about this important collection and sharing their knowledge with visitors.

Peony Ambassador Training

Tues., April 25, 6–7:30 pm,
Arb/Reader Center

Learn more about the largest public collection of heirloom herbaceous peony cultivars in North America. Ambassadors greet and guide visitors to points of interest in the peony garden during peak bloom time. The training session includes an overview of the peony collection history, horticultural basics and tips for working with the public. Ideal volunteers will have a genuine interest in the collection and an ability to work independently with a diverse array of visitors. Evening and weekend shifts available late May/early June.

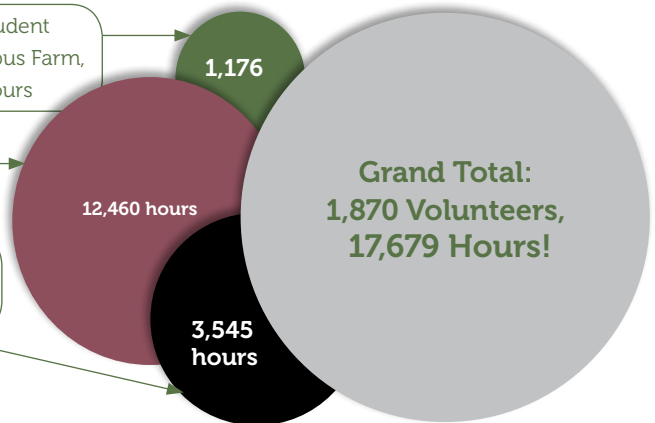
Wow! Our volunteers work an impressive number of hours each year:



506 volunteers logged hours with our student programs (Cultivating Community, Campus Farm, Wild About Nature) for a total of **1,176** hours

344 regular volunteers logged nearly **12,460** hours of service!

1,020 volunteers (U-M students, community and corporate, private and public) helped with group workdays (a total of **3,545** hours!)



From left: Volunteers gather October 20 at Matthaei for the annual volunteer recognition event; floral centerpieces designed by Matthaei horticulturist Adrienne O'Brien graced the tables; the dessert board groaned under the weight of all the sweet treats brought by Matthaei-Nichols staff.



Fall 2016 Volunteer Appreciation Gathering

A huge thank you to our volunteers and staff in celebration of another abundant year of volunteer contributions!

