

Arkansas Master Gardener Excellence in Education Award

Submission Deadline is January 15th via email to C76RRR@gmail.com.

MG Program Name: _____

MG Program Size: 50 members or fewer _____ OR 51 members or more _____

Name of MG Contact Submitting Nomination: _____

MG Contact Email: _____ Phone: _____

Signature and Date: _____

Project Name: _____

Project Inception Date: _____ Targeted Audience(s)/Number of Participants: _____

Number of MGs working on Project _____ Total MG Project Hours for the Year _____

Project Chair Name: _____

Chair Email: _____ Phone: _____

Co-Chair/Ass't. Chair Name: _____

Co-Chair/Ass't. Chair Email: _____ Phone: _____

Indicate if Co-Chairs are equal partners or Chair is leader: _____

MG President Name: _____

President's Email: _____ Phone: _____

Signature and Date (cannot be a Chair or Co-Chair): _____

Program Extension Agent/Staff Chair Name: _____

Agent's Email: _____ Phone: _____

Signature and Date: _____

Arkansas Master Gardener Excellence in Education Award

Guidelines: The Excellence in Education (EIE) Award is designed to recognize an outstanding project that demonstrates significant learning in a targeted audience(s.) The project must target one of the following groups:

- 1) Youth/School Program,
- 2) Demonstration or Research Gardens, or
- 3) Underserved Audience (i.e., seniors, people with disabilities, low-income families, incarcerated individuals).

The project must have been implemented for at least one full year. The project should be easy for other MG programs to replicate. The project should be practical and affordable for the intended audience and should reflect cultural aspects of the targeted audience(s) and MG program. Educational information provided for the project must be based upon University of Arkansas research; cite the research. All sanctioned projects are eligible; EXCEPTIONS are: a) previous EIE winners are ineligible, and b) Project of the Year winners for this same sanctioned project in the last 5 years are ineligible unless substantial new results are documented and measured.

The **nomination must not exceed 800 words**. (Note that required nomination title, subheadings (to break up lengthy text passages) and image captions are NOT part of the document word count.)

Please submit the following information:

1. Give a description of the project including how it started and its evolution to today, the project's location, the need for the project, intended audience(s) and how they were identified, and project goals. List the number of MGs who worked the project and total MG project hours. Be sure to identify all project partnerships, partners' roles and contributions to the project. (40 points)
2. Identify the project's impacts on the intended audience(s), MG program, Extension Service and county. Explain how the project's impacts were evaluated. Cite measurable data. (40 points)
3. Discuss the ease of replicating the project, how the project was funded and how much it cost to implement and maintain. (10 points)
4. Submit four (4) high-resolution action-oriented digital images in JPEG format embedded at the end of your nomination. Identify via captions who is in the image, the project name and site, and MG work being performed. Images should provide support, clarify and enhance the understanding of the nomination narrative. Digital images may include photos, garden planning/layout sketches, newspaper clippings, etc. (10 points)

Winning nominations will be presented as a short video at the AR MG State Conference, then nomination material highlights may be made available on the publicly accessible AR MG website. Please have numerous additional action-shot images available for the video. **Please note that minors and adults who have not signed photo waivers need to have their facial features blurred.**

Ensure all nomination forms are completed, signed and dated before submitting.

All entries must be sent electronically with 2 attachments in one email. (Create a separate email for each award category.)

1. The completed and physically signed application form with at least 3 qualified physical signatures (page 1, which may be submitted as a PDF or image). This application form is used by RRR to verify nomination authenticity. The application form is not sent to the judges.
2. The completed, clearly labeled ([year], [category], [nominee] and [program name]) nomination form, including images with captions, as a Microsoft Word or Google Doc attachment. **This nomination document is forwarded to the judges.**

RRR prefers all program nominations be submitted on the same day.

Submit nominations electronically via email to the AR MG County 76 Recruiting, Retention and Recognition (RRR) Project at C76RRR@gmail.com by January 15th.

For guidance in writing effective entries (based in large part on judges' comments), see:

1. Arkansas Master Gardener Awards Process and Deadlines.
2. Checklist for Writing an Effective Arkansas Master Gardener Nomination.