

Sue Stanne, Master Gardener Class of 2003 Northwest Chapter



What is your favorite area of gardening to learn about?

I like the special classes at the UVM Horticulture Farm with experts such as Ann Hazelrigg, identifying current pests and diseases on the crops. This is a great hands-on experience to see the actual plant/pest being infected.

What is your favorite pest to manage?

Although, I can't say it is a favorite, I like to keep my tomato plants trimmed of the ever present blighted leaves. Other than that, I love to inspect trees for pruning needs, and to instruct neighbors on proper pruning techniques.

What would you consider to be your pride and joy in your home garden?

I love planting wildflower patches, and like the seclusion of my backyard sitting area when perennials reach tall heights later on in the summer.

What is your favorite gardening 'go to' book or other resource (educator, column, magazine, etc) for research and learning on horticulture topics?

Cornell University has a great website with lots of helpful fact sheets.

Do you have a favorite garden you like to visit? Favorite nursery to buy plants?

The Red Brick House at Shelburne Museum is beautiful during peony season. My favorite place to buy plants is Full Circle Gardens in Essex, owned by our own EMG Sarah Salatino. For wildflower seeds, American Meadows has a beautiful website, and high quality seeds, owned by another of our EMGs, Mike Lizotte, who is extremely helpful.

What EMG projects do you/did you work on?

I was Project Leader at the Vermont Respite House for 11 years; Co-Project Leader (along with June Jones) for the Plant a Row for the Hungry project located at the Williston Community Gardens for 10 years; and a member of the EMG Northwest Chapter Steering Team for 9 years. I also enjoy volunteering at the bi-annual Vermont Flower Show EMG Info. table & demonstration display gardens, and the CVEXPO EMG Info. table. In 2022, I started volunteering for the Master Gardener Helpline, answering home garden questions that are submitted through the Ask Extension portal, as well as answering phone calls that come into the in- person helpline office located on campus in the Jeffords Hall.

What has changed about gardening since you first became a Master Gardener? What hasn't changed?

The way the EMG course is presented. For years, the course was presented in actual classroom settings and presented over Vermont Interactive TV throughout the State. This provided actual contact with other students, as well as the presenters themselves. I enjoyed volunteering as a moderator over the years and also presenting my projects in person to the classes.

Sue has contributed 1,290 volunteer hours (a/o 2022)