



**Master Gardener
Volunteers
of Cobb County**

**Water, Rain and
Wildlife Garden
Project**



Project Location: Cobb Water Department, Marietta, GA 30060

Project Workday: Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.

Project Chair: Jennifer McCoy (770-528-8215)

Co-chair: Tim Phillips (770-578-1888)

The Rain and Wildlife Garden at Cobb County Water System was created in 2004 for educational purposes, specifically to demonstrate storm water pollution prevention, with plantings designed to provide habitat to pollinators and urban wildlife. Many native species and specific butterfly host and nectar plants have been installed to showcase how-to attract animals to the landscape and provide a public space where people can see how rain and wildlife gardens can be created, maintained, and utilized. Visitors can observe pollinators utilizing this urban space, learn about citizen science projects they can participate in, and better understand the land ethic and recommended stewardship practices.

The project provides both service and education to the community and strongly supports MGVOCC's mission of educating members and providing activities that promoting knowledge and appreciation of gardening to the community. For master gardeners working at the Rain and Wildlife Garden, we have integrated education sessions into our workdays that showcase seasonally applicable phenomena relevant to our site. For example, as the Monarch migration occurs this fall we will be talking each week about different aspects of butterfly biology and ecology including life cycles, migration, and rearing. Activities like these serve to educate the volunteers about the site and the programs offered to the community. For the community, we host hands-on fieldtrips for school and scout groups, facilitate continuing education programs for teachers in our garden, and are open for passive use 24/7 to local

patrons visiting the facility. We also accept volunteer assistance from non-master gardeners as part of both service learning projects and those seeking to donate their time. Regardless of the reason for visiting the Rain and Wildlife Garden, those that come learn something of local ecology.

The Rain and Wildlife Garden is across the railroad tracks from the Extension Office in the Cobb County Water System Customer Service complex, behind the Water Quality Lab, and is accessible 24/7. Please stop by to explore anytime. And you are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings.



The mission of the MGVOCC is to advance the horticultural education and practices of its members and to promote the knowledge of and interest in gardening to the members and to the public.

For more information contact Carolyn Gentry, Master Gardener Coordinator at the Cobb Extension. Phone: 770-528-4070