



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cooperative Extension

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Master Gardener Volunteer Program Wins Awards

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Master Gardener Volunteer Program won two first-place awards at the North Carolina Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Association meeting held June 6-8 in Monroe.

Cumberland County Master Gardener Sandy Ritter won the association's 2013 Outstanding Volunteer Award. Ritter has over 13 years and 4,000 hours of volunteer service with the Master Gardener program. She has served as chairman and was Master Gardener of the Year in 2004 and 2012.

The county's Master Gardener program won first place in the 2013 Madeline Collier Landscape Design Competition for its demonstration garden located at the Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Office beside of the Charlie Rose Agri-Expo Center. The theme of the demonstration garden is "From Inspiration, to Demonstration and Beyond." Master Gardener Amy Stidham gave the demonstration garden presentation, which used large picture posters to highlight the garden's transition from 1996 to the 2009 renovation. The Master Gardener program received a \$300 prize and a certificate of recognition.

The Master Gardener Volunteer Program is available through Cooperative Extension. The program helps gardeners learn more about new plants, native plants and environmental stewardship. For more information, contact Kenny Bailey at 321-6871 or email Kenneth_Bailey@ncsu.edu. The Cooperative Extension office is located at 301 East Mountain Dr. The website is <http://cumberland.ces.ncsu.edu/>.

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Master Gardener Volunteer Sandra Ritter won the 2013 Outstanding Volunteer Award from the North Carolina Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Association.

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