

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State University Master Gardener volunteer program is celebrating 44 years of service to the people of our state; and

**WHEREAS**, this model of volunteer service, emulated in all fifty states and numerous foreign countries, was founded by Washington State University in 1973; and

**WHEREAS**, there are 3,515 Washington State University Master Gardener volunteers who served more than 330,000 Washington State residents in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, these dedicated volunteer educators use their love of gardening to enhance natural resources and environmental stewardship, improve the health and wellness of Washington residents, and create and sustain vibrant communities and urban neighborhoods; and

**WHEREAS**, the Master Gardener program sets a remarkable example of voluntary community service by returning to Washingtonians over 10 times the funds expended on the program's maintenance;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 21-27, 2017 as

### ***Washington State University Master Gardener Volunteer Week***

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017

Governor Jay Inslee

