

**2026 Missouri Master Gardener State Conference**  
**Friday, October 2 and Saturday, October 3**  
**Learn Together - Gather Locally – Grow Missouri**

**Host Chapter Program Information**

**Be Part of Something Statewide**

Being a Local Host Chapter is both an honor and a leadership opportunity. Host chapters play a critical role in:

- Building community
- Expanding access to education
- Showcasing Missouri Master Gardeners at their best

**What Is a Local Host Chapter?**

Local Host Chapters serve as regional hubs for the Missouri Master Gardener Conference. Hosts provide a shared space on Saturday, October 3 where members can:

- Participate in a Watch Party of the Saturday conference sessions
- Watch the live keynote and educational sessions
- Participate in the MOMGA Annual Meeting & Awards
- Network with other Extension Master Gardeners
- Engage in optional local activities that showcase the local area and build community

Hosting strengthens connections, builds leadership, and highlights the outstanding work happening across Missouri.

**Why Host? Opportunities for Your Chapter**

**Community Building**

- Bring local Extension Master Gardeners together for a shared conference experience
- Strengthen chapter connections and engagement
- Network with members from surrounding counties
- Recruit new Master Gardeners and members

**Recognition & Visibility**

- Featured in MOMGA promotional materials as a Host Chapter
- Spotlighted during the Chapter Share Session

- Opportunity to highlight chapter projects, members, and local partners

### **Learning & Engagement**

- Live access to Speakers Anna C. Ball and Robert Pavlis and others
- Participate in live Q&A, polling, and interactive sessions
- Option to offer post-conference activities (Saturday afternoon) workshops, tours or social events

### **Fundraising Opportunities**

- Host optional local fundraisers (plant sales, pass-it-on garden tools & treasures sale, no raffles or games of chance)
- Promote MOMGA fundraising

### **Leadership Development**

- Chapter Coordinator gains experience leading a hybrid event
- Volunteers gain hands-on experience with AV, registration, and event coordination

### **Flexible Programming**

- Customize local Saturday post-conference activities to reflect your chapter's interests and resources
- Maintain alignment with the statewide conference schedule

### **What MOMGA Provides**

#### **Conference Access & Registration**

- Full access to the official conference Zoom event
- MOMGA manages registration and ticketing
- Host Chapter only verifies tickets locally - no payment handling required
- Reimbursement: MOMGA will reimburse up to \$15 per registered in-person attendee for venue, supplies, and food/beverage

#### **Promotional Support**

- Official conference branding, logos, and templates
- Digital and print-ready promotional flyers
- Sponsor recognition slides for display between sessions

#### **Content & Livestreaming**

- Live keynote and education sessions (Anna C. Ball & Robert Pavlis)

- MOMGA Annual Meeting & Awards

### **Communication & Support**

- Regular updates to Chapter Coordinators
- Promotion of Local Watch Parties via:
  - MOMGA Newsletter
  - MOMGA Website
  - e-Blasts
  - Social media templates

### **What Host Chapters Commit To**

#### **Leadership & Coordination**

- Designate one Chapter Coordinator to serve on the Local Coordinators subcommittee of the Annual Conference Committee
- Attend planning meetings and serve as main point of contact for the local host

#### **Facilities & AV**

- Provide an accessible meeting space with:
  - Seating and tables
  - Reliable internet
  - Projector or large screen
  - Audio capability
- Participate in advance tech checks and run-of-show

#### **Registration & Volunteers**

- Verify MOMGA tickets for Saturday morning sessions
- Provide 1–2 volunteers for check-in, AV support, and assistance

#### **Local Activities**

- Organize optional post-conference local activities: workshops, speakers, garden or greenhouse tours
- Encourage participation in live polls, Q&A and conference activities

#### **Food & Hospitality**

- Recommended: Coffee, light snacks & boxed or potluck lunch
- Optional: Box lunches, catered meals for Saturday morning and lunch
- Reimbursement up to \$15 per attendee available for approved local expenses (venue, refreshments served during the conference on Saturday)

- Post-conference activities (if any) are at local expense

### **Promotion & Compliance**

- Promote the Watch Party locally
- Follow MOMGA branding and conference guidelines
- Ensure safety, liability coverage, and agreement compliance

### **Who Can Host?**

#### **MOMGA is seeking host chapters across Missouri.**

- Chapters may collaborate and partner with other area chapters to host a joint Watch Party
- Eligible host chapters must be MOMGA member chapters for the 2026 member year

### **Interested in hosting?**

**Commitment Deadline: April 15, 2026**

### **Resources to Answer Your Questions**

#### **Email**

- Send questions to [connections@momga.org](mailto:connections@momga.org)
- Please allow a day or two for us to respond

#### **Zoom Call**

- Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 pm
- A conference planning session
- Q&A session for member chapters before the April 15 deadline
- Report progress on program, sponsorships, local Watch Parties