

The **Master Gardeners of Wayne County** are offering a program to Scouting America Troops to assist them in obtaining THE GARDENING MERIT BADGE.



Minimum of 15 scouts required to offer the merit badge

Program will take place September 19, 2026, from 9 AM-12:30 PM at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County

The Master Gardeners will address 4 components of this badge

1. Badge Component 1: (Requirement 5)

Visit The Wayne County extension office located at 1581 NY-88, Newark, NY 14513.

(This is the venue where the merit badge is being held)

- a. Learn the different roles the cooperative extension plays in the community
- b. Learn 'What is a Master Gardener' and what roles they play in the community
- c. Tour the grounds, vegetable variety garden, pollinator garden **10 min**

2. Badge Component 2: (Requirement 6)

Why honeybees are used in pollinating food crops and the problems that face the bee population today. Discuss what the impact to humanity would be if there were no pollinators.

Stretch break and snacks

3. Badge Component 3: (Requirement 7)

Identify five garden pests (insects, diseased plants). Recommend two solutions for each pest. At least one of the two solutions must be an organic method.

4. Badge Component 4: Choice of one of the following:

Do **ONE** of the following and record weekly observations. Discuss the results of your project with your counselor.

- Build a compost bin and maintain it for 90 days. *(Requirement 8a)*
- Build a vermicompost bin (worm compost bin) and maintain it for 90 days
 - hands on activity building a vermiculture bin. How to maintain compost/vermiculture bin? *(Requirement 8b)*
- Test 100 seeds for germination. Determine the percentage of seeds that germinate. Explain why you think some did not germinate. *(Requirement 4)*