



February 24, 2012

Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 192
Covington, KY 41012-0192

Re: Outagamie County Master Gardener Association

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed please find IRS Form 1023 (Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code), together with the user fee of \$850.00, for filing on behalf of our client Outagamie County Master Gardener Association.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me. We are very willing to provide further information or modifications to our proposed structure as may be necessary to obtain exempt status. Thank you.

Yours truly,

EPIPHANY LAW, LLC

Kathryn M. Blom
Attorney at Law
kblom@epiphanylaw.com

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Enclosures

Copy to Outagamie County Master Gardener Association (with enclosure)

S:\clients\Outagamie County Master Gardeners Association\Non-Profit Formation\IRS ltr 1023.doc, 2/24/2012 11:00 AM

Form 1023 Checklist

(Revised June 2006)

Application for Recognition of Exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

Note. Retain a copy of the completed Form 1023 in your permanent records. Refer to the General Instructions regarding Public Inspection of approved applications.

Check each box to finish your application (Form 1023). Send this completed Checklist with your filled-in application. If you have not answered all the items below, your application may be returned to you as incomplete.

- Assemble the application and materials in this order:
- Form 1023 Checklist
 - Form 2848, *Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative* (if filing)
 - Form 8821, *Tax Information Authorization* (if filing)
 - Expedite request (if requesting)
 - Application (Form 1023 and Schedules A through H, as required)
 - Articles of organization
 - Amendments to articles of organization in chronological order
 - Bylaws or other rules of operation and amendments
 - Documentation of nondiscriminatory policy for schools, as required by Schedule B
 - Form 5768, *Election/Revocation of Election by an Eligible Section 501(c)(3) Organization To Make Expenditures To Influence Legislation* (if filing)
 - All other attachments, including explanations, financial data, and printed materials or publications. Label each page with name and EIN.
- User fee payment placed in envelope on top of checklist. DO NOT STAPLE or otherwise attach your check or money order to your application. Instead, just place it in the envelope.
- Employer Identification Number (EIN)
- Completed Parts I through XI of the application, including any requested information and any required Schedules A through H.
- You must provide specific details about your past, present, and planned activities.
 - Generalizations or failure to answer questions in the Form 1023 application will prevent us from recognizing you as tax exempt.
 - Describe your purposes and proposed activities in specific easily understood terms.
 - Financial information should correspond with proposed activities.
- Schedules. Submit only those schedules that apply to you and check either "Yes" or "No" below.
- | | | | |
|------------|--|------------|--|
| Schedule A | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Schedule E | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___ |
| Schedule B | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Schedule F | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule C | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Schedule G | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Schedule D | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Schedule H | Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

- An exact copy of your complete articles of organization (creating document). Absence of the proper purpose and dissolution clauses is the number one reason for delays in the issuance of determination letters.
- Location of Purpose Clause from Part III, line 1 (Page, Article and Paragraph Number) Page 1, Article 4
 - Location of Dissolution Clause from Part III, line 2b or 2c (Page, Article and Paragraph Number) or by operation of state law Page 2 Article 10
- Signature of an officer, director, trustee, or other official who is authorized to sign the application.
- Signature at Part XI of Form 1023.
- Your name on the application must be the same as your legal name as it appears in your articles of organization.

Send completed Form 1023, user fee payment, and all other required information, to:

Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 192
Covington, KY 41012-0192

If you are using express mail or a delivery service, send Form 1023, user fee payment, and attachments to:

Internal Revenue Service
201 West Rivercenter Blvd.
Attn: Extracting Stop 312
Covington, KY 41011



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Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative

OMB No. 1545-0150
 For IRS Use Only

▶ Type or print. ▶ See the separate instructions.

Received by: _____
 Name _____
 Telephone _____
 Function _____
 Date / /

Part I Power of Attorney

Caution: Form 2848 will not be honored for any purpose other than representation before the IRS.

1 Taxpayer information. Taxpayer(s) must sign and date this form on page 2, line 9.

Taxpayer name(s) and address Outagamie County Master Gardener Association 3365 W. Brewster St. Appleton, WI 54914	Social security number(s) : : : : : : Daytime telephone number (920) 996-0000	Employer identification number 39 : 2009258 Plan number (if applicable)
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hereby appoint(s) the following representative(s) as attorney(s)-in-fact:

2 Representative(s) must sign and date this form on page 2, Part II.

Name and address Kathryn M. Blom 4211 N. Lightning Drive Appleton, WI 54913	CAF No. 0300-80279R Telephone No. 920-996-0000 Fax No. 920-996-0001 Check if new: Address <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone No. <input type="checkbox"/> Fax No. <input type="checkbox"/>
Name and address	CAF No. Telephone No. Fax No. Check if new: Address <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone No. <input type="checkbox"/> Fax No. <input type="checkbox"/>
Name and address	CAF No. Telephone No. Fax No. Check if new: Address <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone No. <input type="checkbox"/> Fax No. <input type="checkbox"/>

to represent the taxpayer(s) before the Internal Revenue Service for the following tax matters:

3 Tax matters

Type of Tax (Income, Employment, Excise, etc.) or Civil Penalty (see the instructions for line 3)	Tax Form Number (1040, 941, 720, etc.)	Year(s) or Period(s) (see the instructions for line 3)
Exempt Application	1023	2012

4 Specific use not recorded on Centralized Authorization File (CAF). If the power of attorney is for a specific use not recorded on CAF, check this box. See the instructions for **Line 4. Specific Uses Not Recorded on CAF**

5 Acts authorized. The representatives are authorized to receive and inspect confidential tax information and to perform any and all acts that I (we) can perform with respect to the tax matters described on line 3, for example, the authority to sign any agreements, consents, or other documents. The authority does not include the power to receive refund checks (see line 6 below), the power to substitute another representative or add additional representatives, the power to sign certain returns, or the power to execute a request for disclosure of tax returns or return information to a third party. See the line 5 instructions for more information.

Exceptions. An unenrolled return preparer cannot sign any document for a taxpayer and may only represent taxpayers in limited situations. See **Unenrolled Return Preparer** on page 1 of the instructions. An enrolled actuary may only represent taxpayers to the extent provided in section 10.3(d) of Treasury Department Circular No. 230 (Circular 230). An enrolled retirement plan administrator may only represent taxpayers to the extent provided in section 10.3(e) of Circular 230. See the line 5 instructions for restrictions on tax matters partners. In most cases, the student practitioner's (levels k and l) authority is limited (for example, they may only practice under the supervision of another practitioner).

List any specific additions or deletions to the acts otherwise authorized in this power of attorney: _____

6 Receipt of refund checks. If you want to authorize a representative named on line 2 to receive, **BUT NOT TO ENDORSE OR CASH**, refund checks, initial here _____ and list the name of that representative below.

Name of representative to receive refund check(s) ▶ _____

- 7 **Notices and communications.** Original notices and other written communications will be sent to you and a copy to the first representative listed on line 2.
- a If you also want the second representative listed to receive a copy of notices and communications, check this box
- b If you do not want any notices or communications sent to your representative(s), check this box
- 8 **Retention/revocation of prior power(s) of attorney.** The filing of this power of attorney automatically revokes all earlier power(s) of attorney on file with the Internal Revenue Service for the same tax matters and years or periods covered by this document. If you do not want to revoke a prior power of attorney, check here.
- YOU MUST ATTACH A COPY OF ANY POWER OF ATTORNEY YOU WANT TO REMAIN IN EFFECT.**

9 **Signature of taxpayer(s).** If a tax matter concerns a joint return, both husband and wife must sign if joint representation is requested, otherwise, see the instructions. If signed by a corporate officer, partner, guardian, tax matters partner, executor, receiver, administrator, or trustee on behalf of the taxpayer, I certify that I have the authority to execute this form on behalf of the taxpayer.

▶ **IF NOT SIGNED AND DATED, THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY WILL BE RETURNED.**

Mary Learman Signature 2/2/12 Date President Title (if applicable)

Mary Learman Print Name PIN Number _____ Print name of taxpayer from line 1 if other than individual

Signature _____ Date _____ Title (if applicable)

Print Name PIN Number

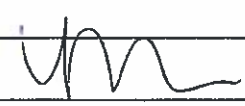
Part II Declaration of Representative

Caution: Students with a special order to represent taxpayers in qualified Low Income Taxpayer Clinics or the Student Tax Clinic Program (levels k and l), see the instructions for Part II.

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that:

- I am not currently under suspension or disbarment from practice before the Internal Revenue Service;
- I am aware of regulations contained in Circular 230 (31 CFR, Part 10), as amended, concerning the practice of attorneys, certified public accountants, enrolled agents, enrolled actuaries, and others;
- I am authorized to represent the taxpayer(s) identified in Part I for the tax matter(s) specified there; and
- I am one of the following:
 - a Attorney—a member in good standing of the bar of the highest court of the jurisdiction shown below.
 - b Certified Public Accountant—duly qualified to practice as a certified public accountant in the jurisdiction shown below.
 - c Enrolled Agent—enrolled as an agent under the requirements of Circular 230.
 - d Officer—a bona fide officer of the taxpayer's organization.
 - e Full-Time Employee—a full-time employee of the taxpayer.
 - f Family Member—a member of the taxpayer's immediate family (for example, spouse, parent, child, brother, or sister).
 - g Enrolled Actuary—enrolled as an actuary by the Joint Board for the Enrollment of Actuaries under 29 U.S.C. 1242 (the authority to practice before the Internal Revenue Service is limited by section 10.3(d) of Circular 230).
 - h Unenrolled Return Preparer—the authority to practice before the Internal Revenue Service is limited by Circular 230, section 10.7(c)(1)(viii). You must have prepared the return in question and the return must be under examination by the IRS. See **Unenrolled Return Preparer** on page 1 of the instructions.
 - k Student Attorney—student who receives permission to practice before the IRS by virtue of their status as a law student under section 10.7(d) of Circular 230.
 - l Student CPA—student who receives permission to practice before the IRS by virtue of their status as a CPA student under section 10.7(d) of Circular 230.
 - r Enrolled Retirement Plan Agent—enrolled as a retirement plan agent under the requirements of Circular 230 (the authority to practice before the Internal Revenue Service is limited by section 10.3(e)).

▶ **IF THIS DECLARATION OF REPRESENTATIVE IS NOT SIGNED AND DATED, THE POWER OF ATTORNEY WILL BE RETURNED.** See the Part II instructions.

Designation—Insert above letter (a-r)	Jurisdiction (state) or identification	Signature	Date
a	WI		<u>2/2/12</u>



Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Notice 1382

(Rev. December 2011)

Changes for Form 1023:

- Mailing address
- Parts IX, X and XI

**Changes for Form 1023, Application for
Recognition of Exemption Under Section
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code**

Change of Mailing Address

The mailing address shown on Form 1023 Checklist, page 28, the first address under the last checkbox; and in the Instructions for Form 1023, page 4 under *Where to File*, has been changed to:

Internal Revenue Service
P.O. Box 12192
Covington, KY 41012-0192

Changes for Parts IX and X

Changes to Parts IX and X are necessary to comply with new regulations that eliminated the advance ruling process. Until Form 1023 is revised to reflect this change, please follow the directions on this notice when completing Part IX and Part X of Form 1023. For more information about the elimination of the advance ruling process, visit us at IRS.gov and click on "Charities and Non-Profits," then in the top right "Search" box type "Elimination of the Advance Ruling Process" (exactly as written) and select "Search."

Part IX. Financial Data

The instructions at the top of Part IX on page 9 of Form 1023 are now as follows. For purposes of this schedule, years in existence refer to completed tax years.

1. If in existence less than 5 years, complete the statement for each year in existence and provide projections of your likely revenues and expenses based on a reasonable and good faith estimate of your future finances for a total of:
 - a. Three years of financial information if you have not completed one tax year, or
 - b. Four years of financial information if you have completed one tax year.
2. If in existence 5 or more years, complete the schedule for the most recent 5 tax years. You will need to provide a separate statement that includes information about the most recent 5 tax years because the data table in Part IX, has not been updated to provide for a 5th year.

Part X. Public Charity Status

Do not complete line 6a on page 11 of Form 1023, and do not sign the form under the heading "Consent Fixing Period of Limitations Upon Assessment of Tax Under Section 4940 of the Internal Revenue Code."

Only complete line 6b and line 7 on page 11 of Form 1023, if in existence 5 or more tax years.

Part XI. Increase in User Fees

User fee increases are effective for all applications post marked after January 3, 2010.

1. \$400 for organizations whose gross receipts do not exceed \$10,000 or less annually over a 4-year period.
2. \$850 for organizations whose gross receipts exceed \$10,000 annually over a 4-year period.

For the current user fee amounts go to IRS.gov and select "Charities and Non-Profits" from the buttons near the top. Then select "Where Is My Exemption Application" and in the second paragraph click on "user fee." Alternatively, you can do a search for "user fees" with the applicable year in the "Search" box in the top right. Finally, you can also call 1-877-829-5500.

Application for Reinstatement and Retroactive

Reinstatement. After your organization's tax-exempt status was automatically revoked for failing to file a return or notice for three consecutive years, your organization must apply to have its tax-exempt status reinstated. You must file a Form 1023 if applying under section 501(c)(3) or Form 1024 if applying under a different Code section, pay the appropriate user fee, and write "Automatically Revoked" at the top of your application and the mailing envelope. If approved, the date of reinstatement will be the date of the application. See Notice 2011-44, 2011-25 I.R.B. 883, at http://www.irs.gov/irb/2011-25_IRB/ar10.html, for details. Smaller organizations — defined as having annual gross receipts of not more than \$50,000 in its most recently completed tax year — that have lost their tax-exempt status because of failure to file a required electronic notice (Form 990-N e-Postcard) may be eligible for transitional relief, including retroactive reinstatement and a reduced user fee. See Notice 2011-43, 2011-25 I.R.B. 882, at http://www.irs.gov/irb/2011-25_IRB/ar09.html, for details.



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**Application for Recognition of Exemption
 Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code**

Use the instructions to complete this application and for a definition of all **bold** items. For additional help, call IRS Exempt Organizations Customer Account Services toll-free at 1-877-829-5500. Visit our website at www.irs.gov for forms and publications. If the required information and documents are not submitted with payment of the appropriate user fee, the application may be returned to you.

Attach additional sheets to this application if you need more space to answer fully. Put your name and EIN on each sheet and identify each answer by Part and line number. Complete Parts I - XI of Form 1023 and submit only those Schedules (A through H) that apply to you.

Part I Identification of Applicant

1 Full name of organization (exactly as it appears in your organizing document)		2 c/o Name (if applicable)	
Outagamie County Master Gardener Association			
3 Mailing address (Number and street) (see instructions)	Room/Suite	4 Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
3365 West Brewster Street		39-2009258	
City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4		5 Month the annual accounting period ends (01 - 12)	
Appleton, WI 54914		12	
6 Primary contact (officer, director, trustee, or authorized representative) a Name: Kathryn M. Blom		b Phone: 920-996-0000	
		c Fax: (optional)	
7 Are you represented by an authorized representative, such as an attorney or accountant? If "Yes," provide the authorized representative's name, and the name and address of the authorized representative's firm. Include a completed Form 2848, <i>Power of Attorney and Declaration of Representative</i> , with your application if you would like us to communicate with your representative.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
8 Was a person who is not one of your officers, directors, trustees, employees, or an authorized representative listed in line 7, paid, or promised payment, to help plan, manage, or advise you about the structure or activities of your organization, or about your financial or tax matters? If "Yes," provide the person's name, the name and address of the person's firm, the amounts paid or promised to be paid, and describe that person's role.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9a Organization's website: www.ocmga.net			
b Organization's email: (optional)			
10 Certain organizations are not required to file an information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ). If you are granted tax-exemption, are you claiming to be excused from filing Form 990 or Form 990-EZ? If "Yes," explain. See the instructions for a description of organizations not required to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
11 Date incorporated if a corporation, or formed, if other than a corporation. (MM/DD/YYYY)		11 / 18 / 1999	
12 Were you formed under the laws of a foreign country? If "Yes," state the country.		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Part II Organizational Structure

You must be a corporation (including a limited liability company), an unincorporated association, or a trust to be tax exempt. (See instructions.) **DO NOT file this form unless you can check "Yes" on lines 1, 2, 3, or 4.**

- 1 Are you a **corporation**? If "Yes," attach a copy of your articles of incorporation showing **certification of filing** with the appropriate state agency. Include copies of any amendments to your articles and be sure they also show state filing certification. Yes No
- 2 Are you a **limited liability company (LLC)**? If "Yes," attach a copy of your articles of organization showing certification of filing with the appropriate state agency. Also, if you adopted an operating agreement, attach a copy. Include copies of any amendments to your articles and be sure they show state filing certification. Refer to the instructions for circumstances when an LLC should not file its own exemption application. Yes No
- 3 Are you an **unincorporated association**? If "Yes," attach a copy of your articles of association, constitution, or other similar organizing document that is dated and includes at least two signatures. Include signed and dated copies of any amendments. Yes No
- 4a Are you a **trust**? If "Yes," attach a signed and dated copy of your trust agreement. Include signed and dated copies of any amendments. Yes No
- b Have you been funded? If "No," explain how you are formed without anything of value placed in trust. Yes No
- 5 Have you adopted **bylaws**? If "Yes," attach a current copy showing date of adoption. If "No," explain how your officers, directors, or trustees are selected. Yes No

Part III Required Provisions in Your Organizing Document

The following questions are designed to ensure that when you file this application, your organizing document contains the required provisions to meet the organizational test under section 501(c)(3). Unless you can check the boxes in both lines 1 and 2, your organizing document does not meet the organizational test. **DO NOT file this application until you have amended your organizing document.** Submit your original and amended organizing documents (showing state filing certification if you are a corporation or an LLC) with your application.

- 1 Section 501(c)(3) requires that your organizing document state your exempt purpose(s), such as charitable, religious, educational, and/or scientific purposes. Check the box to confirm that your organizing document meets this requirement. Describe specifically where your organizing document meets this requirement, such as a reference to a particular article or section in your organizing document. Refer to the instructions for exempt purpose language. Location of Purpose Clause (Page, Article, and Paragraph): **Page 1, Article 4**
- 2a Section 501(c)(3) requires that upon dissolution of your organization, your remaining assets must be used exclusively for exempt purposes, such as charitable, religious, educational, and/or scientific purposes. Check the box on line 2a to confirm that your organizing document meets this requirement by express provision for the distribution of assets upon dissolution. If you rely on state law for your dissolution provision, do not check the box on line 2a and go to line 2c.
- 2b If you checked the box on line 2a, specify the location of your dissolution clause (Page, Article, and Paragraph). Do not complete line 2c if you checked box 2a. **Page 2 Article 10**
- 2c See the instructions for information about the operation of state law in your particular state. Check this box if you rely on operation of state law for your dissolution provision and indicate the state:

Part IV Narrative Description of Your Activities

Using an attachment, describe your *past, present, and planned* activities in a narrative. If you believe that you have already provided some of this information in response to other parts of this application, you may summarize that information here and refer to the specific parts of the application for supporting details. You may also attach representative copies of newsletters, brochures, or similar documents for supporting details to this narrative. Remember that if this application is approved, it will be open for public inspection. Therefore, your narrative description of activities should be thorough and accurate. Refer to the instructions for information that must be included in your description.

Part V Compensation and Other Financial Arrangements With Your Officers, Directors, Trustees, Employees, and Independent Contractors

- 1a List the names, titles, and mailing addresses of all of your officers, directors, and trustees. For each person listed, state their total annual **compensation**, or proposed compensation, for all services to the organization, whether as an officer, employee, or other position. Use actual figures, if available. Enter "none" if no compensation is or will be paid. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet. Refer to the instructions for information on what to include as compensation.

Name	Title	Mailing address	Compensation amount (annual actual or estimated)
Mary Learman	President/Director	3365 W. Brewster St. Appleton, WI 54914	None
Gail Clearwater	Vice President	3365 W. Brewster St. Appleton, WI 54914	None
Chris Schaefer	Treasurer	3365 W. Brewster St. Appleton, WI 54914	None
Anne Van Handel	Executive Secretary	3365 W. Brewster St. Appleton, WI 54914	None
Kate Langner	Project Chair	3365 W. Brester St. Appleton, WI 54914	None

Part V Compensation and Other Financial Arrangements With Your Officers, Directors, Trustees, Employees, and Independent Contractors (Continued)

b List the names, titles, and mailing addresses of each of your five highest compensated employees who receive or will receive compensation of more than \$50,000 per year. Use the actual figure, if available. Refer to the instructions for information on what to include as compensation. Do not include officers, directors, or trustees listed in line 1a.

Name	Title	Mailing address	Compensation amount (annual actual or estimated)

c List the names, names of businesses, and mailing addresses of your five highest compensated independent contractors that receive or will receive compensation of more than \$50,000 per year. Use the actual figure, if available. Refer to the instructions for information on what to include as compensation.

Name	Title	Mailing address	Compensation amount (annual actual or estimated)

The following "Yes" or "No" questions relate to *past, present, or planned* relationships, transactions, or agreements with your officers, directors, trustees, highest compensated employees, and highest compensated independent contractors listed in lines 1a, 1b, and 1c.

- 2a** Are any of your officers, directors, or trustees **related** to each other through **family** or **business relationships**? If "Yes," identify the individuals and explain the relationship. Yes No
 - b** Do you have a business relationship with any of your officers, directors, or trustees other than through their position as an officer, director, or trustee? If "Yes," identify the individuals and describe the business relationship with each of your officers, directors, or trustees. Yes No
 - c** Are any of your officers, directors, or trustees related to your highest compensated employees or highest compensated independent contractors listed on lines 1b or 1c through family or business relationships? If "Yes," identify the individuals and explain the relationship. Yes No
-
- 3a** For each of your officers, directors, trustees, highest compensated employees, and highest compensated independent contractors listed on lines 1a, 1b, or 1c, attach a list showing their name, qualifications, average hours worked, and duties.
 - b** Do any of your officers, directors, trustees, highest compensated employees, and highest compensated independent contractors listed on lines 1a, 1b, or 1c receive compensation from any other organizations, whether tax exempt or taxable, that are related to you through **common control**? If "Yes," identify the individuals, explain the relationship between you and the other organization, and describe the compensation arrangement. Yes No
-
- 4** In establishing the compensation for your officers, directors, trustees, highest compensated employees, and highest compensated independent contractors listed on lines 1a, 1b, and 1c, the following practices are recommended, although they are not required to obtain exemption. Answer "Yes" to all the practices you use.
- a** Do you or will the individuals that approve compensation arrangements follow a conflict of interest policy? Yes No
 - b** Do you or will you approve compensation arrangements in advance of paying compensation? Yes No
 - c** Do you or will you document in writing the date and terms of approved compensation arrangements? Yes No