

MJ joined the Greenleaf team in 2007 which also happens to be the same year she made the life changing decision to go to college. In addition to her work here at Greenleaf, she is currently a full time student at the University of Kansas majoring in Anthropology and Pre-Law and has aspirations of attending Law School at KU when she completes her degree.

Prior to '07, MJ worked in the corporate world for over 20 years with varying positions of both authority and responsibility. She started her career as a department manager at a major retailer where she learned to manage both people and processes. She filled various roles in local medical offices and spent several years as a senior accounting clerk with a lumberyard where she established new scheduling strategies for employees as well as organization for special orders. She furthered her problem solving abilities at a European milling company where she tracked worldwide shipments as well as implemented warranty systems. MJ also utilized her skills at a wellness facility where she again built systems and processes to keep the business running efficiently. Her most recent accomplishment before joining Greenleaf was owning her own insurance agency where she was able to develop her sales, management and entrepreneurial skills.

MJ is a Kansas native who has been a life long gardener. She was raised in a small town with a garden larger than most front yards which is where she learned the basics of plant health and the importance of proper nutrition and placement in the garden. She continues her love and learning of plants with various classes at the annual Western Conference as well as other seminars throughout the year. She has a community gardening plot where she, her husband and two teenager children cultivate fresh vegetables and herbs. Besides gardening, in her "free" time MJ enjoys reading, cooking, spending time with family and playing with her two dogs. Additionally she is currently working on her 3<sup>rd</sup> degree brown belt in American Kenpo Karate.

The best part of working at Greenleaf in MJ's own words:

I love taking ordinary, boring, typical landscapes and creating naturally artful spaces for people to enjoy. Even small changes in the landscape can mean big changes in how a person feels about their environment.