

How to Become Involved

The Master Gardener program is open to all interested adults in Virginia. A strong background in gardening is not necessary. The main requirement is an enthusiasm and interest for learning.

Master Gardener training is conducted through Virginia Cooperative Extension in most localities in the state. Training programs are usually conducted in the fall or winter and vary from year to year and locality to locality. Some programs are conducted once a week for a 16-18 week period. Other programs are conducted twice a week for 8-10 weeks.

Training programs are locally advertised. Information can also be obtained from Extension offices throughout the state. In most localities Extension is listed in the blue pages of the phone book under County Government as Virginia Cooperative Extension

For Further Information...

Master Gardener training is conducted annually for residents of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange and Rappahannock Counties. The schedule is usually set by early fall. Additional class details can be obtained from the local Extension Offices at the following numbers...

Culpeper – 540-727-3435

Fauquier – 540-341-7950 ext. 214
fauquiercountymastergardeners.org

Madison – 540-948-6881

Orange – 540-672-1361

Rappahannock – 540-675-3619

Call now to be put on our list. You will be notified when the next class is scheduled.

Virginia Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu



Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and services are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or family status. Any request for program information should be directed to the local Extension Office. Virginia Cooperative Extension is a partnership of Virginia State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Virginia Cooperative Extension is a part of the National System of Extension of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Virginia Cooperative Extension is a part of the National System of Extension of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Virginia Cooperative Extension is a part of the National System of Extension of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

What is a Master Gardener Volunteer?



Volunteers
Serving
The Community...



Who Are The Master Gardeners

Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners are volunteer educators who provide the public with gardening information that draws on the horticultural research and experience of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University.

Master Gardeners ...

- Answer gardening questions in the Extension office and at local community functions.
- Diagnose plant, insect and disease problems.
- Promote safe use of pesticides and fertilizers to protect water quality and the environment.
- Instruct neighbors and groups on proper care of lawns, trees, shrubs, and vegetables.
- Write newspaper and newsletter articles, fact sheets, and brochures.
- Conduct gardening programs for diverse groups for all ages within the community.
- Participate in community beautification and landscape projects.

Master Gardener Training

The Master Gardener training program includes the following core information (minimum 30 hours): botany, soils, pesticide safety, pest management (insect, diseases, and weeds), nutrient management, plant culture (pruning, propagation), and program design and implementation.



Master Gardeners help answer field questions at their local Extension Offices

Additional topics may include (minimum 20 hours): turf, vegetables, fruit, indoor plants, yard waste management, woody ornamentals, water management, herbaceous plants, organics, and landscape design.

Master Gardener Volunteers

Volunteer service as a community educator is the ultimate goal of Master Gardener training. A Master Gardener contributes 50 hours of volunteer service within one year of completing the training. After the initial 50 hours of service, Master Gardeners contribute 20 hours annually to remain active in the program.

All Master Gardener activities have an educational purpose. The Master Gardener workplace can be the local Extension office, a classroom, a farmers' market, a county fair or festival, or a demonstration garden.



Master Gardeners conduct youth programs in local schools.