

# Master Gardener Interest Form



Become a  
University of  
Missouri Extension

# Master Gardener

I am interested in becoming a Master Gardener. Please send me an application and more information about the Master Gardener program in Missouri.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



**Master Gardeners are a part of University of Missouri Extension. Educational activities of University of Missouri Extension relate directly to the teaching and research functions of Lincoln University and the University of Missouri. As state land-grant institutions, LU and MU have major responsibilities to communicate research findings and other useful information to people and organizations that can benefit from the application of this information.**



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## Who are Master Gardeners?

Master Gardeners are individuals of all ages who love gardening and desire to continue learning through advance education courses and community service. They are members of the local community who are interested in lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers, gardens, and the environment.

## Who can be a Master Gardener?

- Do you have knowledge or experience in gardening or landscape management?
- Are you willing to learn and provide research-based horticultural information to the public?
- Can you attend all training sessions?
- Can you volunteer at least 30 hours to educational horticulture programs through your local University of Missouri Extension Center in your first year and 20 hours per year after that?

## What kind of training do Master Gardeners receive?

### Master Gardener Trainee requirements:

- **30 - 45 hours** of classroom horticultural education taught by horticulture experts.
  - Topics Include: plant growth, pest management, vegetables, fruits, flowers, trees, shrubs, soils, and lawn care.
- **30 hours** of continuing education in the form of a volunteer internship during the first year after training.

**Certified Master Gardeners** are individuals who have completed the core course training and the initial volunteer requirement.

**Active Master Gardeners** volunteer at least 20 hours of horticultural education service per year in the communities served by their local University of Missouri Extension Center.

## How much does the training cost?

A course materials fee is charged for participation. The total fee may vary from site to site, but the average fee is \$150. Your volunteer time as an intern is considered partial payment for the training received.

## What do Master Gardeners do?

Master Gardeners train volunteers and educate the local community about safe, effective, and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities. The University of Missouri Extension specialists and Advanced Master Gardeners are available to give advice to local home gardeners.

## Other opportunities include:

- ✓ Organizing educational presentations for groups, such as garden clubs, community associations, or local schools.
- ✓ Working in the community, helping local residents diagnose plant and insect problems.

- ✓ Writing articles for newsletters, newspapers and other publications.
- ✓ Staffing exhibits at home and garden shows and fairs.
- ✓ Organizing community gardening projects.
- ✓ Developing youth gardening programs.
- ✓ Teaching gardening classes.
- ✓ Conducting home horticulture research.
- ✓ Assisting in senior gardening programs.



## How can I become a Master Gardener?

Please fill out the Master Gardener Interest Form on the back of this flyer and return it to the address indicated or call your local University of Missouri Extension Center to see if there is a core course being offered near your home. Classes are offered periodically, in the fall, winter, or spring. Applications are accepted shortly before classes begin.