



Contact Information...

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TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



Information about the Gregg County Master Gardener Program

**For those people who have always asked,
“What is a Master Gardener, and What do
you do?”**

Who are Texas Master Gardeners?

Master Gardeners are members of the local community who take an active interest in their lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers and gardens. They are enthusiastic, willing to learn and to help others, and able to communicate with diverse groups of people.

What really sets Master Gardeners apart from other home gardeners is their special training in horticulture. In exchange for their training, persons who become Master Gardeners contribute time as volunteers, working through their Extension office to provide horticultural-related information to their communities.

Is the Master Gardener Program for Me?

To help you decide if you should apply to be a Master Gardener, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I want to learn more about the culture and maintenance of many types of plants?
- Am I eager to participate in a practical and intense training program?
- Do I look forward to sharing my knowledge with people in my community?
- Do I have enough time to attend training and to complete the volunteer service?

Training

The program offers a minimum of 50 hours of instruction that covers topics including lawn care, ornamental trees and shrubs, insect, disease, and weed management; soils and plant nutrition, vegetable gardening; home fruit production; garden flowers; and water conservation. The Master Gardener training class meets once a week starting in January and finishes in mid-April of each year.

Community Education

Learn at Lunch Program Series with excellent speakers meets the second Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon and is open to the public. Feel free to bring your own lunch and eat while you learn. Programs include topics such as flowers, vegetables, bees, butterflies, grape & wine production, lawn care, container gardening, preserving the harvest, composting, and more.

Extension Education Programs: Programs on agriculture, home & lawn, canning & preserving.

Volunteer Commitment

In exchange for training, participants are asked to volunteer time to their County Extension program. At least 50 hours of volunteer service within one year following the training is required to earn the title of "Texas Master Gardener."

Examples of some volunteer opportunities in Gregg County:

J. R. Curtis Garden for the Blind

Newgate Missions

Kilgore Community Gardens

1st Baptist Church Community Garden in Longview

Master Gardeners are representatives of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas A&M System. In all volunteer work related to the program, Master Gardeners follow the research-based recommendations of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Volunteers can use the title "Texas Master Gardener" only when engaged in Extension-sponsored activities.

Certification

Participants become certified Master Gardeners once they have completed the training course and fulfilled their volunteer commitment.

For more information:

Contact the Gregg County Extension office in Longview, Texas - 903-236-8429

Find us on Facebook

"Gregg County Master Gardener Association"

Gregg County Master Gardener Association web site

<http://txmg.org/gregg/>

Gregg County Extension office web site

<http://gregg.agrilife.org/>