



2016 Reno County Extension **MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

The Master Gardener Program is a volunteer program for individuals who:

- Enjoy learning about the various areas of horticulture
- Have time to volunteer
- Enjoy being with others who share a common interest in gardening
- Enjoy sharing their knowledge and experience to help others answer their horticulture questions

The Master Gardener program consists of two parts. The first part is a series of volunteer training classes in the fall covering all aspects of horticulture designed to train participants to serve as extension volunteers. The second part consists of various extension volunteer activities.

Classes will be held on Thursdays from 9:00am to 3:30pm from September 8 through December 8. Classes are taught by Kansas State University faculty and local horticulture experts. Most of the training sessions are held in Newton at the Harvey County Extension office as we train with Harvey, Lyon and Butler Counties. Transportation is available between the Reno County Extension Office and the training site. If there are more participants than available van space, we usually work out a carpooling plan. A one-time registration fee of is required to cover the cost of a Master Gardener reference book and other educational materials. There is a one-time fee of \$110 to cover the cost of training.

Volunteers are given 40+ hours of classroom training, a large reference book and hands-on training on many horticulture topics, including:

Basic Botany	Soils
Vegetables	Tree Identification
Growing Fruit in Kansas	Turfgrass
Flowers	Herbs
Plant Health Care	Trees
Entomology	Pesticide Use & Safety
Landscape Design	Nuisance Wildlife
Plant Propagation	Plant Pathology
Shrubs	Ornamental Grasses

Actual Master Gardener status is obtained after completion of the classroom training and volunteering a minimum of 40 hours to The Reno county Extension Master Gardener Program during the following growing season. There are many opportunities to volunteer, including:

- Working in the Master Gardener demonstration gardens (minimum requirement of 10 volunteer hours)
- Hosting a summer garden tour (minimum requirement of 6 volunteer hours)
- Staffing educational booths at various events around Reno County
- Speaking to various groups on gardening topics
- Working with Junior Master Gardeners, 4-H, schools and other youth

In order to maintain active Master Gardener status after the initial year, volunteers are asked to contribute 12 hours of volunteer time and attend 6 hours of continuing education annually. Master Gardeners hold monthly meetings to plan activities and provide continuing education. There are also many opportunities to attend educational programs and tours throughout the year.

For more information or an application, contact:

K-State Research & Extension – Reno County
2 W. 10th, South Hutchinson, KS 67505
phone: (620) 662-2371
email: ppaulsen@ksu.edu
www.reno.ksu.edu





K-State Research & Extension – Reno County Master Gardener Program Application 2016

Name _____ Daytime Phone _____
Address _____ Evening Phone _____
City, ST, Zip _____ Cell Phone _____
Email _____
Emergency Contact: _____ Emergency Telephone: _____

PURPOSE

The Reno County Extension Master Gardener Program is a volunteer program, not just a series of classes. A minimum of 40 hours of specialized training in all areas of home horticulture is given to volunteers so that they may provide the public with sound, research-based horticultural information.

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

- Be a Reno County resident, or agree to repay your commitment of volunteer service in Reno County
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent, possess a broad interest in horticulture, and be interested in teaching and working with others.
- Support the objectives of the K-State Research & Extension - Reno County horticulture department and the Extension Master Gardener program.
- Read and comprehend an extensive notebook of support materials to be used for future reference.
- Attend daytime basic training sessions, completing make up lessons in cases of absences.
- Complete the basic *Master Gardener Training Course*
- Complete 40 hours of volunteer work as approved by the horticulture agent by the 15th of October following the basic course completion
- Distinction as an active Extension Master Gardener in good standing requires annual completion of 6 hours of continuing training and a minimum of 12 volunteer hours every year following the initial training year.
- Submit payment of \$110 to cover training supplies and reference book with application.

Time available for volunteer service:

- Weekdays Evenings Saturdays Sundays

Will your employment or other commitments allow you to be available to participate in all basic training sessions, held all day on Thursdays from September 10 through December 10, excluding Thanksgiving?

- Yes
 No, please explain

How did you hear about the Master Gardener Program?

Explain briefly why you wish to become a Master Gardener.

What are your expectations for the Master Gardener Program?

Gardening Experience

Please list any training, courses, or class experience you have had on gardening and/or environmental issues. (For information only. Previous gardening experience is not a requirement of the Master Gardener Program)

Indicate any experience, training, or special interest(s) you have in any of the following:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Annual Flowers | Landscaping | Vegetables | Fruit |
| Perennial Flowers | Composting | Lawn Care | House Plants |
| Native Plants/Wildflowers | Trees | Shrubs | Ornamental Grasses |
| Organic Gardening | Greenhouses | Container Gardening | Gardening with kids |
| Horticulture Therapy | Herbs | Water Gardens | Gardening under lights |
| Other: | | | |

Specialty Plants (please explain) _____

List environmental or garden group affiliation(s):

Share any other volunteer or work activities:

Your role as an Extension Master Gardener

The following volunteer activities are venues of Extension Master Gardener service to the community. Please rate the following volunteer activities according to your interest:

	Least Interest			Most Interest	
	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/present to small groups (15 or fewer people)	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/present to large groups (more than 15 people)	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/work with children	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/work with teens	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/work with adults	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/work with senior citizens	1	2	3	4	5
Teach/work with persons with mental or physical disabilities	1	2	3	4	5
Write (news articles, fact sheets, newsletters, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Graphic Design-Help with brochure development for programs or events	1	2	3	4	5
Website design/maintenance	1	2	3	4	5
Staff information booths	1	2	3	4	5
Prepare exhibits and displays	1	2	3	4	5
Maintain demonstration gardens	1	2	3	4	5
Carpentry/handiwork	1	2	3	4	5

EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER AGREEMENT

I wish to become a K-State Research and Extension **Reno County Master Gardener trainee** and would be available for the training sessions for the Class of 2016, which begins **September 8 and meets every Thursday through December 8 from 8:00am to 4:30pm (this includes travel time to and from class).**

I understand that if I am accepted into the Extension Master Gardener training program, I am entering into a contract to return at least 40 hours of volunteer service to the horticulture programs of K-State Research Extension-Reno County. Of these 40 hours, 10 hours should be at one of the demonstration gardens and 6 hours spent helping with the annual garden tour. Extension Master Gardeners are expected to provide recommendations based on research-based information, and to provide educational program assistance in support of the general County Extension education program. I further understand that continuation as an active Master Gardener in good standing requires completion of both 6 hours of Master Gardener Continuing Education and a minimum of 12 volunteer hours annually on approved projects as well as attending a minimum of 3 monthly meetings per year.

I understand that volunteers may not participate in the Reno County Extension Master Gardener Program for commercial gain or endorsements. The title Master Gardener is a trademarked name and is not meant to be used in advertising for commercial businesses. The title Master Gardener should be used only by individuals trained in a Cooperative Extension Service program. The title is valid only when used by an active Master Gardener who is participating in a program approved by an Extension agent. When an individual ceases to be active in the Master Gardener program, their designation as a Master Gardener ceases. Master Gardeners should not display credentials or give the appearance of being a Master Gardener at a place of business unless that place has been designated the site of a Master Gardener activity by the local Extension unit. The title Master Gardener should not be used in a manner which implies Cooperative Extension Service endorsement of any product or place of business. The title Master Gardener should be used only when doing unpaid volunteer work for Extension.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for your interest in the Reno County Extension Master Gardener Program and for taking the time to fill out this application. Please return the completed form with payment of \$110 to the **Reno County Extension Office, 2 W. 10th, South Hutchinson, KS 67505** by **Friday, August 26, 2016.**

Upon receipt of your application, we will send you a confirmation letter that will include the time and location of the orientation meeting. For questions, please call the Extension Office at 620-662-2371 or email: ppaulsen@ksu.edu