

Time to sign up for the Master Gardener Program

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Certain questions haunt our horticultural thoughts. Is quack grass related to duck weed? Where do seeds for seedless watermelon come from? Can dogwood trees live once they've been debarked? If you are haunted by "a need to know" and a desire to share newly found knowledge, than the University of Kentucky Master Gardener volunteer program may be for you!

You don't have to be a gardening expert to become a Master Gardener. All you need is an interest in gardening, some time to volunteer in the community, and a desire to share your knowledge with others. The program is more about connections...connecting people with other gardeners, with their community, and with reliable resources for information.

Master Gardeners are a vital link in getting practical research based horticulture information to the public through the local University Extension offices throughout the United States.

Master Gardeners participate in over 60 hours of daytime training on vegetables, home fruits, lawn care, plant pathology, entomology, soils & fertility, pruning, plant propagation, and flowers. The University of Kentucky Extension staff conducts most of the training. Training follows a Master Gardener manual, which graduates keep as a reference.

Once training is completed, Master Gardener interns have many opportunities to complete the 40 to 50 hours of internship to become a certified Master Gardener. Volunteer time fits the specific interests and strengths of the Master Gardener with the programming needs of the county residents. It emphasizes practical gardening experience teamed with the research-based information of the University of Kentucky Extension to help people put knowledge to work.

Sign up for the Master Gardener program now. Barren County will be offering another Master Gardener Program this coming fall. Sessions will meet every Tuesday during the months of September, October, and November from 5:00 until 8:00 PM at the Barren County Cooperative Extension Office located at 1463 West Main Street; Glasgow, KY. Learn about Botany, Soils & Fertility, Composting, Pesticides, Entomology, Lawn Care, Annuals & Perennials, Home Fruits, Plant Pathology, Woody Plants, and Plant Propagation. Registration cost is \$75.00 per person and must be received by **August 1st**. **Note: Space is limited to only 25 participants.** For more information about the Master Gardener volunteer program, please contact the Barren County Extension Office at 651-3818 or kristin.goodin@uky.edu.

Educational programs of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin.