

Are you interested in becoming a Master Gardener?

We are currently taking names and addresses for our next class (2010). You will be notified by mail or e-mail when the next class becomes available with information on costs, dates and times. If you would like to be added to our list, send your information to

donna.knebel@uky.edu

or call 569-2344.

What is a Master Gardener?

A Master Gardener

- has an interest in all types of gardening, such as ornamental or vegetable;
- wants to teach other to garden; and
- is trained by Cooperative Extension Service personnel.

What does a Master Gardener do?

Master Gardeners help County Extension Agents reach more residents who have gardening problems by

- visiting garden sites;
- working in information booths at community events and malls;
- answering garden questions at Extension offices during regular phone hours;
- teaching horticulture to beginning gardeners;
- using special talents, such as writing, photography and drawing, to benefit others; and
- exploring environmental options.

How do I become a Master Gardener?

You become a Master Gardener by successfully completing the training program and then volunteering your time.

How are Master Gardeners trained?

Master Gardener training classes are conducted annually by Cooperative Extension Service specialists, agents, and other horticulture professionals.

Master Gardeners are trained in

Botany Entomology Pesticide use and safety Plant pathology
Soils and fertilizers Volunteerism Flower gardening
Fruit and vegetable gardening Lawn care
Organic gardening Tree and shrub care

The Master Gardener class is essentially training for a volunteer program. In the process the participants become a very knowledgeable gardeners. Most participant come to the class with one or two specific areas of interest. After completing the class they will have expanded that knowledge to include most areas of horticulture. These new Master Gardener Interns are then able to assist the gardening citizens of our county.

Denise Peterson is the coordinator of the Master Gardener Class and Program. The next class will start next September, 2010. Classes are held two days per week - Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9:00am and 12:00 noon. The course will be run Sept. – Nov. The Master Gardener Class is a series of approximately 18 college-level horticulture classes taught by UK professors, specialists, extension agents and professional in the horticulture field. Most of the classes are held at 810 Barret Ave. in Room 115. The cost is \$150.00 (this covers materials

only). There are reading assignments, homework and an open-book final.

After completing the class, participants become interns for one year. During that year interns are required to return 30 of volunteer service hours back to the community. Projects for returning hours are provided through the horticulture agent and endorsed by the University. Hours are broken down into 10 hours for hands-on service; 10 hours for education; and 10 hours on the Horticulture hotline in office. Interns are always trained and prepared for the community service hours. This program annually trains 20 volunteers. These volunteers assist the agents in offering research-based educational information to the gardening public. Below is a list of Master Gardener activities in the community for 2008-2009.

Master Gardener Activities 2008/2009

Question & Answer" Table at Farmers' Market

- Southwest Farmer's Market
- Saint Matthews Farmers' Market
- Smoketown Farmer's Market
- Jeffersontown Farmer's Market
- Suburban Christian Church Farmer's Market

Demonstration Gardens

- Whitehall – Entrance Garden, Fern Garden
- St. Peter Claver Garden– French Intensive Method
- Emerson Garden – Bean Variety Trials
- Blackacre – Market Garden, "How much income can a 30'x30' produce?"
- Blue Lick Garden – Miniature Pumpkin Variety Trials
- 7th Street Garden- Colored Plastic Mulch Trials

Sponsorship of Community Events

- Warheim Park Tree Giveaway

Garden Club Presentations

- Potpourri Garden Club
- World of Flowers

- South Bayly Avenue Garden Club
- Crescent Hill Garden
- Windy Hills Garden Club
- Golden Oldies

Youth Gardening

- Jr. Master Gardener Class at St. Mary's Academy
- St. Joseph's Youth Garden

Volunteer Activities at Public Gardens

- Whitehall Demonstration Garden
- Louisville Nature Center
 - ◊ Rain Garden installation & maintenance
 - ◊ Creating Rain Garden Programs
 - ◊ Wildflower Program

Question and Answer Booths at Community Events

- Warheim Park Tree Giveaway – partnership with United Nations
 - ◊ Environmental Programme, the Billion Tree Campaign

Docents for Garden Tours

- Crescent Hill Garden Tour
- Kilgore Garden Tour

Other Educational Activities & Programs

- Worm Composting – Blackacre Nature Conservancy
- Composting at Blackacre Nature Conservancy
- Fall Lawn Care – Southwest Library
- Landscape Maintenance - Bowman Field
- Horticulture Judges for 4H County Fair
- Garden for St. John's Center for Homeless Men

Public Library Programs

- The Cicadas Are Coming! (series of 8 programs)
- Fall Lawn Care – Southwest Library
- August Anguish in the Garden – library program
- "Tip Table" Bon Air Library Mondays March & April
- ABC's of Vegetable Gardening (series of 3)
- Starting from Seed (series of 3)

The Jefferson County Master Gardener program is part of the Kentucky Master Gardener Program. Click here for more information on statewide participation.

Master Gardener Class Pictures

2006



2007



2008

