

Master Gardener Volunteer Interest Form

If you would like an application for the Master Gardener Volunteer Program mailed to you, please complete and mail this portion to:

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
of Ulster County**
10 Westbrook Lane
Kingston, NY 12401
Attn: Dona Crawford

Name

Address

City County

State Zip Code

(_____) _____
Daytime Phone

(_____) _____
Cell Phone

Email Address

Please circle your choices:

Best time to reach you: AM / PM
Best way to reach you: Phone / Email

Do you have any:

Volunteer experience? Y / N
Informal training or experience in horticulture? Y / N
Experience in public speaking, teaching or community organization? Y / N

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities



Your contact in Ulster County:

Dona Crawford

Master Gardener Program Coordinator
Cornell Cooperative Extension Ulster County
845-340-3990
Email: dm282@cornell.edu



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Ulster County

10 Westbrook Lane
Kingston, NY 12401
845-340-3990

<http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/ulster>

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities



**Master Gardener Program
of Cornell Cooperative
Extension Ulster County**

*A volunteer program for
residents of New York State*



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Ulster County

10 Westbrook Lane
Kingston, NY 12401
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What is the Master Gardener Program?

A nationwide educational outreach program educating:

- Home gardeners
- Youth and adults
- Community gardeners

Who are Master Gardeners?

We are neighbors teaching neighbors about landscapes, vegetables, fruits, herbs, houseplants, beneficial and harmful insects, plant diseases, integrated pest management (IPM), wildlife management, soils, birds, composting, water conservation and much, much more! We are a dedicated group of volunteers in New York State who are trained by Cornell Cooperative Extension in the science and art of gardening.

What are the qualifications to become a Master Gardener?

- A basic interest and knowledge about landscape and food gardening
- Enthusiasm for acquiring and sharing horticulture knowledge and skills
- Interest in teaching others
- Ability to communicate verbally and in writing
- Understanding of Cornell Cooperative Extension's educational mission
- Flexible time schedule to allow participation in the program
- Ability to volunteer time on horticulture projects and functions to help meet the goals of the county's Cornell Cooperative Extension Program



What do Master Gardeners do?

Programs and activities of the Master Gardeners are based on educational priorities of individual counties, differing from county to county. Some of these include:

- Answering horticulture inquiries on the telephone
- Researching and answering letters
- Writing articles about gardening
- Setting up demonstration projects in public places
- School gardens
- Plant and insect identification
- Community improvement projects
- Historic garden restoration
- Horticulture therapy
- Organizing plant sales and public events
- County fair informational booths
- Providing advice to customers at garden centers
- Increasing awareness of integrated pest management and water quality conserva-



How Can I Become a Master Gardener Volunteer?

The Master Gardener training program is usually conducted every two years. The training occurs during the day, once a week for a total of 15 weeks. In filling out this interest flyer you will automatically be contacted during the summer, prior to the next training that fall. An application will be mailed to you. Upon receiving it, we will set up an interview with you. Those applicants who are accepted will be notified by August to begin classes in September of that training year. There is a fee to cover the cost of training and the materials needed.

How Will the Master Gardener Volunteer Program Benefit Me?

Through the Master Gardener training sessions and workshops, you will become a more knowledgeable gardener. Some of the course work in the trainings include instruction in insect and disease prevention, soil nutrition, vegetable, fruit, tree, shrub, lawn, annual, perennial and houseplant culture to name just a few!

You will also meet people who share your love of gardening. As a bonus, the program benefits include:

- The opportunity to attend educational field trips and NYS Master Gardener Conference at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY