



LOVE GARDENING & HELPING OTHERS? BECOME A MASTER GARDENER

Would you like to know the answers to questions that come along with planting and growing a magnificent flower bed, a bountiful vegetable garden, or flourishing fruit trees and everything in-between? Then you should consider becoming a Master Gardener and sharing your experience and knowledge with the inquiring public. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County's Master Gardener Program is currently accepting applications to become a Master Gardener.

Master Gardeners are trained volunteers who provide the public with gardening programs and activities that convey horticulture research and experience. Volunteers are selected and trained in all aspects of horticulture from taxonomy and plant pathology to organic gardening. Each Master Gardener must complete an initial 100 hours of research based instruction from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County and will continue to be exposed to the latest developments through a variety of educational training methods and state of the art gardening techniques.

Basic requirements are an interest and experience in horticulture and a willingness to give back to the community. Community volunteers are trained to assist other members of their community with research-based information obtained from Cornell University, other Universities throughout the nation in the land grant system, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The application process can be downloaded at <http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/ulster> under The Master Gardener Program or picked up at the main office of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County at 10 Westbrook Lane in Kingston. **Interviews will take place in July and August. Training will begin in September at CCEUC in Kingston.**

The fee is \$200. Participants will be refunded \$50 upon completion of 100 volunteer hours within two years.

For more information contact Dona Crawford, Master Gardener Coordinator at 845-340-3990.