

For More Information

Application forms and additional information are available from your local county Extension office:

Texas AgriLife Extension Service, El Paso County
Dr. Raymond Bader
915-851-2515
El-Paso-TX@tamu.edu

Visit the Texas Master Gardener program website at: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>.

Visit the El Paso County Master Gardener program website at: <http://elp.tamu.edu>



Adapted for use in Texas from University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Agriculture and National Resources.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
El Paso County

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915-860-2515
drodriguez@ag.tamu.edu
<http://elp.tamu.edu>

Master Gardener Hotline
915-566-1276

elpasomg@ag.tamu.edu

located at
El Paso Garden Center
3105 Grant Ave.
El Paso, TX 79930

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Extension publications can be found on the Web at:
<http://agrilifebookstore.org/>

Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin
The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas cooperating

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AGRILIFE
EXTENSION

Become a . . .



Texas
Master
Gardener



Do you have an interest in gardening and sharing your knowledge?

Who are Texas Master Gardeners?

Master Gardeners are members of the local community who take an active interest in their lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers and gardens. They are enthusiastic, willing to learn and to help others, and able to communicate with diverse groups of people.

What really sets Master Gardeners apart from other home gardeners is their special training in horticulture. In exchange for their training, persons who become Master Gardeners contribute time as volunteers, working through their cooperative Extension office to provide horticultural information to their communities.

Is the Master Gardener Program for Me?

To help you decide if you should apply to be a Master Gardener, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I want to learn more about the culture and maintenance of many types of plants?
- Am I eager to participate in a practical and intense training program?
- Do I look forward to sharing my knowledge with people in my community?
- Do I have enough time to attend training and to complete the volunteer service?

If you answered yes to these questions, the Master Gardener program could be for you. Contact your local Extension office to obtain an application from the Master Gardener Coordinator at the office (contact information is on the back of this brochure).

Training

If accepted into the Master Gardener program in your county, you will attend a Master Gardener training course. Classes are taught by Texas AgriLife Extension Service specialists, staff, and local experts.

The program offers a minimum of 50 hours of instruction that covers topics such as lawn care; ornamental trees and shrubs; insect, disease, and weed management; soils and plant nutrition; vegetable gardening; home fruit production; garden flowers; and water conservation. The training is offered at various times during the year at various locations across the state. Check with your county Extension office for specific locations, dates and times.

Volunteer Commitment

In exchange for training, participants are asked to volunteer time to their county Extension program.

At least 60 hours of volunteer service within 1 year following the training is required to earn the title of "Texas Master Gardener."

The type of service done by Master Gardeners varies according to community needs and the abilities and interests of the Master Gardeners. Some Master Gardeners answer telephone requests for information related to gardening. Others staff plant clinics or displays in shopping malls or community centers. Master Gardeners may speak to local groups and conduct workshops. They may help establish school and community garden projects, work with 4-H youth, or assist their agent with news or radio releases related to gardening. The Master Gardener Coordinator in the county Extension office decides how volunteer time can be best used.

Master Gardeners are representatives of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. In all volunteer work related to the program, Master Gardeners follow the research-based recommendations of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. The title "Texas Master Gardener" can be used by volunteers only when engaged in activities sponsored by the Extension Service.

Certification

Participants become certified Master Gardeners after they have completed the training course and fulfilled their volunteer commitment.

Then the Master Gardener Program may be for you!