

University of California Cooperative Extension Monterey Bay Master Gardener Program 2010

The Master Gardener program is a voluntary educational program serving the home gardening community. Our purpose is to extend University of California research-based horticultural information to interested individuals. The program is sponsored by the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE). UCCE is part of the Land Grant University system that since 1914 has provided California residents with information and educational materials on agriculture, horticulture, nutrition, and other topics.

No specific level of gardening skill or knowledge is required. Volunteers initially complete 56 hours of classes in home horticulture. The training program typically runs 12-15 weeks (about 5 months) with 5-7 hours of classroom instruction per day on 3 out of 4 Saturdays a month. One absence will be permitted. The primary classroom is the UCCE office at 1432 Freedom Blvd, Watsonville, with occasional field trips to nearby locations.

Farm Advisors, Agricultural Commission Specialists and other local experts serve as instructors. Participants receive instruction on subjects such as the following:

Introduction to Horticulture and Plant Physiology
Soil, Water, and Fertilizers
Plant Problems, Diagnosis and Diseases
Vegetable Gardening
Plant Insects
Fruit Trees
Pesticide Safety and Efficacy

Weeds
Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
Annuals, Perennials and Groundcovers
Ornamentals Trees and Shrubs
Turf Grass and Disease
Vertebrate Pests
Home Landscaping

A nominal fee is charged to cover the cost of training materials, the *California Master Gardener Handbook*, and incidental class supplies. The fee is subject to change each year and is kept to a minimal amount. (Anticipated 2010 fee is \$150.) Scholarships are available, so no one is prevented from participating. You will be notified by mail of the January interview date. **All persons accepted into the program are required to be fingerprinted by the Department of Justice. No exceptions.**

Master Gardener Certification involves 2 steps:

(1) Following instruction, the trainee must pass an open book, final examination covering all the information taught and referenced throughout the training program. This may be accomplished in a group or individually and usually takes 8-10 hours to complete.

(2) The trainee must complete a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service by the end of the year. Depending on the talents and interests of each Master Gardener, volunteer service requirements may be satisfied in a number of ways such as:

- staffing the Hotline (research and answer questions from the home gardener),
- developing school gardens,
- working on the Communication Team (newsletters, emails, website),
- staffing educational booths at the San Francisco Flower Show or Santa Cruz County Fair,
- working at the Smart Gardening Faire or the Master Gardener Tour,
- volunteering on a variety of projects initiated by the MBMG or other garden-related organizations in which Master Gardeners may participate.

A Master Gardener Badge is presented following completion. Certification is valid for one year.

Recertification is necessary to retain standing as a Certified Master Gardener. Any Master Gardener who stays involved and performs 30 hours of volunteer work and attends 20 hours of advanced training each year may maintain his/her certification.

Volunteer hours and advanced training are reported online on a quarterly basis.

The next MBMG training course will start in January 2010. You will be contacted on receipt of your application.

University of California Cooperative Extension
 Monterey Bay Master Gardener Program Application 2010

Name			
Full Address (street, city, zip)			
Home Phone		Cell Phone	
Work Phone		Fax	
Current Occupation			
Years of gardening experience		Email	
Type of gardening experience and/or related training			
List volunteer experience working in your community (schools, churches, sr. citizens, youth, etc)			
List group affiliations (garden clubs, community gardens, civic and professional groups, etc.)			
Please indicate your abilities:			
1. Language(s) spoken other than English <i>(please indicate ability: good, average, poor)</i>	Language:	Speak:	Read: Write:
	Language:	Speak:	Read: Write:
2. Teaching/instructing	Youths <input type="checkbox"/>	Adults <input type="checkbox"/>	One-on-One <input type="checkbox"/> Groups <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Writing	Newspaper Articles <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletters <input type="checkbox"/> Brochures <input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Development of visual aids			
5. Working with	Community Professionals <input type="checkbox"/> Clubs <input type="checkbox"/> Govt Agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Schools <input type="checkbox"/>		
6. Operation of equipment	Slide Projector <input type="checkbox"/> VCR <input type="checkbox"/> Tape Recorder <input type="checkbox"/> Camera <input type="checkbox"/> Video Camera <input type="checkbox"/>		
7. Office skills	Typing <input type="checkbox"/> Answering Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Filing <input type="checkbox"/> Computer <input type="checkbox"/>		
How did you learn of the Master Gardener Program? <i>(list specific source)</i>			
Why do you want to be a Master Gardener?			

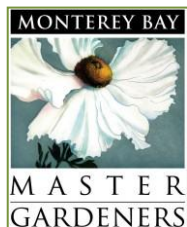
<p>To become a certified Master Gardener, you will be expected to volunteer at least 50 hours of community service. Part of your volunteer work must be at least two of these categories. Please indicate those projects in which you would like to participate</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Research Projects <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Clinics <input type="checkbox"/> Hotline (phone) <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Projects <input type="checkbox"/> Talks & Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> Radio Shows <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletters <input type="checkbox"/> Writing <input type="checkbox"/> Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled Persons Project
<p>What other ideas do you have for volunteer work with the Master Gardener Program?</p>	
<p>My best hours for volunteering are (check all that apply)</p>	<p>Mon AM <input type="checkbox"/> Tue AM <input type="checkbox"/> Wed AM <input type="checkbox"/> Thu AM <input type="checkbox"/> Fri AM <input type="checkbox"/> Mon PM <input type="checkbox"/> Tue PM <input type="checkbox"/> Wed PM <input type="checkbox"/> Thu PM <input type="checkbox"/> Fri PM <input type="checkbox"/> Weekends AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Comments</p>	

I wish to become a Master Gardener Volunteer with the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE), Monterey Bay. I understand that to become certified as such, I will attend 56 hours of weekly training sessions, the advanced training classes, and successfully complete the final exam. I understand that the training is being provided to prepare me for my volunteer service with UCCE. I fully intend to commit at least 50 hours of volunteer service to the Master Gardener Program during the year in which I receive the training.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Print and mail this application to:

Monterey Bay Master Gardeners
c/o Sharon Tyler
3850 Blue Oaks Rd
Gilroy, CA 95020