

What do Master Gardeners do?

- Address horticultural inquiries via email phone
- Write articles about gardening
- Set up demonstration activities in public places
- Consult on school gardens
- Community improvement projects
- Historic garden restoration
- Horticultural therapy
- Organize plant sales and public events
- County Fair information/outreach
- Increase awareness and management of invasive species, water quality conservation, and other environmental issues

What are the qualifications to become a Master Gardener?

A basic **interest** and **knowledge** about landscape and food gardening

Enthusiasm for acquiring and **sharing** horticultural knowledge and skills

Interest in **teaching** others

Ability to **communicate** information

Understanding of Cornell Cooperative Extension's educational mission

Flexible time schedule to allow participation in the program

Willingness to **volunteer** time on horticultural programming and functions



How can you become a Master Gardener?

Complete a 50-hour course in general (consumer) horticulture designed for Master Gardener Volunteer Trainees. The next training will take place in Fall 2024.

Classes typically are held on 10 consecutive Mondays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., thus far in Cooperstown. Some classes may be held at SUNY Cobleskill. Instructors include extension educators / horticulture specialists, college professors, agency directors, Master Gardeners, and landscape professionals.

Topics include: Basic Plant Pathology, Soils, Composting, Garden Botany, Annuals & Perennials, Herbs, Basic Entomology, Organic Gardening, Permaculture Gardening, Large and Small Fruits, Trees and Shrubs, Pruning, Ecological Lawn Care, Nuisance Wildlife, Invasive Species, Beekeeping, and Garden-Based Learning,

Upon course completion, Master Gardener 'Apprentices' are expected to complete 50 hours of Master Gardener Volunteer service within a twelve month period. Times may include committee work/meetings, grounds, helpline, plant sale, and outreach activities.

CCE provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Cornell Cooperative Extension Herkimer County.



Master Gardener Seed Swap



Master Gardeners at Cornell Botanical Gardens



Master Gardener Volunteer Training

What is the Master Gardener Volunteer Program?

- A nationwide educational program in horticulture
- An integral component of the county's outreach programming in reaching:
 - ◊ Home gardeners
 - ◊ Youth in after-school programs
 - ◊ Residents in assisted living facilities
 - ◊ Individuals with disabilities
- Neighbors teaching neighbors about multiple topics and issues in consumer horticulture and garden-based learning.
- A corps of volunteers who are trained by Cornell Cooperative Extension in the science and art of gardening



For more information:

Contact:

Garet Livermore, Executive Director,
Agriculture Issues Leader
(315) 866-7920 X232
Email: GDL56@cornell.edu

OR

Complete below and mail to:

CCE Herkimer County
5657 State Route 5
Herkimer, NY 13350

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Cornell Cooperative Extension's mission is to enable people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work.



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Herkimer County