

What is a Master Gardener?

A Master Gardener is a **VOLUNTEER** with the University of Wisconsin-Extension to help educate the public about gardening and natural resources.

It's not about knowing everything about gardening. It's about learning to ask the right questions and knowing how to look up information from appropriate resources.

Being a Master Gardener is about helping deliver meaningful community programs to improve the well-being of individuals and communities, to protect natural resources, and to help keep fresh fruits and vegetables on the table.

It's about working in tandem with UW-Extension staff and other volunteers to make a difference in the places we live, learn, and work.



More information at:
<http://wimastergardener.org/>

Volunteers in Horticulture

2018 Master Gardener Volunteer Training



Sept. 13th - Dec. 6th

Location:

Shawano County Courthouse &
Hillcrest Primary School



Please Read This Column

Dear Gardener:

The Master Gardener Volunteer program is designed for those who want to learn more about gardening in order to share their knowledge with others. **It is a program to train horticultural volunteers who will assist UW-Extension in sharing horticultural information with the public.**

*It is **not** a general gardening class.*

The sessions build on your knowledge base of general horticultural topics, while providing opportunities for interaction and discussion of locally-oriented issues within the main topic.

What are the certification requirements?

Master Gardener Volunteer certification involves attending at minimum 11 of the 14 training sessions, volunteering 24 hours of related community service, and completing a take-home exam.

What are some volunteer possibilities?

The possibilities for volunteering are limited only by your own ideas and time. Actual garden activities can include assisting with: community beautification projects, demonstration plantings, or working with school or youth groups. Other options include: planning or conducting community educational events, working the Master Gardener display at the Shawano Farmer's Market or writing newspaper articles.

What does the fee cover?

What you are paying for is the instructional materials utilized during the course. The instruction is repaid by the volunteer hours you perform during or after course completion.

How will the program be delivered?

Course materials will be delivered via interactive discussions & presentations, hands-on skill development, small group tasks, and other activities. Specialized sessions will be taught with guest speakers. Students should dress to go outside or to work with plants/soil most sessions.

Level I Master Gardener Volunteer Schedule: Fall 2018

Sessions are on Thursday evenings, beginning September 13th through December 6th, from 6 to 9 p.m. Most sessions will have either a hands-on or an outdoors portion, *so please dress appropriately*. The first seven sessions will be held at the Shawano County Courthouse with the last six at Hillcrest Primary School. The schedule below may change, but shows topics.

Registration needs to be returned to the UWEX office by August 15th, but the class may be filled prior to that date, so return your form as soon as possible. If you have questions, please call Kara Skarlupka at the Shawano County UW-Extension office (715)-526-4863. You can also e-mail questions to kara.skarlupka@co.shawano.wi.us.

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| Sept. 13 | Introduction to the MGV Program and Plant Biology and Morphology |
| Sept. 20 | Soils and Fertilizers |
| Sept. 27 | Vegetable Crops |
| Oct. 4 | Fruit Crops |
| Oct. 11 | Lawn Care |
| Oct. 18 | Woody Plants |
| Oct. 25 | Herbaceous Perennials and Annuals |
| Nov. 1 | Composting |
| Nov. 8 | Using Native Plants and Backyard Wildlife |
| Nov. 15 | Plant Propagation |
| Nov. 29 | Weed Management and Invasive Plants |
| Dec. 6 | Entomology and Plant Diseases |
| Dec. 13 | Test completion, correction, and celebration. |



The University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX requirements. To ensure equal access, please make requests for reasonable accommodations as soon as possible prior to the scheduled program.

Registration Form

2018 Master Gardener Volunteer Training

Please make check payable to UW-Extension, and mail to:

Master Gardener Program
Shawano County UW-Extension
311 N Main Street Room 101
Shawano, WI 54166

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (day) _____

(evening) _____

Email: _____

Registration fee:

Individual\$150.00

Amount Enclosed:\$ _____

Upon UWEX receipt of this form, or the electronic equivalent, you will be sent a registration packet. You will need to fill out those forms prior to the first session. One of the steps in the registration process is a form that is sent to the State MGV Coordinator to allow her to conduct a criminal background check, as required by USDA for involvement in any UWEX volunteer programming.