

## Is the Master Gardener Program for You?

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

- Do I want to learn more about the life 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 volunteer service?

If you answered yes to these questions, the Extension Master Gardener program could be for you!

Learn more about the NC Extension Master Gardener Program: <https://emgv.ces.ncsu.edu/>



Master Gardeners volunteer in a variety of areas, including youth gardening.

## NC State Cooperative Extension, Pender County Center

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# NC State Extension Master Gardeners<sup>SM</sup>, Pender County



**NC STATE** EXTENSION

Master Gardener | Pender County

# Who Are Master Gardener Volunteers?



Master Gardener Volunteers are members of the local community who take an active interest in their landscapes and gardens. They are enthusiastic, willing to learn and help others, and able to communicate with diverse groups of people. As part of the volunteer program of NC State University's Cooperative Extension, Master Gardener Volunteers provide unbiased, research-based educational assistance and programs in horticulture and environmental issues to the gardening public.

What really sets Master Gardener Volunteers apart from other home gardeners is their special training in horticulture and willingness to educate others. In exchange for their training, people who become Master Gardener Volunteers contribute time as volunteers, working through their Cooperative Extension office to provide horticultural related information to the public.

## Master Gardener Training

In Pender County, the \$110 training begins each year in January. Classes meet weekly on Wednesday mornings for three hours over a 16-week period at the Pender Extension Center in Burgaw. This extensive training course covers all the basics of lawn care, landscape plants and their maintenance, vegetable and flower gardening, environmental stewardship, and insect, disease and weed management. Training is provided by NC State Cooperative Extension Agents and area experts, with a focus on research-based information specific to our local climate and growing conditions.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Master Gardeners volunteer in a variety of roles. Volunteer opportunities exist throughout Pender County and include:

- Diagnosing plant, insect, and disease problems
- Staffing plant clinics and educational exhibits
- Creating and maintaining educational demonstration gardens
- Giving lectures on various gardening topics
- Volunteering in local schools to develop gardens and teach youth gardening skills

The variety of volunteer opportunities available to Master Gardeners is limited only by their imaginations! Volunteers work with their Extension Agent to determine which opportunities will make the best use of their time, talents and interests and meet the needs of Cooperative Extension's educational programs.

## Why You Should Become a Master Gardener Volunteer:

- To become knowledgeable in a wide array of gardening subjects.
- To help your community and share your knowledge with others.
- To increase your confidence and horticultural skills, enabling you to assist the public with questions and problems involving gardening.
- To meet others who share your interest in gardening.
- To learn more through participation in advanced Master Gardener opportunities and educational field trips.

**To become a Master Gardener Volunteer in Pender County, contact:**

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