

What is the UC Master Gardener Program?

Master Gardeners are volunteers trained and certified by the University of California Cooperative Extension in the areas of home gardening and horticulture. They extend information and provide technical assistance to gardeners in Lake County



Who can become a Master Gardener?

Master Gardeners are adults of all ages and from all walks of life. They include professionals, educators, retirees, homemakers and students – all with some experience and knowledge of plants and gardening. Master Gardeners must be enthusiastic, willing to learn and help others, and be able to communicate with diverse groups of people.

What type of volunteer work does a Master Gardener do?

Master Gardeners staff an information desk in the County Extension office where they answer questions, diagnose plant problems, and give horticultural assistance to home gardeners. Information is also dispersed through newspaper articles, at plant clinics, and through talks and demonstrations. Master Gardeners also work on special community horticultural and gardening projects.



What training is provided to the Master Gardener?

Master Gardeners are given 60 hours of training over a three-month period. The instruction provides a practical course in plant science and horticulture covering such topics as weeds, diseases, soils, insects, fertilizers, fruit and landscape trees, pests, vegetables, irrigation, xeriscaping and more. Instructors are Cooperative Extension Advisors and Specialists from the University of California at Berkeley and Davis, local community college faculty and other knowledgeable resource people.



What is the Master Gardener's commitment to the program?

After completing the training and passing a written exam, the new Master Gardener Interns are required to complete a minimum of 60 hours of volunteer service and 12 hours of continuing education within the next 12 months. **Master Gardeners are selected on the basis of their ability to fulfill this commitment.** In order to retain the title of certified Master Gardener in ensuing years, 12 hours of continuing education and 25 hours of volunteer service must be completed each year. The Master Gardener title can only be used in conjunction with volunteer activities of the UCCE office in Lake County.

How can one obtain information from a Master Gardener?

Master Gardeners may be contacted through the Lake County UC Cooperative Extension office (263-6838). Samples of insects, weeds, and diseased plants can be brought to the office for identification and diagnosis. Master Gardeners are also available to give talks for garden clubs, senior citizens groups, elementary schools and other community or church organization.

What is UC Cooperative Extension?

Cooperative Extension works in cooperation with county, state and federal governments to provide local educational programs throughout California.

Cooperative Extension has research support and staff expertise in agriculture and natural resources, youth development, family and consumer sciences, and community resource development.



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Mailing Address: _____ Email: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____
Gardening/Horticultural experience: _____
Where did you obtain this brochure? _____ Form mailed on: _____

Please fill out this form and mail to:
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