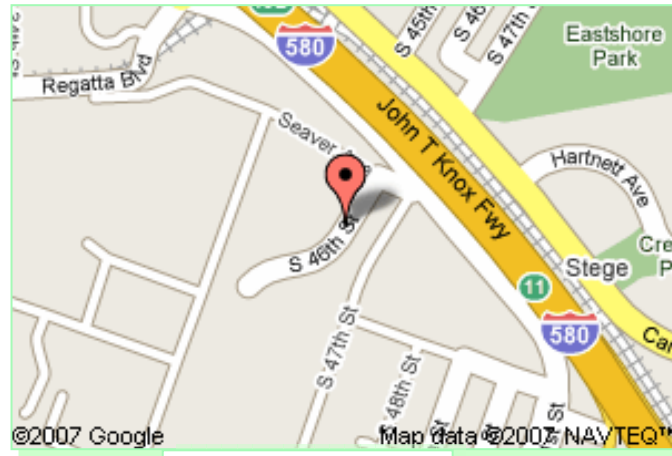


Contra Costa Master Gardener Class for 2008/09

The Master Gardener Class is being offered in West County in 2008. Classes start October 2, 2008, through February 19, 2009, on Thursdays from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. Breaks are scheduled for November 27, December 25 and January 1, 2009.

Class Location: Richmond Field Station



1301 S 46th St
Richmond, CA 94804

Applications will be available in **July** at the Cooperative Extension office (75 Santa Barbara Rd, 2nd floor, Pleasant Hill, behind the central library), on the CCMG web-site at <http://ccmg.ucdavis.edu>, or <http://cecontracosta.ucdavis.edu>. Applications will be accepted until September 3, 2008, 5:00 pm. Class size is limited. The fee for the program is \$195.00, and includes the cost of training materials.

The UCCE Master Gardener program is sponsored by the University of California and Contra Costa County. The class addresses topics from the field of horticulture, ranging from soil science to plant pathology. Instructors come from UC campuses and include local experts.

In return for the training, UC Certified Master Gardeners help people throughout the county with gardening, environmental and horticultural issues by **volunteering 75 hours** in the year following graduation. MG volunteers lead workshops teaching people to garden using least toxic materials, the best use of local resources and the best suited flowering and fruiting plants for the varied climates in Contra Costa. They work in school gardens, in farmers markets and in multiple other venues. Master Gardeners staff a Hot-Line Monday through Friday from 9:00 am – 12 noon answering gardening questions from across the county.

MGs are a dedicated, enthusiastic group of volunteers who continue with training every year to keep on top of our changing landscape. If you have further questions please call Program Coordinator, Bethallyn Black, at (925) 646-6130.



**APPLICATION
MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
2008 Training Class**

Return your completed application to:

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM
University of California Cooperative Ext
75 Santa Barbara Rd., 2nd Floor
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523-4215

no later than 5:00 pm on September 3, 2008

The
Contra Costa Master Gardener Program is designed to allow trained volunteer gardeners to function as an outreach arm of the University of California Cooperative Extension, extending research-based horticultural information through educational programs and community activities. Our mission is to improve residential horticulture, urban pest management and resource conservation. The Master Gardener Volunteer Program is not for professional advancement and membership cannot be used in commercial advertising.

Instructions

- Please complete all pages of the application
- Resume, cover letter, and supporting material may be attached
- Application and supporting material will not be returned
- Please allow at least three weeks after the announced closing date for a reply to your application

Personal

Name (Last, First, Middle)

Address City State Zip

Phone (Day) Eve mobile

Emergency Contact # E-mail

Best way/time to contact you _____

Education/Training/Professional or Technical Certification

Completion of High School or GED YES NO

Higher Education/Training Institute Location Number Yrs Completed

Degree/Diploma/Prof Cert/License Earned

Current employment status

Full Time ____ Part Time ____ (hrs/wk) ____ Retired/Unemployed ____ Seeking employment

Qualifications and Background

Summarize the qualifications and background that support your application to this program:

Briefly answer the following questions

1. How did you learn about the Master Gardener Volunteer Program?

2. Why are you interested in becoming a Master Gardener?

3. What special skills would you bring to our program?

4. What times of the day are you available to volunteer?

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm	<input type="checkbox"/> am <input type="checkbox"/> pm

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor which resulted in imprisonment or probation
 YES NO

You may omit:

1. Traffic violation for which the fine imposed was \$300 or less
2. Any offense which was finally settled in a juvenile court or referred to the youth authority
3. Any incident that has been sealed under Welfare and Institution Code Section 781 or Penal Code Section 1203.45
4. A conviction specified in Health and Safety Code Section 1136.5 which pertains to various marijuana offenses.

A criminal record will not necessarily bar your acceptance into the Master Gardener Volunteer Program. Each case is given individual consideration, based on job relatedness. (This information will remain confidential.)

I would like to be considered for acceptance into the University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program. I understand that if accepted into the Master Gardener Volunteer Program after I have completed and passed a California Department of Justice background check, I am required to attend and complete the scheduled training sessions (approximately 70 hours) and to donate a minimum of 75 hours in approved Master Gardener Project Activities. The volunteer service must be completed within 12 months after graduation.

Signature

Date

Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Data

The following information is requested to comply with Federal reporting requirements. The information is necessary for statistical analyses of applicant flow data in administering Agriculture & Natural Resource's equal employment opportunity/affirmative action program. Furnishing the information is voluntary; there is no penalty for not providing it.

Please select one category only. If two or more racial/ethnic categories are applicable, choose the one category with which you most closely identify.

- White, non-Hispanic: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East (except those of Hispanic origin)
- Black/African-American, non-Hispanic: A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa (except those of Hispanic origin)
- Hispanic: A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race

- Asian or Pacific Islander: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or Pacific Islands. This includes people from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, American Samoa, India, and Vietnam
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America or who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

Gender: Male Female

Privacy Notification Statement

The State of California Information Practices Act of 1977 requires the University to provide the following information to individuals who are asked to supply personal information about themselves: (1) the principal purpose for requesting and collecting the personal information on this form is to comply with applicable State and Federal laws; (2) providing the personal information is mandatory, unless otherwise noted; (3) the personal information will be kept confidential and used only in accordance with applicable laws; (4) the personal information will be given to government enforcement agencies if these agencies request such information, or as otherwise required by law; (5) individuals have the right to review their own records in accordance with University personnel policies and collective bargaining agreements; information on applicable policies and agreements can be obtained from the Human Resources & Benefits Office; (6) the University offices that are responsible for maintaining the information are the Office of Affirmative Action and the office of Staff Personnel Services, Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources.

Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action Policy Statement

The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (covered veterans are special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, Vietnam era veterans, or any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized) in any of its programs or activities. University Policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws. Inquiries regarding the University's affirmative action and equal opportunity policies may be directed to:

University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources:
Office of Affirmative Action
300 Lakeside Drive, 6th Fl.
Oakland, CA 94612-3550

Contra Costa Master Gardeners

2008-2009

The University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program is a volunteer program designed to meet the gardening needs of home and community gardeners. Our purpose is to effectively extend University of California research-based horticultural information to our communities.

CLASS SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

- Increase basic understanding of soil structure, chemistry and amendments
- Increase basic understanding of plant growth and development
- Increase understanding of regional water concerns, the history and residential application
- Develop a better understanding of Turf, Woody plants, Horticultural plants, Edibles, Fruits and Nuts and Weedy plants
- Understand the impact of invasive plants on California's Biome
- Learn to ID common insects as to family
- Learn to identify common garden pathogens
- Have a basic understanding of plant propagation
- Understand how to problem solve

NEEDS AND RESOURCES

Required Background

To successfully complete this course, you must:

- Be willing and enthusiastic about volunteering your knowledge within your community
- Be able to look up and use resources in printed material and on-line
- Pass a fingerprint clearance
- Be comfortable using the ANR Portal
- Have time for extensive reading.
- Have a strong interest in problem solving

Required Materials

To successfully complete this course, you will need:

- The California Master Gardeners Manual (Included with class fee)
- Pests of Landscape Trees and Shrubs
- Pests of the Garden and Small farm

Class Fee

The fees charged for the MG program vary by county.

The fees cover all printed materials used in class, the Master Gardener Handbook, mileage reimbursement for speakers and facility fees. The fee for the 08-09 class is **\$195.00**. Checks must be made out to **UC Regents**, and are due by **September 3rd, 2008**.

Additional Print Resources

Natural Enemies Handbook: The Illustrated Guide to Biological Pest Control UCIPM
Abiotic Disorders of Landscape Plants Publication Number: 3420 ANR

Online Resources

- <http://cecontracosta.ucdavis.edu/>
- <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>
- others vary with class:

Orientation: Sept. 2nd, 7-8pm, UCCE office 75 Santa Barbara Rd. 2nd Floor,
Pleasant Hill, Ca 94523

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

October 2nd: Program introduction: Who

are Master Gardener Volunteers?
History of the Master Gardener Program
History of Extension

Introduction to Soils

What is Soil?
How Were Soils Formed?
Inherent Characteristics
Associated Land Features
Soil constituents
Soil Physical properties
Soils in Contra Costa
Soil testing On-line soil surveys

October 9th: Soil chemistry /Soil modification

Chemical properties of soils
Biological properties of soils
Urban Soils
Fertilizers
Soil pH
Organic Matter and Humus
Results of home soil test
Green resource recycling

October 16th Botany and Plant Physiology

Botanical History
Etymology and clades
Movement of Substances in the Vascular Tissues
Vegetative and Reproduction morphology
Growth and Development
Environmental Effects on Plants
Vegetative and Reproduction morphology
References

October 23rd Water:

200 years of water history
Water systems for home gardens;
Non-point pollution
Introduction to Rainwater harvesting

October 30th Introduction to Entomology

Insect families
Insect ID
Signs and symptoms of Insect damage
Beneficials

November 6th Integrated Pest Management for home and garden

Integrated Pest Management
Pesticides in the Environment
Labels
Human Pesticide Protection
Understanding Pesticides
References

November 13th Backyard Orchards

Varietal selection
Planting
Maintenance

November 20th Invasive Plants—

Definition
Characteristics
Impacts
Control

November 27th off

December 4th Turf

Turfgrass identification
Turfgrass management
Insect and disease identification
Water management
Abiotic damage symptoms

December 11th Plant ID

Monocots
Dicots
Woody plants
Annual and Perennials

December 18th Woody Plant Physiology

Introduction
Selection of Woody Plants
Planting, Fertilizing, pruning Trees
Pruning of Deciduous Shrubs
Pruning Tools
Woody Groundcovers and Vines
Fire ecology
Take-home midterm
References

December 25th off

Jan 1st off

Jan 8th Propagation---- Midterm due

Seed starting
Vegetative propagation

January 15th Landscape Design

Do-It-Yourself or Professional Design
Landscape design principals
To-scale plans for your garden
Site analysis
The Design Process
Principles of Design
Low-Maintenance Landscaping
Edible Landscapes
References

January 22nd Edible landscaping

Vegetable gardens
Herb gardens
Edible trees and shrubs
Integrating edibles into residential landscape design

January 29th Plant Pathology

Signs and symptoms
Common and uncommon diseases
Abiotic diseases

February 5th Problem diagnosis/ Working as a Master Gardener-- Take home Final-

Master Gardener Mission
Benefits for Master Gardeners
Master Gardener Responsibilities
Answering Consumer Calls
Master Gardener Volunteer Opportunities
Nondiscrimination Statement

February 12th in-class diagnostics and final due

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

University of California Policy

The University of Californian has a non-discrimination policy regarding Master Gardener applicants.

General Rules:

The Master Gardener class begins promptly at 10am. Allow time to park and get seated prior to class. Cell phones and pagers must be set on vibrate during class, or they will be composted. All classes must be attended, as each class is offered once. If more than two classes are missed, the student will need to take an incomplete and attend the next year's class. Wear appropriate clothing—digging the dirt may be a class possibility. Refunds are not available.

Grading Policies:

Quizzes based on the required reading are due at the beginning of each class and account for 20% of the final grade. The take-home midterm and take home final are worth 80%. A passing grade of 70% is necessary for Master Gardener graduation and certification. Certification is valid for one year. Recertification requires the completion of 25 hours of volunteer work and 12 hours on continuing education per year. Recertification is strongly encouraged and supported.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- For more information contact UCCE Contra Costa at 926 646-6540, or Bethallyn Black: 925 646-6130. email: bblack@ucdavis.edu