



## Become a WSU Extension San Juan County Master Gardener

### Volunteers will:

- Expand their horticultural knowledge.
- Help others in their community with gardening concerns.
- Participate in San Juan County Master Gardener events.
- Enjoy the company of dedicated gardeners.

### Primary responsibilities:

- Be a gardening educator and resource for your community by volunteering at Master Gardener events and activities: Diagnostic Clinics, Farmer's Market tables, Plant Sales, Demonstration Gardens, the Annual Gardening Workshop, and more.
- Support the program by helping to plan events and activities.
- Complete ten hours of additional advanced education training every year after Certification.

### Volunteer qualifications:

- Have a strong desire to be an active volunteer, and commit to a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer activity in your first year.
- Attend the WSU Master Gardener training course and complete all open book assignments, quizzes and final exam.

### Training program schedule:

Training begins Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, and meets each Tuesday, 9:30am - 3:30pm, through March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019. In addition to classes, you will register for the WSU online course and complete assignments and quizzes on your own time. Homework averages 4-6 hours a week. *Computer access and an email account are necessary.*

## Training instructors:

- The Master Gardener Training Program is taught by WSU Extension faculty, Master Gardeners, and industry specialists.
- All instructors are trained in Horticulture with extensive experience in their fields.

## Course content:

Training includes classroom work, on-island field trips, and online coursework. Topics include:

- |                              |                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ✿ Basic Botany               | ✿ Disease Identification & Management |
| ✿ Garden Management          | ✿ Composting                          |
| ✿ Entomology                 | ✿ Lawn Care                           |
| ✿ Sustainable Gardening      | ✿ Small Fruits                        |
| ✿ Integrated Pest Management | ✿ Tree Fruits                         |
| ✿ Pesticide Safety & Use     | ✿ Pruning Principles                  |
| ✿ Weed Control               | ✿ Water Quality Issues                |
| ✿ Landscape Plants           | ✿ Plant Problem Diagnosis             |
| ✿ Ornamental Plant Care      |                                       |
| ✿ Soil & Plant Nutrition     |                                       |

## Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q. What is required to become a certified WSU Master Gardener?**

**A.** Attend 60+ hours of basic training and complete all assignments & quizzes. Complete 50 hours of Master Gardener internship volunteer service within the first year to become Certified. Read, sign, and abide by the *WSU Master Gardener Pest Management Recommendation Agreement*. Submit a criminal background check, which is required of all WSU volunteers.

**Q. Do I need to be recertified every year?**

**A.** Yes, you must receive 10 hours of approved advanced training and provide 25 hours of volunteer service per year to remain a Certified Master Gardener volunteer.

**Q. Is there a cost to attend the training and be part of the program?**

**A.** Yes, the program training fee is \$225. There are scholarships available.

**Q. Can I just take the training without committing to the volunteer time?**

**A.** No, the Master Gardener Program is specifically a volunteer program which trains its volunteers, and in turn, they provide community service through gardening and environmental education. Training is not available for those not interested in becoming volunteers.