



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 29th, and meets each Tuesday, 9:00am - 3:30pm, through March 26th, 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:

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| ✿ 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.