



# Clark County

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

## Master Food Preserver Program

WSU Clark County Extension Service

### What is the Master Food Preserver Program?

The Master Food Preserver Program (MFP) started in Washington State in 1976 in King and Yakima Counties. In the years following other counties in Washington, including Clark County started the MFP programs. For the first time ever, a group of volunteers were trained to assist the county Extension faculty in providing up-to-date information on food safety, & preservation to the general public. Master Food Preservers in Clark/Cowlitz Counties have been helping others learn about safe food preservation methods for over 30 years. Due to the success of the MFP program in Washington the program is active in many other states in the US.

### Who and what are Master Food Preservers?

Master Food Preservers are a group of individuals that volunteer throughout the county providing information about food preservation and food safety. Every volunteer is trained and certified so that they may work as a MFP team member with the WSU Clark County Extension office. MFP volunteers will help with events such as the Food Safety hotline, developing and staffing displays at community events, testing pressure canning gauges, teaching/assisting in community classes and more. The MFP program is a year round volunteer organization with the majority of our events occurring between the months of June and September, usually on weekends and sometimes on weekdays.

### Who can be a Master Food Preserver?

Anyone who is interested in volunteering and food preservation (experienced or not) that is willing to share their knowledge with others through the various activities listed above can become an MFP.

- Anyone interested in becoming a certified MFP volunteer must:
  - Reside in Clark, Cowlitz or Skamania County (Washington). *If you live outside of these counties please contact us to see availability for program participation.*
  - Commit to a 50 hour training program.
  - Pay \$225 fee. This helps support our volunteer program.
  - Attend an orientation. (Limited class size of 20).
  - Volunteer at least 50 hours in your first year.
  - Be willing to volunteer year round with the majority of the volunteering time occurring between the months of June and September, usually on weekends with some weekday events.
    - Volunteers will have to travel to Clark County for the majority of their volunteering. *All travel time applies to required hours for both counties.*
  - Follow the WSU Clark/Cowlitz Extension recommendations and resources for safe food handling and food preservation set by Food Safety & Nutrition Faculty.
  - Uphold the educational values of WSU Clark County Extension.

### **What are the next steps to becoming a MFP volunteer?**

- Complete the attached application form and mail or drop it off at the extension; attend one of two orientation classes and an informal interview.
- If after orientation you decide this is appropriate for you, your check for \$225 will be cashed and you will complete a comprehensive 50-hour course about food preservation/safety. Upon course completion, an open-book certification exam must be passed with 85%.
- After passing the exam you will be a MFP Intern for the first year of service.
- You will become a full-fledged MFP volunteer after completing all requirements the first year as a MFP Intern and receive your permanent name badge.

### **How long am I committed to the Program?**

Upon entering the program after training you are committing to 50 hours of volunteering. Training is 50 hours, one day a week for 7 weeks. Upon completion of initial classes and taking the open book test (with a passing grade) you will become an Intern Master Food Preserver and complete your first 50 hours within a calendar year. We hope that you find the program so rewarding that you stay committed to the program and become a veteran MFP. Veteran MFP requirements are a yearly re-certification test, 40 volunteer hours and 10 hours of continuing education.

### **What are the benefits that I receive from the MFP program?**

During training you will receive a resource notebook, resource materials and publications that contain a wealth of food preservation/safety information. All teaching material is presented in a straightforward, practical manner with hands-on labs that are appropriate for anyone no matter their educational background or level of food preservation experience. You will be assigned a mentor in your first class that will be your “go to” person throughout your first year of service. Upon completion of the course you will continue to receive the most current and updated information on the latest food preservation/safety research and all new publications as long as you maintain your status in the program. Volunteers become part of a group of dedicated individuals who interact with the general public. Benefits of the MFP volunteer position include special field trips, presentations by educational speakers, the chance to build self-confidence and increase your expertise in food preservation/safety, participation on various MFP committees and attendance at our monthly meetings with door prizes. Most importantly you will receive the satisfaction of serving your community by making meaningful contributions to the health and welfare of people throughout and beyond Clark County.

### **How to apply**

If you are interested in becoming a Master Food Preserver Volunteer:

- Please return the application and check made out to ‘**WSU**’ in the amount of \$225 by no later than September 6, 2019.
- Attend orientation on September 6, 2019
- Time: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
- Orientation Location: The Heritage Farm – Main Conference Room, 1919 NE 78<sup>th</sup> St, Vancouver
- Please note that class space is limited and that all applicants must be pre-approved for admission through the interview process.
- This is a *VOLUNTEER* training program which is training volunteers to assist and work with the community. Do you want to learn about preserving foods safely, but are not ready for the volunteer commitment? WSU offers a wide variety of educational programs including our online course and our “You Can!” series to meet the needs of persons not primarily interested in serving as volunteers.

### What is the non-volunteer option?

The non-volunteer option provides an opportunity for individuals to participate in the program who are not interested in serving as a volunteer, or live outside the Clark-Cowlitz-Skamania county area. Because the primary focus of the program is to train a team of volunteers to assist with program delivery, those registering as volunteers will be given priority. If there is space available, we will accept non-volunteer registrations. **You will not be able to say you are a Master Food Preserver**, nor will not receive any updates once you finish the taking the class.

- Non-Volunteer
  - \$500 course fee (space available basis). No volunteer outreach hours required.

<b>2019 CLASS SCHEDULE</b>					
Location: *Clark County Food Bank Vancouver, WA 98661					
Training*		<i>Class order &amp; topic subject to change</i>			
	Class 1	Food Safety & Nutrition	Friday	Oct 4	8:45 AM – 4:30 PM
	Class 2	Dehydrating & Freezing	Friday	Oct 11	8:45 AM – 4:30 PM
	Class 3	Canning Basics	Friday	Oct 18	8:45 AM – 4:30 PM
	Class 4	Pickling	Friday	Oct 25	8:45 AM – 4:30 PM
	Class 5	Jams & Jellies	Friday	Nov 1	8:45 AM – 4:30 PM
	Class 6	Pressure Canning	Friday	Nov 8	8:45 AM – 4:30 PM
	Class 7	Reviews/Potluck/Celebration	Friday	Nov 15	8:45 PM – 3:00 PM

*\*Due to availability of kitchen facilities for food labs the class location OR class order may change.*

Submit applications to:

WSU Master Food Preservers  
WSU Clark County Extension – Heritage Farm  
1919 78<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98665-8665  
ATTN: Zena Edwards

Fee is \$225 with check made payable to **WSU**

Non-Participating Volunteer (*space available basis*) Fee is \$500 with check made payable to **WSU**

*Materials provided: WSU Extension MFP Handbook, So Easy to Preserve and USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning, PNW Publications & Booklets*

Application  
on  
next page.



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**Mail to: WSU Master Food Preservers  
WSU Clark County Extension-Heritage Farm  
1919 78<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vancouver, WA 98665**

**Attn: Zena Edwards**

Fee is \$225 check or money order  
Payable to WSU

**WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION  
MASTER FOOD PRESERVER  
VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM**

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last) (Maiden)

**Nickname or "preferred name" for Name Badge**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Last)

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (Zip)

**Phone:** Day: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time to Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Eve: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Best Time to Call: \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Length of time at this address (years):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY):** \_\_\_\_\_

**II. MASTER FOOD PRESERVER**

**Why are you interested in being a Master Food Preserver Volunteer?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

Currently working as : \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

- Full time (job) \_\_\_\_\_ ( employer)
- Part time \_\_\_\_\_
- Retired from \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
(job) \_\_\_\_\_ ( employer)
- Former employment \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

- Volunteer experience in the community**
- Currently volunteering at \_\_\_\_\_
- Previous volunteering \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**When are you able to volunteer ?** \_\_\_\_\_  
( days , evenings, weekends, etc.)

**Will you be able/willing to volunteer 50 hours? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_**

**OTHER SKILLS AND INTERESTS :**

- |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| _____ Computers                | _____ Website Development             |
| _____ Artwork/Displays         | _____ Photography                     |
| _____ Drawing/Illustrating     | _____ Writing/Publishing/Proofreading |
| _____ Research/Data Collection | _____ Public Speaking/Teaching        |
| _____ Foreign Languages        | _____ Office/Clerical Skills          |
| _____ American Sign Language   | _____ Other                           |

**Specific information on any of the above skills.**

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Do you have a health or medical condition that we need to accommodate for training? Please explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

Any other information about yourself you would like us to have? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**III. PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE**

In the event your picture is taken during a Master Food Preserver event, do you give WSU permission for that picture or video sequence to be used in WSU brochures, publications or websites? Please check one of the boxes below.

**Yes – I DO** give Washington State University permission to use my photographic and/or video likeness taken during any WSU Extension Master Food Preserver event or anywhere I am representing WSU Extension Master Food Preserver Program as a Trainee, Intern, or Certified Master Food Preserver Volunteer, by any means and without limit for education, demonstration, and promotional purposes.

**NO – I DO NOT** give Washington State University permission to use my photographic and/or video likeness taken during any WSU Extension Master Food Preserver event or anywhere I am representing WSU Extension Master Food Preserver Program as a Trainee, Intern, or Certified Master Food Preserver Volunteer, by any means and without limit for education, demonstration, and promotional purposes.

**IV. BACKGROUND DISCLOSURE**

*Please Print*

Full legal name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Former name, maiden name, alias, any other name used : \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Current Driver’s License Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Issued by State of \_\_\_\_\_

Other Government ID, specify \_\_\_\_\_

Answer YES or NO to each item below. If YES, explain at the bottom of this page including the charge, court findings, dates, and the courts involved.

A criminal record is considered as it relates to the specifics of the volunteer position for which you are applying, and may prevent an individual from volunteering, depending upon the nature of the offense.

Have you ever been:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Convicted of any crime against children or other persons?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Convicted of any crimes relating to financial exploitation of a vulnerable person?
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Convicted of crimes related to drugs as defined in RCW 43.43.830?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Found in any dependency action under RCW 13.34.040 to have sexually assaulted or exploited any minor or to have physically abused any minor?

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Found by any court in a domestic relations proceeding under Title 26RCW to have sexually abused or exploited any minor or to have physically abused any minor ?
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Found in any disciplinary board final decision to have sexually abused or exploited any minor or developmentally disabled person or to have abused financially any vulnerable adult ?
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Found by a court in a protection proceeding under RCW74.34 to have abused or financially exploited any vulnerable adult ?

**If any answer was YES, explain below, including the charge, court findings, dates, and courts involved :**

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**References:** List non-family members who have knowledge of your skills, abilities, and qualifications. Individuals should have worked with you on projects and activities and/or have direct experience with or knowledge of your qualifications. Please provide complete addresses and phone numbers.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	Relationship	Home Phone	Work Phone
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	Relationship	Home Phone	Work Phone
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	Relationship	Home Phone	Work Phone
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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)
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I authorize the contact of listed references and understand that a criminal background check will be completed prior to final consideration of my application to volunteer. I understand that misrepresentation or omission of required information is just cause for non-appointment as a volunteer with Washington State University Extension. I understand that I serve at the pleasure of the Washington State University Extension and agree to abide by the policies of Washington State University Extension and individual program areas and to fulfill the volunteer responsibilities to the best of my ability.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_