



What is the Texas Master Gardener Program?

The Texas Master Gardener Program is a volunteer development program. It is an integral part of Texas AgriLife Extension Service and provides the citizens of Texas a chance to grow.

The Master Gardener Program provides a learning framework for participants to increase their knowledge on a wide variety of horticultural subjects. In turn, participants volunteer at least 72 hours helping others grow by sharing knowledge while providing leadership and service in educational gardening activities within their communities and county.

The purpose of the Texas Master Gardener Program is to teach people more about growing plants and to more effectively extend information related to plant material. Its specific aim is to provide information and technical assistance in the areas of gardening and home horticulture through the use of trained and certified volunteers.

Why become a Texas Master Gardener?

You can grow in several ways when you become a Texas Master Gardener - the ways you grow and how far you go are up to you!

- Increase your knowledge on a wide array of gardening subjects through a structured training program.
- This increased knowledge will give you the skills - and confidence - to teach others in your community, either one-on-one or in a group setting.
- Sharing your gardening knowledge with others will help improve the quality of life in your community and county.
- If desired, use the training and experience from your activities in the Texas Master Gardener Program as a springboard to other forms of community leadership.



Topics Covered During Training

- ◆ Plant Science
- ◆ Plant Nutrition
- ◆ Soil Science
- ◆ Plant Disease Diagnosis/Control
- ◆ Insect Pest Diagnosis/Control
- ◆ Weed Identification/Control
- ◆ Pesticide Safety/Pesticide Alternatives
- ◆ Woody Ornamentals
- ◆ Vegetables
- ◆ Herbaceous Ornamentals
- ◆ Home Lawns
- ◆ Fruit & Nut Production
- ◆ Yard Waste Management
- ◆ Public Presentations
- ◆ Research Documentation



How do I become a Texas Master Gardener?

An application can be picked up at your County Extension Office.

Upon completion, turn in your application to the office in mid June and schedule an interview.

All applicants are interviewed and the review panel will fill available spaces. The County Extension Agent and Rockwall County Master Gardeners make up the review panel.

Upon acceptance into the training class, applicants will be notified. Classes meet once weekly for 12 weeks August through early November.

Achieve the rank of Master Gardener Intern by completing the required training and passing the exam.

Master Gardener Interns provide a minimum of 72 volunteer hours representing Texas AgriLife Extension Service in return for the initial training. After completing the first 72 hours of volunteer service during the first year, an Intern achieves Certification status.

What is the Cost?

Texas AgriLife Extension Service staff provide instruction free of charge. Materials and expenses for the series of classes are approximately \$175.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service Mission:
To provide quality, relevant outreach and continuing education programs and services to the people of Texas.

For more information about the Texas Master Gardener Program and its volunteer development opportunities in Rockwall County contact:

Todd K. Williams
County Extension Agent - Adult and Youth
Agriculture/Natural Resources

or a

Rockwall County Master Gardener

at

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Texas
**Master
gardener**
Program

Helping Others Grow



Rockwall County

Agriculture and Natural Resources • Family and Consumer Sciences • 4-H and Youth Development • Community Development
Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.
The Texas A & M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating
A member of the Texas A&M University System and its statewide Agriculture Program