

## UCCE Master Gardener of Glenn County

### Continuing Education

The Master Gardener volunteer needs 12 hours of Continuing Education per year to maintain certification. Volunteers are encouraged to seek a well-rounded continuing education experience.

Continuing Education (CE) may take many forms, from the obvious (formal gardening seminars/classes) to the not so obvious (researching a workshop).

As stated, CE may take several forms; determining what counts as continuing education is up to the local county program.

Besides what is considered typical CE – formal seminars/classes/workshops – CE for Glenn County Master Gardeners may include, but not limited to:

1. Field Trips, e.g., a trip to the Davis Arboretum
2. Local Workshops: an example would be a local nursery giving a "how-to" seminar open to the public. One that comes to mind is Hodges' Nursery in Durham; Hodges often holds Saturday workshops, i.e., a workshop on pruning, a workshop on tomatoes varieties, etc.
3. Classes at Local Colleges: besides the regular classes, many colleges have classes that are supplemental to their degree programs. Butte College offers opportunities with their PCA Certification classes.
4. Professional Associations' CE Program: an example would be CAPCA (California Association of Pest Control Advisors). CAPCA [capcaed.com] offers CE courses and seminars to assist professional horticulturalists seeking to improve their professional knowledge. (Some are free, some are fee based.)
5. Non-Profit CE Programs: an example would be PlantRight [plantright.org]. PlantRight is a group founded to address the problem of invasive garden plants in California; they offer continuing education on their website. (PlantRight has worked closely with the State MG Program in the past.) Another example is GRUB [grubchico.org], a local gardening cooperative based in Chico, which gives seminars and training classes open to the public at their many community garden locations.
6. State MG Program: the statewide MG Program occasionally provides CE training, e.g., "Advanced IPM Training" and "Edible Landscaping Series".
7. Online Videos/Webinars: these include only professionally produced educational videos/webinars moderated by a horticultural professional (no YouTube). A good example is those presented by University of California TV [uctv.ed] UCTV has over a 100 gardening and agriculture videos. (Many of these are of past MG training sessions.) There are many more examples (<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/training/index.html>, etc.), but I must stress these must be quality productions (.edu is usually a good indication) and must be approved by the program

coordinator. (Online CE hours will be limited and hours awarded may be less than total length of video.)

8. Radio: Sacramento Master Gardener Fred Hoffman ("Farmer Fred") has two Sunday morning radio shows - "The KFBK Garden Show" (KFBK 1530AM - 93.1FM, 8:00 AM), and "Get Growing"(KSTE 650AM, 10:00 AM). These CE hours would be very limited in quantity and quality (e.g., 2 hours of listening may only mean 0.5 CE hours.)
9. In-House CE: e.g., presentations/talks at MG meetings.
10. Time spent doing research preparing for a MG presentation which is then delivered to the community (research time limit 4 times the length of the presentation).
11. Time spent doing research for a newspaper or MG newsletter which is then published (limit of 4 hours).

Recognizing that gaining CE hours in Glenn County is somewhat limited, we have listed several avenues to gain those hours. However, volunteers are encouraged to seek a well-rounded continuing education experience. (48 hours of listening to Farmer Fred seems to me to be an unbalanced approach to gaining CE hours!) Seminars/Classes/Workshops with live speakers, where an interaction between speaker and attendees can take place, are strongly encouraged.

The guiding principle should be what is a well-rounded, quality Continuing Education experience.

Final approval of CE hours is up to the MG Coordinator.