



**University of California Cooperative Extension**  
**Master Gardener Volunteer Application**  
 Tulare & Kings Counties



**Training Program Scheduled for Wednesdays, January 19 – June 8, 2022. 8:45 am – 1:00 pm.**

I request acceptance into the Master Gardener volunteer training program offered by the University of California Cooperative Extension. I want to become a Tulare/Kings Master Gardener **volunteer**.

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State: CA Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (if retired, occupation at time of retirement): \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Part time  Full time

What languages do you speak? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please respond to all questions and sign the Statement of Terms of Acceptance. This information will be used as the basis for the selection of applicants for a personal interview. Use the back side, if necessary.**

- Specify and list types of gardening experiences and related training or classes that you've had. Give us an idea of the scope of your gardening experiences (backyard, farming, community gardens) and also list areas of specialization or hobby (flowers, herbs, vegetables, fruit trees, landscape trees, turfgrass, soils, irrigation, pruning, insects, diseases, weeds, etc.) What gardening skills do you have?

I have \_\_\_\_\_ year(s) of gardening experience. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- What previous Volunteer experience do you have? Please list any group affiliations with garden clubs, service or professional organizations. List and explain in some detail any volunteer project or work experience with the community (schools, churches, senior citizens, youth, hospitals, halfway houses, etc.). Include Board of Director, Committee Chair, or Committee experience.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- Please list special skills that you can offer the MG program (such as computer skills, record keeping, public speaking, writing, leadership, public relations, photography, artwork, construction etc.).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4) What teaching/communication experience do you have? List types of experiences:

- Writing articles or newsletters \_\_\_\_\_
- Speaking to large groups (30+ people) \_\_\_\_\_
- Speaking to small groups (<30 people) \_\_\_\_\_
- Demonstrations to groups \_\_\_\_\_
- One to one consultations \_\_\_\_\_
- Educational art/science displays \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

5) Why do you want to become a Master Gardener?

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6) Education: What is your highest degree level? (Optional)

- None  High School  AA  BA or BS  Masters  PhD

College attended \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

7) How did you learn of the MG program? (newspaper - which one, a Master Gardener, Farmer’s Market, Community Event, other)

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8) Have you applied before? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_ Where? \_\_\_\_\_

**Demographic Information**

The UC Master Gardener Program is open to all. We collect the following demographic information to know if we are reaching all community members. This portion of the application is voluntary and will be used for reporting purposes. The categories listed are those required by UC and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

**Gender** (check one):

- Female  Male  Nonbinary  Gender not listed  Decline to state

**Ethnicity** (check one):

- Hispanic or Latino/a: A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish-speaking culture or origin, regardless of race and/or a person of Latin American culture or origin
- Not Hispanic or Latino/a

**Race** (check all that apply):

- American Indian or Alaskan Native; A person with origins among any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America), and who maintains a tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- Asian: A person with origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent – including, for example, the peoples of Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.
- Black or African American: A person with origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: A person with origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.
- White: A person with origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.
- Decline to state.

## Statement of Terms and Acceptance

**UCCE provides a unique opportunity of training volunteers to become Master Gardeners. The main goal of the MG Program is to be a gardening information resource for the residents of Tulare and Kings Counties. The main purpose of the MG Training class is to prepare volunteers who live in Tulare and Kings Counties to be educators and extenders of science-based horticulture to their local community. Master Gardeners are expected to help develop local gardening information programs and activities for the public that meet the UC Master Gardener Mission and Purpose.**

**The process to become a MG follows. Please read the steps carefully before checking the boxes. Your check mark is verification that you have read and understand the terms.**

- I understand that the Master Gardener program is offered by the University of California Cooperative Extension, and I agree to follow University policies and procedures while acting as a Master Gardener.
- I understand that I become a Master Gardener when I complete the required weekly training and pass a written examination with a score of 70% or better. The cost of the MG Training Program will be **\$130** to cover the cost of textbooks, written materials, and training supplies. Training classes will be held at the UCCE Tulare County Office, 4437-B South Laspina Street in Tulare, CA. Fees will be collected when you pick up your textbooks and are non-refundable.
- I understand that I must attend class every Wednesday from January 22 to June 10 and that if I miss three classes or more than 6 hours of class lecture, I will be dropped from the class.
- I understand that I must take the written exam on Wednesday, May 27, (the last Wednesday in May), and that if I miss the test, I forfeit my opportunity to become a Master Gardener.
- I understand that I must complete a background check including fingerprints prior to graduation from the training program and before participating in MG Program activities for the public. Cost ranges from \$15-\$35 and specific details will be provided as to where to go and when they are due.
- I understand that in exchange for the training made possible through UC Cooperative Extension and to remain a Certified Master Gardener I must volunteer **62 hours (50 hours UCCE Tulare/Kings Master Gardener approved volunteer service & 12 hours of approved continuing education)** within one year of taking the examination and comply with the requirements outlined in the local MG Policy Handbook. **Most volunteer service hours are on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings and Saturdays. Our main meeting days are Wednesday mornings.**
- I understand that in subsequent years to remain a Certified Master Gardener there are annual volunteer and continuing education commitments (**25 hours Vol & 12 hours CE**) to the local program.
- I understand that the primary role of a Master Gardener is to be an educator and the primary service to the public is to answer home gardening questions during weekday work hours at the Master Gardener office and at other venues in local communities, including speaking engagements, information booths, and demonstrations.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Please type your name if submitting online)*

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION PROCESS, Personal Interviews, Trainee Selection

**Fill out the application (electronically is preferred) then print it, sign it, and mail it or deliver it to the address listed below. You may also email the completed application to [ambayless@ucanr.edu](mailto:ambayless@ucanr.edu). You should also save a copy for your records.**



**ALL Applications are due Wednesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> by Noon.**

**Applications will be screened to identify potential trainee candidates.**

**Candidates will be invited (via email) to “Orientation Part 2” on**

**Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> during business hours. (Please hold this date).**

**Acceptance letters to Trainees will be e-mailed/mailed by November 5, 2021.**

### **Master Gardener Volunteer Program**

U.C. Cooperative Extension  
Tulare County Agricultural Building  
4437-B South Laspina Street

**For more information please call (559) 684-3300**

Aliya Bayless, MG Program Coordinator  
Edna Blackhurst, MG Program Secretary

In compliance with the California Information Practices Act of 1977, the following information is provided: the information on this form is being requested by the University of California Cooperative Extension for use in the Master Gardener program. The individual completing this form may make inquiries concerning use of the information collected and may ask to review the form as well as other non-confidential personal information maintained on record by contacting the local UCCE County Director, the Master Gardener Advisor or County Program Coordinator or the statewide Academic Coordinator for the Master Gardener Program at: *Statewide Master Gardener Academic Coordinator, University of California, DANR NC&MR Office, One Shields Ave., Davis, CA 95616-8575*

Information on this form is being requested under the authority of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 covering Cooperative Extension activities and Article IX, Section 9 of the State of California Constitution covering the University of California. Ethnic information is requested to maintain compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and sex information is requested to maintain compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Statistical information includes, sex, ethnic information and residence location. Submission of the above noted information is voluntary and if information is not submitted by the source, the county master gardener staff may use his or her judgment to complete the information and satisfy Federal reporting requirements. Other personal information on this form is being collected to provide the County Extension Master Gardener staff with information to assist in program planning. This information consists of name, address, phone and email in addition to your skill assessment.

The University of California (UC) Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR) prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person participating in any of ANR's programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (which includes pregnancy, childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), genetic information (including family medical history), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services (as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994: *service in the uniformed services* includes membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed services) or any person in any of its programs or activities.

University policy also prohibits retaliation against any employee or person participating in any of ANR's programs or activities for bringing a complaint of discrimination or harassment pursuant to this policy. This policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws. Inquiries regarding the University's equal employment opportunity policies may be directed to Linda Marie Manton, Affirmative Action Contact, University of California, Davis, Agriculture and Natural Resources, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, (530) 752-0495.

Application Revised June 2021