



UC Master Gardener
University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources

UC Master Gardener Program Volunteer Position Description

Our Mission:

“To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California.”

Volunteers for the UC Master Gardener Program improve the health and well-being of California communities by extending to the residents of California research-based knowledge and information. This education and extension work is guided by the core values of the UC Master Gardener Program and the strategic goals of UC Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR).

Volunteer Role:

- Provide public education about gardening, landscape maintenance, pest management, and related topics by telephone; at clinics; via demonstrations, workshops, or informal classes; or in other ways, as possible and practical.
- Cooperate with, assists, and serves at the direction of local UC academics and staff.
- Keep appropriate records, such as volunteer hours, public contacts, client questions, and contact information.
- Participate in continuing education on topics relevant to UC garden educators, including experiential education methods, diversity and inclusion, and emerging issues in home and community gardening.
- As part of assigned volunteer service, works directly with the public in demonstration gardens, school gardens, community gardens, or other venues.
- Disseminate information via print and electronic outlets (social media, newsletters, radio shows, and so on).

Volunteer Commitments:

- Completion of a county-specific training program, followed by 50 hours of volunteer hours during year one. In subsequent years, a volunteer must complete 25 volunteer hours and 12 continuing-education hours.
- Adherence at all times to the [UC ANR Adult Volunteer Code of Conduct](#), [UC Master Gardener Program Policy Manual](#), and [UC Non-discrimination Policy](#).
- Ability to effectively communicate with the public and fellow UC personnel by telephone, email, personal contact, group contact, and so on.
- Demonstrated willingness to utilize technology to reach the public and fellow volunteers.
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity and to ensuring equal opportunity for those wishing to benefit from UC programs and services.
- Strong desire to learn and share research-based information with others.
- Willingness to complete a criminal background check (Department of Justice Livescan).



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Volunteer Supervision:

UC academics and staff with responsibility for local UC Master Gardener Program delivery provide supervision and to UC Master Gardener volunteers. Immediate supervision and support may also be provided by a program assistant or office manager, if available.

Volunteer Signature

Date

UCCE Signature

Date

Updated: December 15, 2025