The University of California prohibits discrimination against or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, and medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran or any other veteran who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized).

University Policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable State and Federal laws.

Inquiries regarding the University’s nondiscrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Staff Personnel Services Director, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin Street, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607 (510) 987-0096.
First of all, thank you for volunteering to work in a UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources program! Thanks to volunteers like yourself, it is possible for UC ANR programs such as 4-H, Master Gardeners, and Master Food Preservers to help even more people. Being a volunteer indicates the seriousness of your commitment to helping those in your community and in furthering the goals of the University of California.

This pamphlet is to supplement the materials you’ve been given regarding volunteers and UC’s Non-Discrimination Policy. If you have any questions after reading this, feel free to contact ANR’s Affirmative Action office at (510) 987-0096.

Complying with UC’s Non-Discrimination Policy

Volunteers must follow UC Non-Discrimination guidelines, just as if they were UC employees. Being a volunteer means that you are an agent of the University, even though you are not an “employee.” This has some benefits, such as the fact that you are covered by UC’s general and automobile liability programs while you are acting in the course of your duties as a volunteer, and the right to use UC equipment in the course of your duties. It also imposes some duties, such as complying with UC’s Non-Discrimination Policy.

The ANR Administrative Handbook states that as a volunteer you should receive training that explains UC policies that are applicable to the program you volunteered for. If you have any questions about UC policy or the training you received, you should ask the Program Advisor or the County Director.

UC does have a Non-Discrimination Policy

Many people are under the mistaken impression that UC no longer has a Non-Discrimination Policy because they have heard that race is no longer considered in determining admissions to University of California campuses. However, while current state law prohibits the granting of any preference based on race, it does not eliminate the ability to monitor programs for non-discrimination.

The University is committed to making sure that all programs designed to benefit the general public are made available to everyone, without regard to race, gender, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation. Also, the U.S. Department of Agriculture requires that UC take steps to assure that programs using federal funds, such as Cooperative Extension, do not discriminate.

What is ANR’s Non-Discrimination Policy?

The most important aspect of UC Non-Discrimination Policy is that all programs administered by the University of California shall be made available to all interested persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, physical or mental disability, medical condition, ancestry, marital status, age, or sexual orientation. This non-discrimination policy extends to prohibiting sexual harassment. The ANR Non-Discrimination Policy is spelled out in detail in the UC Administrative Handbook Section 600 and is available on-line at http://danr.ucop.edu/admin-handbook/600/default.htm.

4-H volunteers can find the 4-H Non-Discrimination Policy in the 4-H Handbook Section 400. Find it on-line at http://ca4h.org/4hresource/handbook/index.asp.

Non-Discrimination Policy information for the Master Gardener program can be found in the Master Gardener Administrative Handbook for Volunteers which is located on-line at http://camastergardeners.ucdavis.edu.