

WHAT IS THE MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM?

The Master Gardener Program was started by the Washington State Extension Service in 1972, and is now offered in all 50 states. It has become an enjoyable & useful volunteer activity, offering participants a sense of community spirit, accomplishment and intellectual learning, while providing their community with timely, up-to-date information.

How Does The Program Work?

Participants attend a series of classes, instructing them in the latest, research-based, home horticulture practices. There are 32 hours of class time over a sixteen week period. (For both Lev. 1 & 2)

Class instruction is recorded in DVD format from Bozeman; PowerPoint Presentations are available to view electronically for note taking and review. Cost of the program is \$125 for each Level, and includes a copy of the Montana Master Gardener handbook. Limited scholarships available upon approval.

Volunteer Commitment

In return for the training, participants agree to volunteer time in a horticulture-related community activity. (Level 1 participants must volunteer 20 hours and Level 2 participants 30 hours during year of class participation.) Renewing Master Gardeners in good standing (completing required hours), then volunteer 20 hours yearly to maintain good standing. Placement is based on your knowledge, skills and interests.

MASTER GARDENER COURSE



Lev. 1 Master Gardener Course **Spring 2018 - Feb. 6-Mar. 27**

Tues. 6:30 ~ 8:30 pm,
Classes held at MetraPark Yellowstone Room,
Located at base of grandstands.

- ◆ Introduction to MSU Extension and the Master Gardener Program
- ◆ Soils & Fertility
- ◆ Plant Growth & Development 1
- ◆ Growing Food From Your Garden
- ◆ Flowers
- ◆ Trees, Shrubs, Vines and Pruning
- ◆ Lawns and Irrigation
- ◆ Yard & Garden Maintenance/Composting
- ◆ Intro to IPM-Integrated Pest Management

*To request applications or for questions,
please contact Amy at 256-2821

(Class site and timing may change!)

Lev. 2 Course, (Feb. 7-Mar. 28)

Wed. 6:30 ~ 8:30 pm,
Classes held at MetraPark Yellowstone Room,
Located at base of grandstands.

- ◆ The Role of Master Gardener in Extension
- ◆ Binomial Nomenclature
- ◆ Fertility, Plant Nutrients
- ◆ Plant Growth and Development 2
- ◆ Entomology, Plant Diseases and Abiotic Disorders
- ◆ Vegetable and Fruit IPM
- ◆ Trees, Shrubs, and Lawn IPM
- ◆ Advanced Pruning and Woody Ornamental Care
- ◆ Propagation
- ◆ Water Conservation

Level 3 Course - is a 3 day, intensive training held at MSU-Bozeman, for renewing Master Gardeners, showing committed dedication to the program. For course cost & tentative schedule details contact Toby Day, Extension Horticulture Associate, in Bozeman at 406-334-6523.

Certification and Testing

Participants that complete either the Level 1 or Level 2 Master Gardener course will receive a certificate of participation. (Must attend 6 of 8 course classes. Makeup classes are available.)

Those wishing to obtain State Certification as a Master Gardener must take both Level 1 and Level 2 state developed exams and obtain a passing score. The State will mail the certification to the successful tester after participant has returned required volunteer hours for the year.

WHAT IS THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE?

Part of the tradition of free America is the concept that all people can benefit from education. Our founding fathers were interested in developing a social, political, and economic climate that would encourage citizens to learn and to apply knowledge. Legislation in 1862, permitted the establishment of Colleges of Agriculture in all states. In 1887, Agricultural Experiment Stations were authorized, and in 1914 the Cooperative Extension Service was established by the Smith-Lever Act.

The major function of the Cooperative Extension Service is to provide informal adult and youth education, to help people make their lives more satisfying, productive and enjoyable—to help people help themselves. As educators, Montana County Extension Agents represent Montana State University and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Specialists from Montana State University, are the links between the many sources of information and research, and your County Extension Agent, whose job it is to make this information available to the public.



FARMER'S MARKET

A Master Gardener InfoBooth is available during the Billings Farmer's Market, held Saturdays (3rd Sat. in July to 1st Sat. in Oct.) in downtown Billings.

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED BY YOUR LOCAL COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE

Family and Consumer Sciences

Jackie Rumph

Agriculture

Steve Lackman

4-H/Youth Development

Roni Baker

Horticultural Assistant & Master Gardener Coordinator

Amy Grandpre

EFNEP (Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program)

Phyllis Hansen

The programs of the MSU Extension Service are available to all people regardless of race, creed, color, sex, disability or national origin. Issued in furtherance of cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Doug Steele, Dean and Director, Extension Service, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana, 59717. Montana State University Extension encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of special accommodations or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact the Extension Office at 406-256-2828 in advance of your participation.



EXTENSION



**YELLOWSTONE
COUNTY EXTENSION**

**MASTER
GARDENER
PROGRAM**

2018

Sponsored by the MSU Yellowstone County Extension Service
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To request application or
For more information call Amy Grandpre
406-256-2828 or e-mail:
agrandpre@co.yellowstone.mt.gov

www.msuextension.org/Yellowstone/horticulture/Master_gardener.html