



MONTANA
STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION



Level 1 Master Gardener

This 16 hours course will be taught by the local Extension agents, plant professionals, volunteers, or via Adobe Connect and the Internet. During the beginning of the Level 1 Master Gardener course you will receive the Montana Master Gardener Handbook and other informative handouts pertaining to the class. In the Level 1 Master Gardener course you will learn:

- Introduction to Montana State University Extension and the Master Gardener Program
- Soils and Fertility (N-P-K-Fe)
- Plant Growth and Development Part 1
- Growing food from your yard and garden
- Flowers
- Trees, Shrubs, Vines and pruning
- Lawns and Irrigation
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- Composting
- Introduction to Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Following the completion of the Level 1 Master Gardener course, you will be required to pass an open-book exam and fulfill your volunteer commitment of 20 hours. The cost, time and location will be determined by the county Extension agent of Master Gardener coordinator.



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Level 2 Master Gardener

The classes will be taught by the local Extension agents, plant professionals, volunteers, or via Adobe Connect and the Internet. The Level 2 Master Gardener course is an intermediate/advanced gardening course for those who have prior knowledge or experience in gardening. The Level 2 Master Gardener course will teach you:

- The role of Master Gardener in Extension
- Binomial nomenclature
- Fertility, plant nutrients (more emphasis on micronutrients and microorganisms)
- Plant growth and development Part 2
- Entomology, plant diseases and abiotic disorders
- Vegetable and Fruit Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Tree, shrubs and Lawn Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Advanced pruning and woody ornamental care
- Propagation
- Water Conservation

Following the completion of the Level 2 Master Gardener course you will be required to pass a closed book exam and fulfill your volunteer commitment of 30 hours. The cost, time and location will be determined by the county Extension agent or Master Gardener coordinator.



Level 3 Master Gardener

The Level 3 Master Gardener course will be offered beginning the summer of 2011. This three day intensive training offered through the Montana State University Extension Service will be held on the campus of Montana State University-Bozeman. The class will begin with a 2-week online preparation course followed by the three-day training on campus. There will be approximately 30 hours of class time and a 30-40 hour volunteer commitment. The Level 3 Master Gardener course will emphasize a hands-on curriculum. More information will be available in the near future.

Login Sign up



Master Gardener - Frequently Asked Questions

What is a “volunteer commitment”?

During or upon completion of your training, you will meet with the program coordinator to discuss your talents and the needs of Cooperative Extension. You will choose a volunteer placement that will best utilize your knowledge and skills while helping Extension to meet community needs. Volunteer commitments may include:

- Answering horticulture questions at local Extension offices
- Staffing Clinics
- Staffing booths at fairs and farmers markets
- Writing articles
- Helping design, install and maintain community flower and vegetable gardens
- Teaching Master Gardener classes
- Helping set up Master Gardener classes
- Applied research through the county Extension office
- Other volunteer placements that help meet the needs of the community

When will the Master Gardener classes be offered?

The Level 1 Master Gardener course will be available to the Extension agents January, 2010. The Level 2 Extension Master Gardener course will be available March, 2010. If the Extension service in your county offers the Master Gardener program, they will determine the time, place and location of the class. For further information regarding the Montana Master Gardener program in your county, [contact](#) your local [MSU County Extension Office](#).

When can I use the title "Master Gardener"?

You will receive the title “Master Gardener” upon completion of each course Level of the program. You may not use the name “Master Gardener” to promote any private entity such as a business or consulting service. You can use on your resume...

What if I am already a certified Master Gardener?

If you are already a certified Montana Master Gardener you will be considered a Level 2 Master Gardener. However, for you to be recognized as a Montana Master Gardener you must contact your county Extension Service so that we can create a state-wide database for those that have completed the course. Please bring your certificate or proof of course attendance to your county Extension office or contact the state wide coordinator at:

Extension Horticulture

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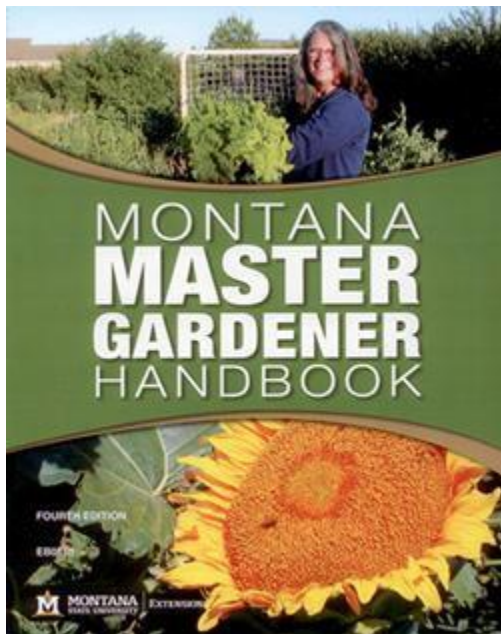
Tel: (406) 994-6523
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What is the cost of the Master Gardener Program?

The cost of the Extension Master Gardener courses are determined by the county Extension Service that elects to offer the course. Inquire with your local county Extension office for more information.

Where can I find the textbook for the class?

The Montana Master Gardener's Handbook will be handed out the first day of the master Gardener class or is offered through Montana State University Extension Publications. To purchase the Montana Master Gardener's Handbook contact [Extension Publications](#).



Distribution Center

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[Buy online](#)

orderpubs@montana.edu

Where do I learn more about the Master gardener program in my area?

For further information regarding the Montana Master Gardener program in your county or city, [contact](#) your local [MSU County Extension Office](#).

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