



MASTER GARDENER
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Colorado MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM



CONTINUING
EDUCATION



COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT



SHARE YOUR
KNOWLEDGE

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Colorado Master Gardeners (CMG) are volunteers trained in horticulture by Colorado State University Extension staff. They assist Colorado State University Extension staff in delivering research-based gardening information to foster successful gardening in Colorado communities.

The CMG Volunteer's audience is exclusively home gardeners. Types of volunteer service include answering phone calls at county Extension offices, staffing diagnostic clinics, teaching gardening classes, writing newspaper and web articles and mentoring community gardening and greening projects. Douglas County Extension accepts applications for the Master Gardener Program from early September to mid-October. Training starts in January.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- ✓ 60 hours of horticulture training from subject matter specialists
- ✓ Access to continuing education classes and webinars
- ✓ Educating your communities with research based information and relevant options
- ✓ Become part of a group with shared interests
- ✓ Develop new friendships



WHAT TRAINING IS AVAILABLE?

Content is focused on the home gardener (non-commercial) audience. The curriculum includes a combination of lecture and on-line segments interspersed with small group discussions and lab-type activities. Responding to local needs, topics covered in the basic training vary somewhat from location to location and from year to year. Refer to a schedule for specifics for any location. As space allows, CMG volunteers have the option to attend additional classes in future years as continuing education.

Find more info at: cmg.colostate.edu/about

Yearly training for apprentice Colorado Master Gardeners (trainees) is offered from January through late March or early April of each year for ten weeks. Classes generally meet once per week from 9 am to 4 pm with an hour for lunch. Apprentice CMG's from Douglas County train in partnership with apprentices from Arapahoe County. Training is split between the two counties.

HOW TO BECOME A MASTER GARDENER

Douglas County Extension accepts applications for the Master Gardener Program from early September to mid-October. If you are interested in participating in the Master Gardener program or the Colorado Gardener Certificate program please contact the Douglas County Extension Office. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Master Gardeners must complete 50 hours of volunteer service in their first year. Our CMG year runs from November 1-October 31. Apprentices (Master Gardeners in their first year) have from the end of their training (early April) through October 31 to complete their 50 hours. Some of these hours must be spent doing office shifts at the Extension office to answer questions from the community. Other requirements may also apply.

To maintain status as a Colorado Master Gardener, participants must complete 24 hours of volunteer service and 12 hours of continuing education each year. Similar to the first year, a portion of their 24 hours of volunteer service will be spent in the office answering questions from the community.

Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.