

Virginia Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University



School of Agriculture
Virginia State University

Nelson County Office

8445 Thomas Nelson Hwy, P.O. Box 298
Lovingson, VA 22949-0298
434/263-4035 Fax: 434/263-4367
Imacrae@vt.edu

November 29, 2011

Dear Applicant:

We are so glad you are interested in our Master Gardening Program this spring, 2012. The course will be presented from February 14 through April 10, 2012 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 to 12 at the Nelson Center in Lovingson. There will be a few field trips taking us around the county on some of those classroom days. You will need to attend at least 14 of the 17 classes to achieve intern status; however, there are opportunities to make up missed classes.

Master Gardeners are volunteers who support Virginia Cooperative Extension in Nelson County and in 53 other counties in Virginia. The Master Gardener Training Course is designed to equip you with the necessary skills to perform this volunteer service.

In the 12 months following your training, you will be asked to complete a 50-hour internship working on approved Master Gardener projects. These projects are listed on the Master Gardener Web-site (nelsonmastergardeners.org).

Please complete the attached application and questionnaire and return them to the Extension office by January 2, 2012. A check made out to Nelson County Master Gardeners for \$145.00 should accompany the application. After January 2, 2012, the cost for the course is \$155.00.

We will send you an email message after we have received your application and survey. Please do not hesitate to call or email us at 434.361.1603 or nelsonmgclass@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you into our Master Gardener community.

Sincerely,

Mary and George Niebuhr
Co-Chairs, Master Gardener Training Committee

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments. Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

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MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION

Mail this completed form with \$145.00 per person (check or money order) to Nelson County Master Gardeners Association, P.O. Box 298, Lovingson, VA 22949. **Deadline for Applications is January 2nd, 2012**. After the deadline the fee becomes \$155 per person.

I wish to become a Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) Master Gardener and would like to be accepted for training beginning **February 14, 2012**. Upon completion of the classroom training, I agree to complete 50 hours of additional volunteer activities no later than **April 10, 2013**. This would be accomplished by working a minimum of 2 sessions at the Horticulture Help Desk and 2 Saturdays at the local Farmers Market.

I will work additional hours to total 50 hours at these or any other approved Master Gardener Volunteer Projects.

I understand that there is a \$145.00 fee for the class. The fee covers the cost of the Virginia Master Gardener Handbook, and other expenses associated with the class.

The classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon, beginning February 14th and ending April 10, 2012. Most classes will be held in the Nelson Center, Lovingson (Across from the Nelson County Library).

I understand if I miss 3 classes, I will not graduate. I may decide to retake the missed classes, within 1 year, in order to graduate.

Signature _____ Date _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number(s) <day> _____ <evening> _____

FAX _____ E-mail _____

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Master Gardener Candidate Questionnaire

Name _____

1. What type of gardener are you? Please check off all that apply to you.
- ___ I don't know much, but now that I have time, I would like to learn more.
 - ___ I like to look at other people's gardens, but glad I don't have to do all that work.
 - ___ I plant a few flowers in the spring.
 - ___ I try to grow tomatoes.
 - ___ I have a serious vegetable garden.
 - ___ I grow herbs and use what I grow.
 - ___ I grow annuals from seed.
 - ___ I spend many hours and many dollars on my home landscape.
 - ___ I help others with their garden.
 - ___ People come to me with garden questions.
 - ___ I enjoy the social part of gardening.
 - ___ I have worked in the horticulture\agriculture industry as a _____
 - ___ I save seed catalogs and read gardening books. Some of my favorites are _____

 - _____

 - ___ I belong to the following garden clubs or societies _____

 - _____

2. What type of gardening are you interested in learning more about? You will be paired with a master gardener mentor with similar interests – please be specific as possible.
- ___ Flower _____
 - ___ Vegetable _____
 - ___ Trees _____
 - ___ Landscaping _____
 - ___ Vineyards _____
 - ___ Herbs _____
 - ___ Native Plants _____
 - ___ Other _____

3. You will be required to volunteer 50 hours during your first year. Listed below are some of the current projects. Check the ones you would like to volunteer for after completing your class work.
- ___ Demonstration Garden, flowers and vegetables at the Nelson Center
 - ___ Habitat for Humanity
 - ___ Horticulture Therapy
 - ___ Jr. Master Gardeners
 - ___ Tree Identification and labeling at Fortune's Cove
 - ___ Wintergreen Nature Foundation
 - ___ 4-H School Program
 - ___ Undecided at this time
 - I have a project in mind _____

4. What do you hope to get out of being a Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener?

- ___ Getting to know like-minded gardeners
- ___ Volunteer in the community
- Other _____

- I would like to learn more about _____

5. How did you learn about the class?

- ___ Newspaper
- ___ Friends
- ___ Nelson County Farmers' Market table
- Other _____

6. If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in the volunteer work – please fill in the questions below.

Disability (be specific) _____

Assistive Device Required: _____