See inside for more information

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAM

VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES

HOW TO APPLY

Cornell Cooperative Extension St. Lawrence County
HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BECOMING A MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER?

Cornell Cooperative Extension is currently seeking new trainees for our Master Gardener Volunteer Program in St. Lawrence County. Volunteers receive extensive training, which involves a considerable time commitment. The rewards for volunteers are many; you can feel good about teaching others, and learn a lot about gardening and horticulture in the process. The training is multi-day, with a practical hands-on style of presentation from numerous instructors. The overall emphasis is on environmentally-friendly methods of plant health care and Integrated Pest Management to protect soil, plants and the environment. Class size is limited to 12. The training will begin mid-September of 2018.

**VOLUNTEER BENEFITS**

- Volunteers receive 60+ hours of initial training
- Training continues through local/regional workshops, seminars and monthly meetings.
- Volunteers work closely with local and regional staff and have access to Cornell resources
- Master Gardener Volunteers work with and learn from others who are actively interested in gardening

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**VOLUNTEER TRAINEE QUALIFICATIONS**

- Keen interest in horticulture and some practical experience
- Good communications skills and an interest in helping others
- A flexible time schedule and a realistic expectation of being able to contribute 50 hours of volunteer time each year after the initial training
SPECIFICS OF TRAINING PROGRAM AND ONGOING PARTICIPATION

TRAINING PROGRAM

Training will be held on ten Wednesdays mid-September to mid-December
Trainees receive 60+ hours of technical training on various topics including but not limited to:

- Botany and vegetable gardening in the North Country
- Selection, planting and maintenance of flowers, trees and shrubs
- Soils, fertilizers, composting and organic gardening
- Ecological lawn care
- Plant pathology, entomology and pest management
- Management of nuisance wildlife

COST: One-time fee of $225 per person that covers course materials and supplies

POST-TRAINING VOLUNTEER TIME

- Individuals are considered Master Gardener Volunteers only during the years when they are actively volunteering with CCE
- Participants are expected to volunteer 50 hours a year, which includes service, meetings and ongoing learning opportunities
- Individuals choose projects of interest to them-see following page
- Volunteer time is done in the county or community of each individual
- Submit activity logs to the Cooperative Extension office annually
EXAMPLES OF VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

- Advising groups and community members on horticultural projects
- Creating educational exhibits
- Working with 4-H youth
- Staffing exhibits at local events
- Teaching and/or helping with horticultural workshops
- Answering individual gardening questions
- Other projects that interest you

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Get the application and job description (see below)
2. Submit completed application to Extension office by June 1, 2018.
3. Personal interview with Extension during June.
4. Notifications of acceptance will be made by July.
5. Training will begin mid-September.

READY TO APPLY?

Print an application from our website or Contact us and we will send you a copy

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