WHAT IS THE MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM?

The Master Gardener Program is a nationwide volunteer program that provides educational programs on horticulture topics.

Throughout New York State, Master Gardeners are trained by Cornell Cooperative Extension in the science and art of gardening.

Master Gardeners are neighbors who teach their neighbors about such topics as:

- Houseplants
- Herbs, Annuals & Perennials
- Composting & Soil pH
- Fruits & Vegetables
- Plant Diseases
- Backyard Birds
- Beneficial & Harmful Insects
- Integrated Pest Management
- Wildlife Management
- Weed Control
- And much more!

Master Gardeners are an integral component of each county’s Extension program. The projects and functions carried out by Master Gardeners are based on the local Extension educational objectives.

In Genesee County Master Gardeners volunteer in the following ways:

- Staff the Consumer Helpline
- Work in gardens within the community
- Conduct gardening workshops
- Staff a booth at local Farmers’ Markets
- Judge 4-H exhibits at the County Fair
- Speaking engagements
- Host events such as the Garden Gala
- Conduct Diagnostic Visits

For more information about this and other Cooperative Extension programs, please contact:

Jan Beglinger
by phone at 585-343-3040 ext. 132,
e-mail: jmb374@cornell.edu
or
Brandie Waite
By phone at 585-343-3040 ext. 101,
e-mail: bls238@cornell.edu
or stop by the Extension office.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Genesee County

420 East Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020
Phone: 585-343-3040
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Cornell Cooperative Extension of Genesee County is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling Jan at 585-343-3040 ext. 132 by August 24th to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be met when possible.
Master Gardener Training will begin September 5th and run through November 14th. Classes will be held Wednesday evenings from 5:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. with an additional, required session on Saturday, November 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Subjects to be covered include: Diagnosing Plant Diseases/Problems, Garden Botany, Growing Fruit at Home, Herbs, Intro to Insects, Perennials & Annuals, Organic Gardening, Pruning, Soils and Fertilizers, Turf Grass, Vegetable Gardening, Weeds, Invasive Species, Nuisance Wildlife and Woody Plant Materials.

The fee for the course is $225.00. This includes all class sessions and class materials. If you would like the Cornell University Master Gardener Manual on a disc, please request it on your registration form. It is also available online.

If you prefer a hard copy to read, the PennState Master Gardener Manual is available for purchase at a cost of $75.00 plus shipping. We recommend that you order this resource before class begins. It is not included in the cost of the class. A copy of the handbook is available at the Master Gardener Office for review. Orders can be placed by calling toll free 1-877-345-0691. The publication number is AGRS-139.

Class Size is Limited. Pre-registration is required by 8/24.

Classes will be on the following dates:
- September 5
- September 12
- September 19
- September 26
- October 3
- October 10
- October 17
- October 24
- October 31
- November 3 (see note below) *
- November 7
- November 14

*Saturday, November 3 - 2 classes will be held. One in the morning (9:00 a.m. to Noon) and one in the afternoon (1:00 to 4:00 p.m.)

These are part of the class and attendance is required. Lunch will be provided.

All classes will be held at: the Cornell Cooperative Extension Building, located at 420 East Main Street, Batavia. Instructors include Cornell Cooperative Extension educators, area specialists and Master Gardeners.

Course topic schedule will be distributed the first night of class.

Those who successfully complete the course may apply to become a Master Gardener volunteer in Genesee County. If you do not live in Genesee Co., you should check with your local CCE office.

In order to become a Master Gardener, you must complete all classes and the required application process. Once approved, new Master Gardeners are asked to volunteer 50 hours their first year. To remain active, we ask volunteers to donate at least 10 hours a year to the Master Gardener program.

The Registration Deadline is August 24.

Please sign me up for the 2018 Master Gardener training course. $225.00

I would like the Cornell MG Manual on a disc.

Registration

Please mail this registration form and check to:
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Genesee County
Attn: Brandie Waite
420 East Main Street
Batavia, New York 14020