

## Regional Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Training

### Hoke, Robeson and Scotland Counties

Scotland Cooperative Extension Center  
231 E. Cronly Street, Laurinburg, NC 28352

Orientation Tuesday, December 13, 2016  
9 a.m. to 12 noon

Classes: Tuesday's January 10 through April 11, 2017  
9 a.m. to 12 noon



### **How do I register for the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer (EMGV) Program?**

Contact the Horticulture Agent in your home county to register.

Non-Refundable Fee of \$125.00 covers the cost of the Master Gardener Manual, course registration with NC State University and materials and supplies. Payment must be received on or before December 13.

Maximum of 20 participants will be accepted into the class. Current EMGV may audit the class, but must register with their Horticulture Extension Agent.

### **What is EMGV Program?**

North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Hoke, Robeson and Scotland County Centers, will be offering a Regional Extension Master Gardener Volunteer training. Master Gardener Volunteers are members of the local community who take an active interest in their lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers, and gardens. They are enthusiastic, willing to learn and help others, and able to communicate with diverse groups of people. What really sets Extension Master Gardener Volunteers apart from other home gardeners is their special training in horticulture and willingness to educate others. In exchange for their training, persons who become Extension Master Gardener Volunteers contribute time as volunteers, working through their Cooperative Extension Center to provide horticultural-related information to the public.



## **Is the EMGV Program for you?**

To help you decide if you should apply to be an Extension Master Gardener Volunteer, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I want to learn more about the culture and maintenance of many types of plants?
- Am I eager to participate in a practical and intense training program?
- Do I look forward to sharing my knowledge with people in my community?
- Do I have enough time to attend training and to complete the volunteer service?

If you answered yes to these questions, the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program could be for you.

### **Training**

The program offers a minimum of 40 hours of instruction that covers topics including lawn care; ornamental trees and shrubs; insect, disease, and weed management; soils and plant nutrition; vegetable gardening; home fruit production; garden flowers; and water conservation.

You will also receive a notebook of comprehensive horticultural subjects. It will be a valuable tool in answering homeowners' plant questions.

### **Volunteer Commitment**

Once you successfully complete the training program and pass the final exam, you will begin a volunteer internship. During your internship, you will learn even more about plants and people. Extension Master Gardener Volunteers function as resource individuals for horticultural questions in their local Extension Center. Their efforts serve to multiply the capabilities of county educators.

## **What Are the Types of Volunteer Activities?**

- Diagnosing plant, insect, and disease problems
- Staffing plant clinics and educational exhibits
- Operating a telephone hotline in your local county Extension Center
- Designing a demonstration or community garden
- Giving lectures on various gardening topics
- Bringing the joys of gardening to senior citizens or young families

Extension Master Gardener Volunteers are representatives of N.C. Cooperative Extension. In all volunteer work related to the program, Extension Master Gardener Volunteers follow the research-based recommendations of Cooperative Extension. The title Extension Master Gardener Volunteer can be used by volunteers only when engaging in Extension-sponsored activities.

## **Who Can Become an EMGV?**

Individuals with an interest in both gardening and volunteer service are potential candidates for the program. No previous formal training is necessary. This program does not discriminate in regard to race, color, creed, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, disability, or sexual orientation. Resources, however, limit the number of people that can be accepted. Applications are screened to select the best candidates to perform the volunteer staff needs of the local Cooperative Extension Center.

## **Why Should I Become an EMGV?**

You will become knowledgeable about a wide array of gardening subjects. The practical training is designed to increase your confidence and horticultural skills, enabling you to assist the public with questions and problems involved with gardening. Volunteer service helps your community and you derive the pleasure and reward of working with others who share your interests.

Volunteers also participate in advance Extension Master Gardener Volunteer training classes and field trips. Developing new ways to participate assures you that the learning process and the opportunity for satisfaction never end.

***For more information, or to register, please contact your Horticulture Agent. In Hoke and Scotland Counties, contact Shannon Newton at 910-277-2422 and in Robeson County, Mack Johnson at 910-671-3276.***