

9. Do you want to share other information about yourself for this application? (Example: "I can only participate if my friend is also accepted"; or tell us any other special considerations for your entry to the program.)

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No
(Note: a criminal record does not necessarily disqualify your application.)

Please list three references who can offer support of your application.

Signify an understanding of the following by a check mark.

- I understand that class space is limited and submission of application does not guarantee acceptance to the program.
- If accepted to the program, I agree to donate 50 hours of volunteer time to the Alabama Cooperative Extension System as an Intern Master Gardener volunteer within 1 year of training.
- I understand my top priorities as an Intern Master Gardener are as follows:
 - to assist a Home Grounds Helpline and/or help answer the county Extension office phone
 - to assist with 4-H activities
- I further understand that these two priorities will be explained to me before starting the training program.
- I understand that there is another document (Memo of Agreement) requiring my signature, and it is required for my official admission into the Master Gardener Program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the primary outreach organization for the land-grant mission of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University, delivers research-based educational programs that enable people to improve their quality of life and economic well-being.

TO APPLY

Call your county Extension office for the specifics in your area and mail this application as directed. Enrollment is limited. An effort will be made to select those who exhibit a strong desire to help others and their communities through horticulture-related volunteer service.

TRAINING

As a part of the Alabama Master Gardener Program, you will receive instruction in many aspects of plant and soil science, horticulture, and horticultural pest control. Classes will consist of approximately 40 hours of instruction taught by Extension specialists, Extension agents, veteran Master Gardeners, and other horticulture experts.

VOLUNTEERING

Master Gardeners conduct plant clinics, speak to local groups and clubs, develop community gardening projects, answer gardening questions from telephone calls to the local Extension office, and much more. You will be given the opportunity to serve in the areas of your greatest interest and experience.



Your Experts for Life

Kerry Smith, *Extension Home Horticulture Associate and State Master Gardener Program Coordinator, Auburn University*

For more information, call your county Extension office. Look in your telephone directory under your county's name to find the number.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work in agriculture and home economics, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, and other related acts, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) offers educational programs, materials, and equal opportunity employment to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, or disability.

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Alabama Master Gardener Program

Volunteer and Training Application

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Helping Alabama Grow

The Alabama Master Gardener Program is a joint effort of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System and your county Extension agent(s). Both have the responsibility of delivering current research-based information to the citizens of this state.

This educational program is designed to train gardeners in home horticulture and related subject areas in exchange for 50 hours of volunteer service under the supervision of the local Extension agent and the local Master Gardener Association, which supports the mission and policies of the Master Gardener Program.

ANR-1155

www.aces.edu

Application to the Alabama Master Gardener Program

Mission Statement: The Alabama Master Gardener Program is an educational outreach program provided and administered by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. It is a program to *train* individuals who will *volunteer* their expertise and services in support of the Extension effort related to education.

The key to this mission is creating an environmental awareness and enhancing the development of an environmental ethic in the citizens of Alabama.

Certification Requirements: The minimum requirements for achieving the Alabama Master Gardener certificate are as follows:

- Sign the Alabama Master Gardener Program Memo of Agreement.
- Attend a minimum of 40 hours training instruction or fulfill the training requirements specified in your area of the state.
- Achieve an average passing score on all tests.
- Report a minimum of 50 hours approved volunteer service.

Date of application: _____

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Emergency contact name and phone: _____

Relationship (e.g., spouse) _____

Home address, Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address: _____ Home phone: (____) _____

If employed, where? _____ Phone: (____) _____

1. Have you applied to the Master Gardener Program before? Yes _____ No _____

When? _____ Where? _____

Why are you reapplying? _____

2. Master Gardeners represent the Alabama Cooperative Extension System in their communities. Have you participated in any Alabama Cooperative Extension System programs in the past? Please list the most recent.

3. How did you learn about the Alabama Master Gardener Program?

4. Describe your previous or current volunteer experiences including nongardening as well as gardening experiences. Master Gardener is about improving the quality of life in Alabama through volunteerism.

5. Describe specific ways you plan to contribute to the Alabama Master Gardener Program. What is your most comfortable venue or audience for public interaction (writing, phone, e-mail, face-to-face; adults, children, people with special needs, etc.)?

6. When is volunteer work easiest for you (day of week, time of day, weekends, etc.)? Specify the best days and times for your volunteer projects.

7. List the aspects of gardening you especially enjoy. This information may help us identify how your knowledge and experience can help us meet our educational objectives.

8. Why do you want to become a Master Gardener volunteer?

(continued)