

How To Become A Master Gardener

- Submit application by the deadline
- Be interviewed by peers
- Be fingerprinted and pay class fee
- Complete the class—only allowed to miss 1 class
- Pass the test (open book test)



The learning objective is not to know everything but to understand how to research and use UC-based tools available to us.

Current Volunteer Opportunities

- Staff Help Desk (HOTLINE)—Mandatory in the First Year
- Staff Booth at Public Events
- Work in our Demonstration Gardens
- Lead Classes and Workshops
- Work on our website and VMS system
- Write articles, flyers, brochures, newsletter, gardening guide, etc.
- Attend our Monthly Meetings w/education
- Organize UC Master Gardener continuing education events
- Volunteer at elementary school gardens
- New projects will be added when appropriate and can be staffed

Please Note—Master Gardeners

- Do not provide labor or site visits to private homes
- Can not use title of “Master Gardener” as a part of commercial interest
- We *are not* a garden club or society—we *are* volunteers and educators.



The California Master Gardener Program is part of the University of California’s Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR),

based at the university campuses of Davis, Berkeley and Riverside. Master Gardeners (MG) provide educational outreach from University of California Cooperative Extension UCCE offices throughout California.

Brief History

- **1862** Federal Morrill Act establishes funding for public land grant universities
- **1914** Smith-Lever Act creates the Cooperative Extension Program
- **1972** First Master Gardener program founded in Washington State
- **1980** California Master Gardener programs launched in Sacramento & Riverside
- **Today** 45 states and 4 Canadian provinces have Master Gardener programs
- **Butte County** program started in 2008
 - 87 volunteers currently active
 - Contributed 44,728 volunteer hours to date
 - Acquired 8,414 continuing education hours to date

UC ANR and Master Gardener Goals 2010–2025

- Promote sustainable horticultural practices and food systems
- Reduce fertilizer and pesticide pollutants
- Protect water quality and quantity
- Reduce landfill materials
- Improve soil quality
- Detect and manage invasive species
- Wildland fire protection

A diamond-shaped logo with a blue background. Inside the diamond is a yellow flower and a green leaf. The text 'Master Gardener' is written along the top-left edge, and 'UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION' is written along the bottom-right edge.

UC Master Gardeners of Glenn County Certification Program

January–May 2024

UC Cooperative Extension – Glenn County
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 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources  UC Master Gardener Program



Who are the UC Master Gardeners?

People like you and me.

Volunteers that are trained

by University of California specialists and advisors to teach our community successful gardening practices by using research-based horticultural information. The UC Master Gardener role is primarily that of educator.

Certification Program

Topics

- Botany/Introduction to Horticulture
- Compost
- Control of Weeds in the Garden and Landscape
- Diagnosing Techniques—Garden and Landscape Problems
- Drip Irrigation/Water Application in the Home Landscape
- Home Orchards
- Home Vegetable Gardening
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Introduction to Entomology and Insect Taxonomy
- Landscape Trees
- Living with Oaks/Fire Safety
- Plant Identification
- Plant Pathology
- Soil and Fertilizer Management in the Home Garden
- Turf Management
- Vertebrate Pest Control
- Water-efficient Landscapes

Saturday Field Trips

- Composting & Vermi-composting
- Pruning

The training program also includes the history of the University of California Cooperative Extension and the UC Master Gardener Program, volunteer requirements for the UC Master Gardener Program, techniques for UC Master Gardener Volunteers, internet resources for staffing the Hotline, and Statewide UC Master Gardener policy and procedure information.

Important Dates

September 30, 2023	Application Deadline
Early November	Applicants are selected
Mid-November	Acceptance letters sent*
December 8	Deadline to pay Class Fee and complete DOJ background check.
January 2024	Training Class Begins
May 2024	Training Class Ends

Tentative Schedule: Every Tuesday, January through May, at the Chico Neighborhood Church at 2801 Norte Dame Blvd, Chico. Times have NOT been confirmed.

*Every effort will be made to accommodate everyone who qualifies; however, training classes are limited in size according to room capacity. As a result, some qualified applicants may not be accepted.

Costs

There is a class fee of \$200 that covers books and course materials. DOJ Live Scan estimated cost is \$40.

Applications

Applications will be available in August 2024



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Agriculture and Natural Resources

UC Master Gardener Responsibilities

- Extend UC research-based information to public
- Learn about sustainable horticultural and related practices.
- Focus on Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Strategic Initiatives—Master Gardener goals are determined by the strategic initiatives of UC ANR.

Skills Needed

- General knowledge of gardening
- Enthusiasm for continued learning
- Desire to share information with others
- Ability to communicate with diverse groups of people.
- Time to volunteer
- Basic computer skills

Volunteer Commitments

First Year

- Work with Mentor
- 50 hours of volunteer work
- Volunteer on Hotline

Each Year Thereafter

- 25 hours of volunteer work
- 12 hours of continuing education
- Annual recertification (\$6 annual fee for insurance)



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UC Master Gardener Program