



# Grow with us.



**Learn. Serve. Grow.**



Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program

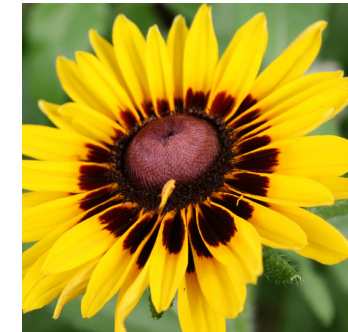
masterg@uga.edu | 1-800-ASKUGA1

To learn more about the Georgia MGEV program,  
visit our website at [www.GAmastergardener.org](http://www.GAmastergardener.org)  
or contact your local Extension office:

## The down and dirty.

### What is the Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer (MGEV) Program?

The Georgia MGEV Program connects UGA Extension, plant enthusiasts and communities across the state. MGEVs share UGA Extension information about selection and care of plants for ornamental value, recreation and home food production. Master Gardeners teach community members how to use plants and gardening to improve environment, personal health and quality of life.



Master Gardeners say the friendships they make and experiences they have while volunteering together are the biggest rewards of the program.



### Who are Master Gardeners?

They are trained volunteers with unique skills and abilities, who share a love of plants and gardens and an enthusiasm for learning. They are a variety of ages, personalities and professions united by a passion for teaching others.



### Do I have to know a lot about plants and gardening to apply?

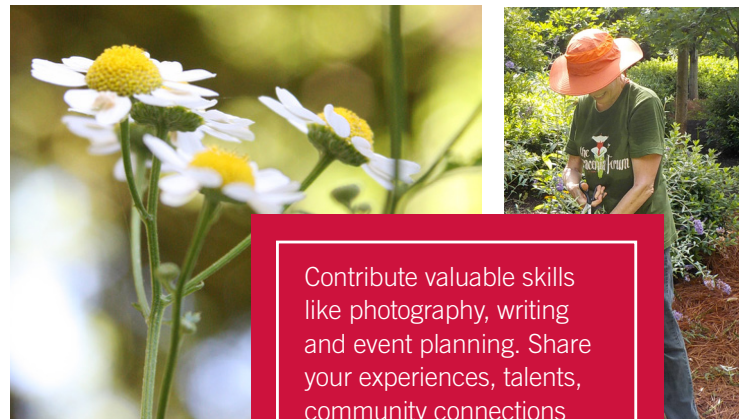
No! Some basic experience and knowledge is preferable, but we welcome enthusiastic people who want to share their love of plants with their communities through Extension programming and consumer-horticulture projects. If you have the time and commitment to learn and want to put your knowledge and skills to work through volunteer service, contact your local, participating UGA Extension office for guidance on the application and screening process.



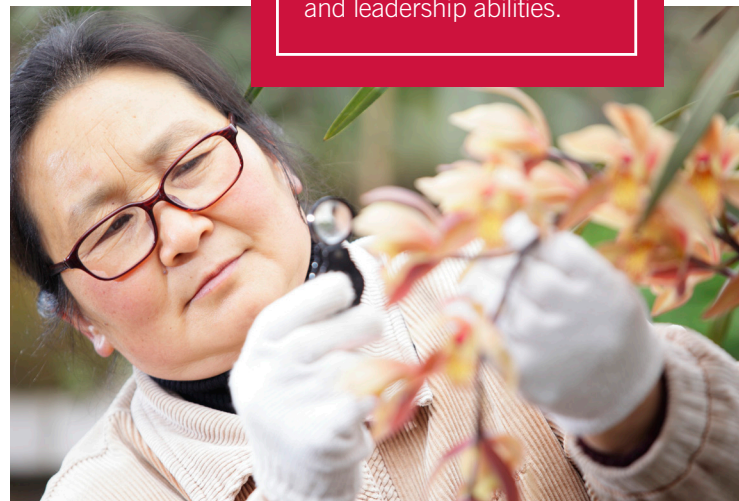
**Learn. Serve. Grow.**



Help UGA Extension provide individuals and communities with research-based information for growing and caring for plants.



Contribute valuable skills like photography, writing and event planning. Share your experiences, talents, community connections and leadership abilities.



# Reap.

## Receive comprehensive training

To prepare you for your role as a Master Gardener Extension Volunteer, UGA Extension agents and specialists, local plant experts and veteran Master Gardeners teach 42 hours of classroom and hands-on instruction in horticulture and related subjects. A minimal registration fee covers instruction, supplies and an extensive training manual.

### The intensive training program addresses topics like:

- Basic plant biology, physiology and nutrition
- Identification, control and prevention of insect, disease and weed problems
- Selecting, planting and maintaining annuals, perennials, ornamentals and turf
- Vegetable, small-fruit and organic gardening
- Compositing, grasscycling and mulching
- Water-efficient gardening
- Landscape design

After completion of the training program, including passing a final exam, you become familiar with UGA Extension projects in your county and serve 50 volunteer hours. By completing and recording these initial volunteer service hours within one year of finishing the training program, you earn the title and recognition of Master Gardener Extension Volunteer.

# Sow.

## Volunteer in your community.

To remain an active volunteer after the first year, each certified Master Gardener Extension Volunteer provides at least 25 hours of volunteer service to their local UGA Extension office each year.

### Fulfill your volunteer service with projects such as:

- Sharing information about garden topics, such as pruning, perennial selection or native plants, at community events
- Offering plant clinics at farmer's markets and answering inquiries at the local Extension office to help others find answers to their plant questions
- Demonstrating sustainable landscape and garden-management practices at educational gardens in prominent community locations
- Introducing youth to the joy and wonder of plants
- Teaching workshops that provide adults with the tools to grow vegetables or fruits
- Preparing media content, such as articles for newspapers, websites or social media, about the latest ornamental-plant research and Extension resources

Complete your volunteer experience by increasing your plant expertise each year through Continuing Education and Advanced Training opportunities. Track your accomplishments and contributions. Engage with other volunteers on educational field trips and at local events.

