

FELICIANA MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION

Cooperative Extension Service
East Feliciana Parish
4419 Idlewild Rd.
Clinton, LA 70722
225-683-3101

Cooperative Extension Service
West Feliciana Parish
P.O. Box 1934
10032 West Feliciana Parkway
St. Francisville, LA 70775
225-635-3614

Dear potential Louisiana Master Gardener program applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Louisiana Master Gardener program, a volunteer program of LSU AgCenter. Louisiana Master Gardeners help the LSU AgCenter provide research-based horticultural education to the public.

Participation in the program begins with 40 hours of training, typically held over fifteen class periods and one or more field trips. After successful completion of the coursework, class presentations, and an end-of-course exam, participants become Louisiana Master Gardener (LMG) Apprentices and have one year to complete at least 40 hours of volunteer service. Following fulfillment of the volunteer service requirement, LMG Apprentices become Certified Louisiana Master Gardeners. After that, continuation as a Certified LMG requires 20 hours of volunteer service and 6 hours of continuing education per year.

Some of the topics covered during training include botany, plant propagation, soil science and fertilizers, vegetables, fruits and nuts, ornamental plants, lawns, plant diseases, plant insects, weeds, and pesticides. The 2021 class will also participate in a capstone project that will help them receive their 40 hours of service.

Volunteer opportunities include providing research-based horticultural education to home, school, and community gardeners. Some examples of possible volunteer opportunities are as follows:


- Giving presentations/demonstrations for civic or school groups
- Distributing LSU AgCenter publications at events, such as the Farmer's Market
- Working in demonstration gardens
- Assisting with school or community garden projects
- Fundraising
- Assisting with events such as the Audubon Pilgrimage demonstration garden, Spring Garden Tour, 4-H Contest Day, etc.

Volunteer opportunities are not limited to the examples mentioned above but can include other ways of reaching the public with non-biased, research-based horticultural information.

If you are interested in participating in the Louisiana Master Gardener program, please complete this application and return it to me (JHoover@agcenter.lsu.edu) or to one of the addresses shown at the top of this page. The holding of a class will depend in part on the number of applicants from whom interest has been expressed. This class requires internet access for videos and quizzes. If internet access is an issue, please give me a call.

You can expect a response within one week of our receipt of this application. If you do not receive a response within one week, or if you have questions, please e-mail me. I must have at least twelve applicants to hold a class and the \$185 class fee is not due until after the class has been confirmed.

Sincerely,



Jessie Hoover
County Agent- Horticulture
East Feliciana, West Feliciana, St. Helena

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DUE AUGUST 13, 2021

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Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

1. How did you hear about the Master Gardener Program?

2. Why do you want to become a Louisiana Master Gardener?

3. In what areas of horticulture are you especially interested?

4. What are some of your hobbies or talents, other than gardening?

5. After acquiring the skills of the program, how do you see yourself using the knowledge you have gained?

6. Please list any groups, civic organizations, garden activities, or volunteer work in which you have participated, as well as any leadership positions you have held.

Group or Activity	Type of Work & Leadership Positions	Calendar Years

7. Please list skills that you possess which could be used to strengthen our Master Gardener program (example: writing, editing, public speaking, coordination or management of other volunteers, graphic design, computer word processing, data entry or web page maintenance, etc.).

8. What is your current occupation?

9. Please list days and times are you available for Master Gardener volunteer activities? Check all that apply.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Morning						
Afternoon						
Evening						

Comments:

10. Check the box next to each group you are willing to work with.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Children – preschool or elementary age
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth – junior or senior high age
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adults
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior Citizens
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physically Handicapped
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mentally Handicapped
<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited Income

11. Check the box next to each volunteer task that you are willing to perform. Keep in mind that you will be trained for specific tasks, if needed.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain demonstration gardens
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community garden plots
<input type="checkbox"/>	School garden plots and demonstrations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gardening presentations to groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	Writing articles, newsletters, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Planning Master Gardener programs and events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Staffing gardening educational displays
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creating gardening educational displays
<input type="checkbox"/>	Answering telephone gardening questions at the Extension office
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assisting Agents in administering future Master Gardener classes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Working in the Extension Office (copying, filing, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serving as a coordinator/leader of a Master Gardener Project
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please list on line below)

12. Please provide any additional information about yourself that may be helpful to you during the selection process for admission to the Louisiana Master Gardener training program.

Acceptance into the Louisiana Master Gardener Training Program is based on your qualifications and the current volunteer needs of the LSU AgCenter. If you are accepted into the program, you will be required to pay a course fee to cover the cost of training materials.

VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT & EXPECTATIONS

Volunteers are expected to uphold high standards that ensure the safety and well-being of the LSU AgCenter, its staff, volunteers, and clients. Volunteers will uphold all individuals' rights to dignity, self-development, and self-direction. Volunteers will accept supervision and support from Extension professionals while participating in the program. Volunteers will accept the responsibility to positively represent the LSU AgCenter during the tenure and duration of their volunteer engagement. Volunteers will conduct themselves in a courteous, caring, responsible manner with focus on respect, trustworthiness, fairness, and good citizenship. Volunteers are expected to respect, adhere to, and enforce the rules, policies, and guidelines set forth by the LSU AgCenter and any programs that they are specifically assigned to. Volunteers should not commit unlawful acts and are expected to comply with equal opportunity and antidiscrimination laws. Volunteers will operate machinery, vehicles, and other equipment, when applicable, in a responsible and safe manner. Volunteers are expected to perform their duties in a responsible and timely manner.

Trainees are encouraged to attend all training sessions and field trips; however, two absences are allowed. You must also score 70% or better on the final exam to graduate the course.

The title "Louisiana Master Gardener" is not to be used for any commercial purposes, and your name badge can only be worn at official LSU AgCenter approved programs.

I have read, understand, and will abide by the above guidelines and Volunteer Code of Conduct. I certify that the information set forth in my application is true and accurate, and I authorize the LSU AgCenter to verify the information. If I am accepted into and enroll in the Master Gardener course, I agree to give 40 hours of volunteer service to the LSU AgCenter within the year following completion of the class.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Return the completed application to JHoover@agcenter.lsu.edu or to one of the two LSU AgCenter offices listed on this application.