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# 2024 MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION PACKET

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The Cumberland County Master Gardener program is a volunteer service organization offered by The University of Tennessee Extension. The purpose of the Master Gardener program is to train citizens as horticulture educators for their communities.

The title **Master Gardener** is conditional upon complying with the following:

- Successfully completing the Master Gardener training program,
- Performing and reporting 40 service hours within 12 months of training program completion,
- Attending 4 Master Gardeners of Cumberland County Association meetings per year,
- Sharing only University of Tennessee-approved recommendations (not home remedies but researched - based information)
- The Master Gardener name badge and title may not be used for commercial gain or to promote commercial products or businesses; and
- Certification is renewable annually, upon completion of volunteer and educational requirements.

**Included in this application packet are the following forms:**

- **Training Class Schedule**
- **Horticulture Questionnaire**
- **Tennessee Extension Volunteer Application Form**
- **Tennessee Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement**

To complete the training, you must attend 12 of the 14 classes/programs on the schedule. Please ensure you are available to do so before applying for the program.

Please fill out all forms in this packet completely.  
Incomplete application packets will not be considered.

**Applications are due January 12, 2024 and should be mailed/brought to:  
UT Extension – Cumberland County, 1398 Livingston Rd., Crossville, TN 38571  
The fee for the course is \$175.00 per individual/couple.**

Master Gardeners frequently interact with children. A check against the Sexual Offenders registry is required by the University of Tennessee for all volunteers working with children. Please note that the Background Disclosure section of this application must be completed before acceptance to the Master Gardener program.

**Level 1 Volunteer** – Volunteer works under supervision of Extension employee at all times and has no direct contact with minors. Most Cumberland County Master Gardener activities will fit into this category.

**Level 2 Volunteer** – This volunteer has direct contact with minors with no overnight involvement and no frequent contact for longer than two weeks with minors. Examples would be Cumberland County Master Gardeners working with youth within the UT Garden / KinderGarden, activities with youth at Spring Flower, Lawn, and Garden Show, and/or Master Gardeners assisting with in-school program.

**Level 3 Volunteers** – This volunteer has direct contact with minors with possible overnight involvement and does have frequent contact for longer than two weeks with minors. Example would be volunteers attending 4-H camp with minors.

**For questions and/or more information... contact Gregg Upchurch at 931-484-6743 or email at [gupchurch@utk.edu](mailto:gupchurch@utk.edu)**

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Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.  
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U. S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.  
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment

# 2024 Cumberland County Master Gardener Volunteer Training Class Schedule

All Classes will be held in the UT Extension “Country Store”

Classes 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Noon)

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Class Topic</u></b>	<b><u>Instructor (s)</u></b>
Tuesday, January 30	<b><i>Welcome</i></b>	Gregg Upchurch, UT Extension Cumberland County Cumberland County Master Gardeners
Tuesday, February 6	<b>Orientation/TEMG Program</b>	Dr. Natalie Bumgarner & MG Workgroup
Tuesday, February 13	<b>Environmental Stewardship</b>	Dr. Andrea Ludwig & Taylor Reeder
Tuesday, February 20	<b>Soils and Cover Crops</b>	Melody Rose & Gregg Upchurch
Tuesday, February 27	<b>Botany</b>	Dr. Natalie Bumgarner & Anna Duncan
Tuesday, March 5	<b>Landscape Design &amp; Herbaceous Plants</b>	Mike Ross & Lucas Holman
Tuesday, March 12	<b>Woody Ornamentals</b>	Lee Rumble & Celeste Scott
Tuesday, March 19	<b>Insect Pest &amp; IPM</b>	Dr. Chris Cooper & Seth Whitehouse
Tuesday, March 26	<b>Pathology</b>	Dr. Zach Hansen &Fulya Basal-Gural
Tuesday, April 2	<b>Turf &amp; Weed Management</b>	Dr. Tom Samples & Mitchell Mote
Tuesday, April 9	<b>Backyard Fruits</b>	Dr. David Lockwood
Tuesday, April 16	<b>Vegetable Gardening</b>	Dr. Natalie Bumgarner & Rachel Painter
Tuesday, April 23	<b>Pollinators / Wildlife</b>	Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda
Tuesday, April 30	<b>County Capstone</b>	Master Gardener Workgroup

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# 2024 MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION HORTICULTURE QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please type or print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name; (for badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you wish to become a Master Gardener volunteer? What do you expect from the program?

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Years of Gardening Experience (Personal or Work related) \_\_\_\_\_

Please share any special skills / training/volunteer experience that you feel would be helpful to you as a master gardener (e.g. horticultural classes, training, etc.)

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Which of the following do you consider to be your areas of knowledge? Check **all** that apply.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawns & Turfgrass  | <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardens   | <input type="checkbox"/> Herb Gardening     | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Design |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trees/ Shrubs       | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Plants    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diseases/ Insects   | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Gardens   | <input type="checkbox"/> Houseplants      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ornamental Ponds    | Other _____                                 |   |

Training and Education completed:

- High School  
 2 Yr. Community College  
 Graduate Degree Program(s)  
 4 Yr. College  
 Horticultural Degrees, Certification, or Training

Do you have a health, medical, or dietary condition that needs accommodation for training? Please explain:

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Are you able to speak or write a language other than English? (Including American Sign Language)

Please list: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that misrepresentation or omission of required information on any application materials may disqualify my application to volunteer for the university of Tennessee extension. I understand that I serve at the satisfaction of the university of Tennessee Extension and agree to abide by the policies of UT extension and the Tennessee master gardener program to the best of my abilities.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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