

Louisiana Master Gardener Volunteer Program

The Louisiana Master Gardener program offers the public a wonderful combination of horticulture training and leadership opportunities. Designed to recruit and train volunteers, the Louisiana Master Gardener program is operated by the LSU AgCenter's Extension Service and is open to anyone with the willingness to learn and a desire to help others.

Training for the Master Gardener program is tailored both to instruction for beginners and experienced gardeners. Classes are offered in more than 29 parishes across the state – with 51 parishes benefitting from Master Gardener volunteer involvement. Master Gardener classes offer 40 to 50 hours of instruction in a variety of interesting horticulture topics. As a Master Gardener participant, you will learn about insects and diseases, ornamental plants, fruits and vegetables and soil fertility, as well as how to diagnose plant problems. In addition, you will have the opportunity for increasing your leadership skills.

In exchange for horticulture training, Louisiana Master Gardeners contribute time as volunteers, working through the LSU AgCenter's Extension Service offices in their parishes to develop and enhance community programs related to horticulture. Participants in the Master Gardener program don't just only become better gardeners; they also learn how to help youth and adults with gardening needs. Depending on a community's needs, this may include environmental improvement activities, parish fairs, plant health clinics, civic meetings and community and school gardening programs.

Enjoy the satisfaction that more than 2,400 citizens throughout the state are experienced as certified Louisiana Master Gardeners. For more information, contact the LSU AgCenter Extension Service office in your parish or visit the LSU AgCenter Master Gardener website at: [www.LSUAgCenter.com/Master Gardener](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/MasterGardener).

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