



LOUISIANA MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION

Due: May 18, 2018

For Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, & St. Bernard Parishes
1221 Elmwood Park Blvd, Suite 300, Jefferson, LA 70123
Phone: (504) 736-6519 Fax: (504) 736-6527



2018 Training – June 13 through August 8

Classes will be available online, two per week. Each student is responsible to view the classes and complete the quiz prior to lab. Weekly labs will be held Wednesday evenings beginning June 13th, 6-8 pm at the New Orleans Botanical Garden's Garden Study Center located in City Park. Several scheduled field trips will require additional time and travel. For more explanation, see page 4.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

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

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

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

4. After acquiring the skills of the class, how do you see yourself using the knowledge you've gained?

5. 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

6. 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, web page maintenance, etc.).

7. What is your current/last occupation?

8. What days and times are you available for Master Gardener volunteer activities? Check all that apply.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Morning							
Afternoon							
Evening							

9. Check the box next to all groups 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

10. Check the box next to all types of volunteer work 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"/>	Assisting Agents in administering future Master Gardener classes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serving as a coordinator/leader of a Master Gardener Project
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please list on line below)
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

The Louisiana Master Gardener program was started in Baton Rouge in 1994 as a means of extending the educational outreach of the LSU AgCenter's Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service. The objectives of the Louisiana Master Gardener Program are to: 1) develop a Louisiana Master Gardener volunteer network under the direction of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, 2) expand the capacity of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service to distribute horticultural information to individuals and groups in the community, 3) develop and enhance community programs related to horticulture based on community needs, 4) enhance 4-H Youth Development programs by complementing co-curricular horticultural programs. Therefore, graduates of the Master Gardener Program are required to participate in community horticultural activities at the direction and approval of the Louisiana AgCenter Cooperative Extension Service personnel in an ongoing basis.

Acceptance into the Louisiana Master Gardener 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 \$250.00 course fee to cover the cost of training materials. This fee is non-refundable once training manuals have been ordered.

DO NOT SEND PAYMENT WITH THIS APPLICATION!

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

Some of the topics to be covered during training include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Soil Science | 7. Plant Propagation |
| 2. Botany | 8. Fruit & Nut Production |
| 3. Plant Pathology | 9. Vegetable Gardening |
| 4. Weed Science | 10. Home Lawn Care |
| 5. Entomology | 11. LDAH Laws & Regulations |
| 6. Pesticides & the Environment | 12. Organic Gardening |

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 involved 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 charged with performing their duties in a responsible and timely manner.

Upon graduation, I agree to give 40 hours of volunteer service to the LSU AgCenter with a minimum of ten of those hours spent assisting with target areas designated for this year's Master Gardener graduates. I also agree to work a minimum of six hours at the New Orleans Spring Garden Show or AgMagic on the River. New graduates will have until December 31, 2019 to complete volunteer service. I agree to give 20 hours of volunteer service each year thereafter.

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. Failure to fulfill the annual volunteer hour commitments will result in removal from the Louisiana Master Gardener Program.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Return completed applications electronically to gnogardening@agcenter.lsu.edu no later than 4:30pm May 18, 2018, or mail applications to Master Gardener Coordinator at the address listed at the top of this application. Applications postmarked or submitted electronically after the deadline will not be accepted.

Flipped Classroom for 2018 Master Gardeners Class

As a way to allow more individuals to become a part of the Master Gardener Program, the Greater New Orleans chapter of the Louisiana Master Gardeners will employ the "flipped classroom" model for the 2018 class. The concept of the flipped classroom is that the lectures are made available online for the students to view on their own schedule and in their own environment, kind of like homework. Each lecture will also have a quiz that each student must take.

Once a week the students will meet as a unit for a hands-on laboratory segment designed to answer questions and reinforce material covered by the previous week's lectures, kind of like homework becoming the classwork.

For 2018, the laboratory segment will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 pm. In previous years, students were allowed to miss two class meetings and still graduate from the Master Gardener Program. This year, students will be allowed to miss only one (1) laboratory class and still graduate from the Master Gardener Program. Since each lab represents the material of two course lectures, missing one lab is like missing two lectures; therefore, students can only miss one lab meeting. By employing the flipped classroom model, that will allow those who work during normal business hours to be a part of the Master Program training without having to take vacation time to attend lectures. This is the first year of the new concept, and we are excited to be the initiating chapter. Our hope is that this will increase the diversity of our Master Gardener membership.

The lectures will be made available two per week for students to view. Students will be given a password which allows them to connect to the classroom website. Viewing can be on any device that has internet connection.