



Extension Master Gardeners volunteering at the 2017 Arlington County Fair.

Where can I see what Extension Master Gardeners do?

You can learn all about our extensive EMG activities at our website: mgnv.org. You can also find EMGs at the following locations in Arlington and Alexandria, as well as at many special events such as the Arlington's Home and Garden Expo, Alexandria's Earth Day, and the Arlington County Fair:

- We have 5 demonstration gardens where we show the public what plants thrive in our area.
- We answer your questions at four Farmers Markets from late Spring through early Fall.
- We invite you to visit us at our Extension Master Gardener Help Desk at the Fairlington Community Center.
- You can find us giving Public Education classes at your local library.
- We are at local schools teaching kids about the Junior Master Gardener program.
- We support three plants sales each year, at Glencarlyn Community Library, and Green Springs Gardens.

Who We Are

About Us

The **Virginia Cooperative Extension** is your local connection to Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University.



Supported by

Extension Master Gardeners are supported by our association, the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia, a 501(C)(3) non-profit, which collaborates with VCE to further our parallel goals of providing community education about sustainable gardening practices.



Contact Us

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**VIRGINIA
COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
2018
MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER
TRAINING**



Master Gardeners at work in the Organic Vegetable Demonstration Garden at Potomac Overlook Regional Park.

What is an Extension Master Gardener?

An Extension Master Gardener is...

...an individual who, after receiving specialized training in environmental horticulture through the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE), acts as a **volunteer educator** within his or her community. An Extension Master Gardener (EMG) provides education on all aspects of sustainable landscape management, including turf and soil fertility management, vegetable and ornamental gardening, tree and shrub care, storm water control, and insect and plant disease management.

What does the Volunteer Training Program include?

Developed by Virginia Tech horticulture specialists, VCE Agents, and the state Master Gardener Program Coordinator's office, the Volunteer Training Program consists of two parts: 60 hours of classroom training, and a 60-hour hands-on internship. In class, trainees learn about basic botany and soil science, woody and herbaceous plants, vegetable gardening, Integrated Pest Management practices, lawn care, etc. The internship includes hands-on experience in our demonstration gardens, at our plant clinics, and with public education.

“What was terrific? The mix of experts that came to talk with us. Also, the support from existing Master Gardeners. It shows we are joining a vibrant, motivated community.” 2017 Trainee

When and where will the 2018 Volunteer Training Program be held?

In 2018, our classes will mainly take place on Tuesday nights from 5:45 to 8:45 p.m. and on alternating Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. Classes will run from September 4th through November 13th.



Master Gardener trainees at work identifying plant diseases during a class.

The majority of our classes will take place at the Fairlington Community Center, in south Arlington, near Alexandria. The address is 3308 South Stafford St., Arlington VA 22206.

How much does the Volunteer Training Program cost?

Tuition is \$255 for City of Alexandria and Arlington County residents, and \$305 for residents of other jurisdictions. Priority is given to Arlington and Alexandria City residents. Partial scholarships are available.

Who should take the class?

If you want to be a volunteer educator, love gardening, and want to protect our environment by sharing what you learn with our community, this class is for you! Once certified, EMGs teach the community about our best management practices for urban agriculture and sustainable landscaping. EMGs retain their certifications by annually completing 20 volunteer hours and 8 hours of continuing education.