

# Cherokee County Master Gardener Training Application



## The Texas Master Gardener Program

The Master Gardener program is a volunteer development program of Texas AgriLife Extension. These Master volunteers receive in-depth horticultural training. In return, they provide volunteer service through Extension by delivering horticultural and environmental education and projects to their communities. Program participants should be able to communicate with the public by telephone, personal contact, as a speaker or through written correspondence.

A trainee receives a minimum of 50 hours of instruction and completes an examination to gain the title of "Master Gardener Intern." Interns have one calendar year from course completion to contribute 50 hours of volunteer service in Extension initiated projects in Cherokee County. Participants then become a Certified Texas Master Gardener for 1 year, after which time he/she maintains certification as a Master Gardener through annual service of 18 volunteer hours and each year acquires 6 hours of continuing education. The volunteer aspect of the Master Gardener program allows individuals to dedicate their time and talents to educate, enhance, and beautify their local community utilizing the science and art of horticulture.

### 2023 MASTER GARDENER CLASS APPLICATION

Classes will be conducted predominately on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Annex building in Rusk, from approximately 9:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Some classes will be in satellite locations such as SFA and Overton. Please see the schedule for details. Classes will begin January 31, 2023 and end approximately April 11 (barring any addition due to weather days.)

**A fee of \$125.00 is charged for training materials and is payable in full at the first class meeting (make check payable to Cherokee County Master Gardener Association). *NOTE: A background check is required on all applicants participating in the Master Gardeners program. The fee for this service is part of your registration fee.***

*I would like to serve as a Master Gardener Volunteer in Cherokee County. I understand that Master Gardeners are trained volunteers and community educators, who share their horticultural knowledge and gardening experience with their fellow citizens. In order to complete certification:*

- I will volunteer a minimum of 50 hours in Extension initiated education programs in 2023-24.*
- I will complete the classroom training course including an exam.*
- I understand to recertify annually, I must volunteer a minimum of 12 hours in approved Cherokee County Master Gardener Extension initiated programs, plus 6 hours of continuing education.*
- I agree to a background check (required of all Texas AgriLife Extension volunteers)*

Applicant signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Will you be able to complete at least 50 or more volunteer hours? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

**When are you most likely to be available to volunteer for projects?**

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Monday – Friday      Morning      Afternoon      Evening  
Saturday              Morning      Afternoon      Evening

The Cherokee County Master Gardeners are involved in a wide range of projects. Please mark your degree of interest in these programs. Indicate **1** (low) thru **5** (high).

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Answering telephone       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography & History       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Programs    | <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration Gardens       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising              | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Conservation Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clerical Work             | <input type="checkbox"/> Developing Displays         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping & Restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Garden Programs       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Work             | <input type="checkbox"/> Educational presentation    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter & Publication  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please explain below |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Events          |  |

**YOUR GARDENING EXPERIENCE (Answer all questions as completely as possible):**

1. Total years of gardening experience \_\_\_\_\_

2. Years of gardening in Cherokee County \_\_\_\_\_

**Plant(s) or areas of special interest and experience:**

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**Related areas of expertise and/or a “working” knowledge (ie, plant pathology, composting, rainwater harvesting, entomology, native plants, birds, butterflies, etc.):**

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**What special talents or skills do you have (Computer Skills, Photography, Writing, Art, Public Speaking/Teaching, Grant Writing, Fund Raising, speak a second language, love working with children, etc.):**

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**What is your experience with volunteer or community organizations?**

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**For how long?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in the Master Gardener’s Program?**

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## Cherokee County Master Gardener Training Application

I understand that the Master Gardener program is a program sponsored by the Cherokee County office of Texas AgriLife Extension. Furthermore, that the Cherokee County Master Gardener Association is a nonprofit (501C3) educational service organization of volunteers trained in horticulture, landscaping, soil improvement, water conservation and other subjects of importance to Texas gardeners. I understand that Texas AgriLife Extension coordinates Master Gardeners who provide leadership to this association while providing a variety of educational programs in conjunction with the Cherokee County office of Texas AgriLife Extension.

I understand that as a Certified Texas Master Gardener, I represent the following organizations – Cherokee County, the Cherokee County office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and will adhere to their policies and guidelines.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For questions, please call Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at (903) 683-5416 and ask for Kim Benton.**

Individuals with a disability needing an accommodation should contact the Extension office, 903-683-5416, at least 7 days in advance so that we can best be prepared help. .
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*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating*