

Thank you for your interest in the Master Gardener Program which runs every winter. Below are a class schedule and a detailed description about our program. Please apply early, we have **45 seats** that will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. **The Master Gardener Coordinator conducts interviews for these 45 seats during the first three weeks of December. She will be arranging interviews to meet each of you at my office at a certain designated time.**

Class are scheduled for the First Tuesday in February thru the last Thursday in March every Tuesday and Thursday night from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the University of the District of Columbia 4200 Connecticut Avenue NW., Washington, D.C. 20008. The university is located at the Van Ness/UDC Metro on the Red Line.

A confirmation letter of your acceptance into the program will be sent at a later date along with directions to class and parking information.

Your Master Gardener Program fee is **\$250.00 for DC Residents and \$300.00 for Non-Residents**. Once you are accepted into the Master Gardener Program, the payment should sent in.

Master Gardener Program

The University of the District of Columbia's Master Gardener Program was developed to meet the increasing interest in gardening and related areas of horticulture in the District of Columbia. The university sponsors this program in the interest of providing the community an opportunity to be trained by Extension horticulturists and other specialists in plant sciences. The Master Gardener Program is open to residents of the District of Columbia. Internships must be completed in Washington D.C.

Training Program

Classes meet for 2 ½ hours, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., twice weekly for eight weeks. Curriculum topics include:

- Botany
- Soils and Fertilizers
- Composting
- Entomology
- Plant Diseases
- Pesticides: IPM
- Plant Propagation
- Pruning
- Herbaceous Plants
- Herbs
- Turfgrass Management
- Landscape Design
- Fruit and Vegetable Gardening

Upon completion of all course work and 50 hours as a volunteer intern, each student is issued a Master Gardener Certificate. The fifty-hour internship is designed to provide each

individual student with an opportunity to exchange volunteerism with training by some professional gardeners. Listed below are some typical activities:

- Environmental Gardening Demonstrations
- Junior Master Gardener Program
- Community Beautification
- Youth Gardening
- Plant Clinics
- Technical support for the School Gardens Program
- Community Gardens Advisors

Course Requirements

The requirements for certification as a Master Gardener of the District of Columbia are:

- You must have a good attendance record for class sessions and field trips.
- Students who miss must account for that absence and are responsible for all work.
- You must have satisfactory completion of all activities and assigned projects.
- You must pass the open book final exam.
- You must fulfill the full fifty hours volunteer requirement.

Admission Requirements

Pre-enrollment experience in gardening is not necessary; however it is helpful. An interest in plants and a desire to use your special skills and talents is all that you need.

The registration fee \$250.00 for DC Residents and \$300.00 Non Residents and your agreement to complete 50-hours of volunteer work. The fee covers the cost of the training manual, fact sheets, class supplies, and speaker fees. Participants must be able to provide their own transportation to and from classes as well as other activities. **D.C. Residents are given preference over Non Residents for admission into the program.**

For further questions, please call Sandy Farber, Extension Agent II/Master Gardener Coordinator at (202) 274-7166 or email sfarber@udc.edu