

I am interested! Now What?

Classes are held annually, in the evening, each fall through winter. Please call the Extension Horticulture Help Desk (703-792-7747) and leave a message with your contact information, indicating your interest in the Master Gardener training class. A volunteer will return your call.

Master Gardeners in Prince William serve the communities of Prince William County, and the Cities of Manassas, and Manassas Park.



Master Gardener Volunteers at our Teaching Garden on the grounds of the Benedictine Monastery on Linton Hall Road.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension
Prince William County Office
8033 Ashton Avenue, Suite 105
Manassas, VA 20109-8202**

**Extension Horticulture Help Desk
703-792-7747
master_gardener@pwcgov.org
www.pwcgov.org/grow**

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If you are a person with a disability and require any auxiliary aids, services or other accommodations to participate for any of these workshops, please notify Virginia Cooperative Extension at 703-792-6285/TDD PC 1-800-828-1120 to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to scheduled event.

**Virginia
Cooperative
Extension**



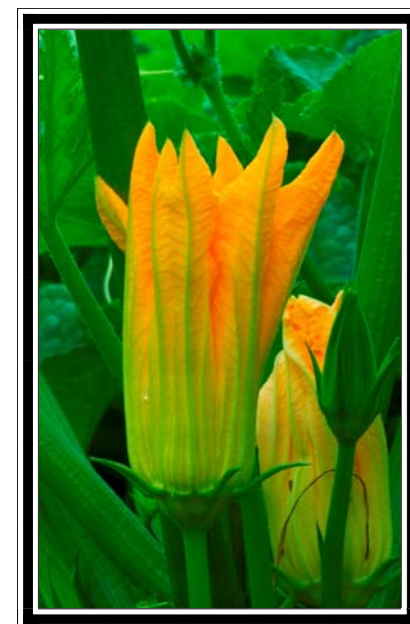
www.ext.vt.edu

Photographs courtesy of Master Gardener
Volunteers Andrea Kinder and Jeanne
Couch

Master Gardeners of Prince William



Volunteers Serving Our Community



Who Are the Master Gardeners?

Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners (VCE-MG) are trained volunteer educators who provide the public with Environmental information that draws on the horticultural research and experience of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Virginia State University.

Master Gardeners ...

- Answer gardening questions in the Extension office, at local community functions, and at local garden centers.
- Diagnose and provide recommendations for plant, insect and disease problems.
- Promote safe use of pesticides and fertilizers to protect water quality and the environment.
- Instruct the community on proper care of lawns, trees, shrubs, and vegetable gardens.
- Conduct gardening programs for diverse groups for all ages within the community.
- Participate in community landscape and stormwater education site visits..
- Work with “Plant a Row for the Hungry” to collect produce at Farmers’ Markets for needy families.
- Participate in seminars for continuing education
- Participate in social events, field trips, and plant swaps.

Master Gardener Training

The Master Gardener training program is held in the fall and winter of each year. Classes include over 70 hours of core information on: botany, soils, pesticide safety, pest management (insect, diseases, and weeds), nutrient management, plant culture (pruning, propagation), turf, vegetables, fruit, woody ornamentals, water management, and principles of landscape design.

Once the training is completed trainees begin a Internship period consisting of 50 hours of volunteer service within one year of completing the training.

After the internship, volunteers become certified Master Gardeners. To remain an active Master Gardener you must contribute 20 hours per year and also earn 8 hours of continuing education each year.



Master Gardener Volunteers at our Teaching Garden on the grounds of the Benedictine Monastery on Linton Hall Road.

What does it take to become a Master Gardener? Do I have to be a great gardener already?

All you need is:

- ☞ A spirit of volunteerism
- ☞ Ability to communicate research-based information clearly over the phone, face to face, or to groups
- ☞ Time to contribute on weekends, weekdays, OR evenings
- ☞ Computer skills (or willingness to learn)
- ☞ A love of gardening or a strong interest in environmental issues
- ☞ The desire to improve your community

We'll teach you the rest.

