

# CHRIS' CORNER

**2019**  
**Extension Master Gardener Program Application**

The Extension Master Gardener Program is offered by The University of Tennessee Extension. The purpose of the Master Gardener program is to train citizens as horticultural educated volunteers of The University of Tennessee Extension and the Tennessee State Cooperative Extension Program. Volunteers work in partnership with their counties to expand the educational outreach by providing home gardeners with researched-based information.

These volunteers, known as Extension Master Gardeners, support the Extension Service by

- planting plant clinics
- answering those requests for horticultural information
- visiting and maintaining demonstration gardens
- providing horticultural information to the elderly, young, and other special groups in the community
- designing and implementing community involvement projects
- coordinating local Master Gardener training programs

There will only be **ONE CLASS** offered which will meet on **Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00pm** at the Agricenter. Class normally starts on the second week of January and runs through the third week of April. The fee for the 4-hour course is \$50.00. **Do not send money with this application.** If you are selected, you will be contacted at a later date with information about the payment. Please do not release contact information from this form, no later than July 31, 2018, to:

Shelby County Extension  
7777 Walnut Grove Road  
Suite II, Box 21  
Memphis, TN 38120

A Master Gardener will contact you in September regarding our interview process. After all interviews are completed, you will receive a letter advising you of your selection status.

**Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Why did you choose this particular volunteer program?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is your motivation for becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer Educator?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why do you hope to gain from participating in this program?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Why do you think you should be selected for the program?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What is a volunteer or Master Gardener reference (non-family) that we may contact?  
Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Data: email \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

If you need additional space to complete your answers to these questions, please feel free to attach additional pages to your application.

If you are selected to participate in the 2019 Master Gardener Class, there will be an **Orientation Session on Saturday, November 10, 2018 from 10:00am till Noon** where you will learn about the specifics of the program.

Please contact Dr. Chris Cooper or Mrs. Mary Wade at 901-752-1287 if you have questions.

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.  
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.  
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.

Helping Tennessee Grow Better Communities

MASTER GARDENER  
OF EXTENSION  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

## What is the Tennessee Extension Master Gardener Program?

It's that time of the year again! Applications for the 2019 Tennessee Extension Master Gardener Program in Shelby County are now available and will be accepted through July 31, 2018. If you possess a passion learning about horticulture and sharing your knowledge with others, then this is the program for you!

The Shelby County Master Gardener program is a fifteen-week horticulture-based educational lecture series that will provide volunteers with the tools and training needed to offer horticultural education to the community with the support of the County Extension office. Horticultural Topics will be presented by Tennessee Extension agents, specialists,

Extension Master Gardeners and other experts in their respective fields. Students (interns) will attend classes from January into April. Interns will learn about a wide variety of gardening topics from plant nutrition to botany and landscape design. The 2019 Extension Master Gardener program will meet once a week on Tuesday evening from 6pm to 9pm. The fee for this 45-hour course is \$150.

Interns agree to provide 40 hours of service through the local Extension Office and the TEMG group within a year of completing intern training. They will then assist with providing the public with research-based information on lawn and garden topics.

Extension Master Gardeners support UT Extension by answering gardening and pest management questions at the county Extension office, working with youth and horticulture through 4-H and Junior Master Gardeners and planning garden shows and tours, just to name a few.

Applications are available at the Shelby County Extension Office, local libraries and on the MAMG website at [www.memphisremastergardeners.org](http://www.memphisremastergardeners.org).

There are many benefits to becoming an Extension Master Gardener, but the most important is the improvement of the lives of others in your community through horticulture. Extension Master Gardeners will also receive training and education across a range of horticultural subjects and connect with others in your area who are interested in plants and gardens.

Pick up an application today and become a part of this rewarding and impactful program!

For more information about the Extension Master Gardener program here in Shelby County, please contact me at 901-752-1207.

Until next time, happy gardening!



*Christopher Coppe*