

## What is involved in becoming a Rogers County Master Gardener?

Master Gardeners are volunteer educators of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service (OCES) trained to research questions accurately and quickly. They multiply the effectiveness and capabilities of the Rogers County Extension Educators in helping the gardening public resolve their dilemmas. They follow research-based recommendations of OSU, other land-grant colleges and the OCES.

### Training

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- The core curriculum offers 60+ hours of instruction on topics including:

Botany	Plant Pathology
Entomology, IPM	Soils & fertility
Turf grass care	Plant materials
Tree & Shrub planting/pruning/care	Tree & shrub selection
Pesticide issues	Nut production
Fruit varieties and culture	Vegetables: cool & warm season
Annuals & perennials	
- Training is every Thursday: Early January through Mid-April, 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.
- Taught by OSU Extension Staff, faculty, certified Master Gardeners and local experts.
- Course work every week includes lectures, homework, quizzes and extra reading.
- Attendance is mandatory. Missing more than one class constitutes a failure.
- The cost is \$200 for course materials, a T-shirt and name badge.

### Volunteer Commitment

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Once you complete the training programs with an 80% or higher-grade average, you will begin a one-year volunteer internship. Interns agree to donate at least 50 hours of volunteer time. This is where the real learning begins: working with experienced Master Gardeners and applying what you learned in the classroom in researching and answering questions posed by the public.

### What types of volunteer activities are there?

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- Teach horticulture to elementary students
- Staff the Master Gardener booth at the Home & Garden Show and the Rogers County Fair
- Design/maintain the Teaching Gardens in Will Rogers Park, Rogers County Courthouse and County building
- Staff annual plant sales
- Master Gardeners Tour

- Staff Farmers Market and other educational events
- Speak on a variety of gardening topics
- Other projects
- Continuing education by attending monthly meetings and other seminars & conferences.

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