The Home and Garden Information Center’s (HGIC) Certified Professional Horticulturists answer your gardening questions sent through our website.

extension.umd.edu/hgic
Our Vision:
A healthier world through environmental stewardship

Our Mission:
Support the University of Maryland Extension mission by educating Maryland residents about safe, effective, and sustainable horticultural practices that build healthy gardens, landscapes, and communities.

Who We Are:
Maryland Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by the University of Maryland who provide horticultural education services to individuals, groups and communities. Over 1600 master gardeners contribute 100,000+ hours each year serving citizens of Maryland. University of Maryland Extension, an outreach education arm of the University of Maryland, adopted the program in 1978.

How can I become a Master Gardener?
By successfully completing a formal training program and a required number of volunteer hours through one of the University of Maryland Extension offices offering the Master Gardener program.

What do Master Gardeners do?
To achieve our mission, we provide a wide range of educational services:
- educating the public on environmentally sound gardening practices at community events and fairs
- developing and maintaining demonstration gardens
- speaking to a wide range of community groups
- advising and answering questions about gardening techniques and plant problems
- using special talents, such as writing, photography, computer skills and marketing to benefit the community and the MG program.

How are Master Gardeners trained?
University of Maryland Extension personnel, University of Maryland faculty and other horticultural specialists train Master Gardeners. Initial training is provided in a classroom setting. Continuing advanced educational opportunities are provided to facilitate individual skill and knowledge development.

What are the Master Gardener training topics?
Master Gardeners are trained in the following topics:
- Botany
- Composting
- Diagnosing plant problems
- Ecology
- Entomology
- Flower gardening
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Lawn care
- Native plants
- Organic gardening
- Pesticide use and safety
- Soils & fertilizers
- Tree and shrub selection and care
- Vegetable and fruit gardening

Who can become a Master Gardener?
Any Maryland resident, age 18 years or older, who likes working with people and plants and has a thirst for knowledge.

How can I apply for the program?
The Master Gardener Program is organized at the City/County level. Programs in each area are slightly different. Contact the Master Gardener Coordinator in your area for specific information on basic training classes and how to apply. You can call one of the offices listed below, or visit the state MG website for email, addresses, or more information about the MG program.

For more information go to: extension.umd.edu/mg

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<tr>
<th>Extension Offices with MG Programs</th>
<th>Chair Co. Office</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allegany Co. (301) 724-3320</td>
<td>Harford Co. (410) 638-3255</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel Co. (410) 222-3900</td>
<td>Howard Co. (410) 313-2707</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore City (410) 856-1850 x 121</td>
<td>Montgomery Co. (301) 590-9638</td>
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<td>Baltimore Co. (410) 771-1761</td>
<td>Prince George’s Co. (301) 868-9366</td>
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<td>Calvert Co. (410) 535-3662</td>
<td>Queen Anne’s Co. (410) 758-0166</td>
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<td>Carroll Co. (410) 386-2760</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Co. (301) 475-4482</td>
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<td>Cecil Co. (410) 996-5280</td>
<td>Talbot Co. (410) 822-1244</td>
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<td>Charles Co. (301) 934-5403</td>
<td>Washington Co. (301) 791-1604</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorchester Co. (410) 228-8800</td>
<td>Wicomico Co. (Lower Eastern Shore) (410) 749-6141</td>
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<td>Frederick Co. (301) 694-1594</td>
<td>State Master Gardener Office (410) 531-1754</td>
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<td>Garrett Co. (301) 334-6960</td>
<td>State Master Gardener Office (410) 531-1754</td>
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