

How can I become a Master Gardener?

****The next Cattaraugus County Master Gardener program training is scheduled for 2021****

Applicants will be screened in August and September, with follow-up interviews. Those accepted will need to attend the twice monthly Saturday training sessions, and once weekly virtual weekday evening sessions. Classes will run from Mid-November through March, 2022. Instructors will cover a number of horticultural topics to prepare volunteers for their role as Master Gardeners. At the Completion of the approximately 50 hours of course work, participants will complete 50 hours of service, including a group project. Certification will be earned upon completion of 1 year of 50 hours of service. To maintain certification Master Gardeners will complete 35 hours annually.

Volunteer hours may be met through any of the following:

- ◆ Attending monthly meetings
- ◆ Staffing phone hotline time
- ◆ Assisting staff to host gardening classes
- ◆ Staffing question and answer booths at public events
- ◆ Giving lectures at off-site locations about gardening
- ◆ working in one of the demonstration gardens
- ◆ assisting with other approved projects for CCE Cattaraugus County

After volunteers meet all criteria (training, 50 hours of volunteer service) they receive a Master Gardener certificate, and may use the Master Gardener title when attending Cornell Cooperative Extension events.

Our goal is to have Master Gardeners remain involved in the program beyond the first year.

Thirty-five hours of volunteer time per year is required after the first year in order to remain active in the program. Volunteers who do not meet the hours per year requirement relinquish their right to the Master Gardener title.



For more information about this Cooperative Extension program, please contact:

Jesse Meeder

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or

Tamara Bacho

By phone at 716-699-2377 ext. 100
e-mail: tsb48@cornell.edu
or stop by the Extension office.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Cattaraugus County

28 Parkside Drive
Ellicottville, New York 14731 Phone:
716-699-2377
Web: <http://cattaraugus.cce.cornell.edu/>

Master Gardener Training 2021



**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Cattaraugus County**

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. Please contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County office if you have any special needs.

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WHAT IS THE MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM?

The Master Gardener Program is a nationwide volunteer program that provides educational programs on horticulture topics.

Throughout New York State, Master Gardeners are trained by Cornell Cooperative Extension in the science and art of gardening.

Master Gardeners are neighbors who teach their neighbors about such topics as:

- Houseplants
- Herbs, Annuals & Perennials
- Composting & Soil pH
- Fruits & Vegetables
- Plant Diseases
- Beneficial & Harmful Insects
- Wildlife Management
- Weed Control
- And much more!



Master Gardeners are an integral component of each county's Extension program. The projects and functions carried out by Master Gardeners are based on the local Extension educational objectives.

In Cattaraugus County Master Gardeners volunteer in the following ways:

- ◆ Staff the Helpline
- ◆ Conduct gardening workshops
- ◆ Judge 4-H exhibits at the County Fair
- ◆ Speak at Community Gardener Events
- ◆ Host community garden events

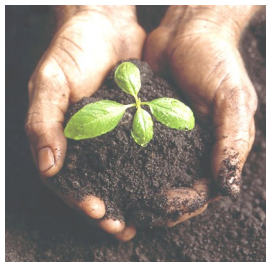


Master Gardener Training 2021

Master Gardener training will begin November 13th and run through March 2022.

Classes will be **Wednesday evenings virtually from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** with an additional, required sessions twice a month on **Saturdays from 9 am to 11 am, held in person at Cornell Cooperative Extension.**

Subjects to be covered include: Diagnosing Plant Diseases/Problems, Sustainable Gardening, Intro to Insects, Perennials & Annuals, Native and Invasive Plants, Pruning, Soils and Fertilizers, Vegetable Gardening, Weeds, Pollinators, Nuisance Wildlife and Woody Plant Materials.



Those who successfully complete the course may apply to become a Master Gardener volunteer in Cattaraugus County, respectively. If you do not live in Cattaraugus County you should check with your local CCE office.

In order to become a Master Gardener, you must complete the required application process and all classes. Once approved, new Master Gardeners are asked to volunteer 50 hours their first year. To remain active, we ask volunteers to donate at least 35 hours per year to the Master Gardener program.

There is a program fee to help defray the cost of Master Gardener training materials and other expenses. The fee for the 2021 class is \$125.00. This includes all class sessions and class materials.

Payment can be made via Check or Cash to Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Cattaraugus County; 28 Parkside Drive
Ellicottville, New York 14731

**Class Size is Limited.
Pre-registration is required by
9/30/21.**

Classes will begin Nov 13th and Continue Through March with breaks for Holidays.

Typically, classes will take place once a week virtually on Wednesday evenings, and twice a month on Saturday mornings at CCE, with a virtual option available.

*Saturday classes will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11 am, some may include field trips, all details will be announced at the first class. These are part of the class and attendance is required.

Course topic schedule will be distributed the first night of class.

To **REGISTER** complete the **2021 Master Gardener Volunteer Application** and return with payment to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cattaraugus County.

Call 716-699-2377 Ext. 100 for assistance.