

For every \$1 invested by Oregon taxpayers in the Extension Master Gardener Program, more than \$13 is leveraged from other sources to support public education in sustainable gardening and local food production across the state. Integral to this support are more than 3,500 volunteers who help us deliver educational programs throughout Oregon. To learn more, look us up on the Web, give us a call, or stop by your local Extension office.

Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener Program

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Oregon State
UNIVERSITY | **Extension
Service**

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Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener

Welcome to the Oregon State University Extension Service's Master Gardener Program. We can help you apply OSU research to your garden and yard. We'll teach you sustainable gardening techniques to protect Oregon's natural resources. And we'll show you how to grow your own food for a healthier family and community.

With programs in 28 of Oregon's 36 counties, we address local needs through horticulture courses, how-to publications, demonstration gardens, public seminars, gardening hotlines in county Extension offices, and informational booths at farmers markets and fairs.



Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener

Since 1978, Oregonians have turned to the Oregon State University Extension Service's Master Gardener Program to obtain research-based, unbiased information about horticulture and sustainable gardening.

Training

Each year, the OSU Extension Service trains hundreds of prospective Master Gardener volunteers in courses that last two to three months. Students learn about topics like soil, compost, pruning, plant diseases, weed management and safe pesticide use. Classes take place in a classroom and online, depending on the student's preference.

Diagnostic Help

Got a plant that's sick and you don't know what to do about it? Take it to your local Extension office for Master Gardeners to diagnose, or e-mail them or call their special hotlines. You can also pepper them with gardening questions at places like farmers markets where they staff informational booths.

Public Seminars

Master Gardeners regularly host public conferences, seminars and talks across the state. These events can span several days or be scheduled during lunch. They're often free or are offered at a reduced cost. Check with your local Extension office for opportunities in your area.

Demonstration Gardens

Master Gardeners tend demonstration gardens at Extension offices, OSU's agricultural research centers, county fairgrounds and city parks. These plots show effective growing methods, new and locally adapted plant varieties, and sustainable garden design. Many demonstrate how to create gardens for vegetables, herbs, children or people

with disabilities. Additionally, some provide local food banks with produce.

Publications

Extension faculty write and co-author a variety of publications. Topics have included how to assess the risk of poisoning from heavy metals in garden soils; choose fruit trees for a garden in the high desert; and identify and remove invasive ornamental plants from the garden. Check out the OSU Extension catalog (<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/>) to browse the offerings.



Youth Programs

Many Master Gardeners teach students to grow plants. They also assist schools' greenhouses and host gardening day camps.



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