

# GARDENING

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## Learn How to Become a Master Gardener!

Are you a plant lover? Do you like plants and want to learn more about all the fascinating varieties here in the Sonoran desert? Would you like to turn your “brown thumb” green?

Meet new people, help others with their plant challenges, and make a difference in your community? Well, the Southeast Pinal County Master Gardener program may be just what you are looking for.

Join the Master Gardeners at their Spring Open House on Monday, **February 24th**, 2025 from 2:00PM-3:00PM at the SaddleBrooke Ranch La Hacienda Club, La Mesa Room, 31390 South Amenity Drive, Oracle, AZ. They'll tell you everything you need to know to become a **Master Gardener Volunteer**. Master Gardeners will be on hand to explain how you can enroll in this self-paced, on-line course offered by The University of Arizona to Pinal County residents. The Extension Office trains gardening enthusiasts who have a desire to help their fellow citizens grow better gardens and more sustainable landscapes.

### Who Should Apply?

Anyone who has an interest in environmentally responsible landscaping and gardening in Pinal County AND a desire to teach others those principles/skills using research-based materials.

### What is Taught?

Participants will learn the fundamentals of selecting, installing, and maintaining healthy, appropriate landscapes and gardens. Classes are taught by the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Faculty, industry professionals, and other horticultural experts. Some of the courses included are Cacti and Succulents, Desert Adapted Plants/Natives, Pruning, Vegetables, Irrigation, Botany, Entomology, and many more.

### When is it Available?

These Master Gardener courses are now provided online all year. You can complete the course anywhere with an internet connection, and usually in the comfort of your home.

If you live in SaddleBrooke, SaddleBrooke Ranch, Oracle, or San Manuel and would like more information on how to become a Southeast Pinal County Master Gardener, come to the Open House or contact Roxanne Watson at 303-809-9166.

Please visit the Southeast Pinal County Master Gardener's website for more information at: <https://extension.arizona.edu/southeast-pinal-county-master-gardener>

and choose the box “How to Become a Master Gardener.”

Your Master Gardeners hope to see you in February!

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*Southeast Pinal County Master Gardeners present*

***“Buzzing with Life:  
Understanding Bees and Protecting  
Our Pollinators”***

***NEW DATE & SPEAKER***

**Please Join Us Wednesday,  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @**

**12:00 noon**

**SaddleBrooke Ranch Sol Ballroom**

**31143 S. Amenity Dr., Oracle AZ 85623**

## **What would our world be like without the beauty of bees?**

Native bees are a hidden treasure. From alpine meadows in the national forests of the Rocky Mountains to the Sonoran Desert in the Coronado National Forest in Arizona. Native bees come in a wide array of sizes, shapes, and colors, yet they remain ignored or unknown by most of us. Bees provide an invaluable ecosystem service and pollination to 80 percent of flowering plants.

Join us as we delve into the fascinating world of bees! We'll explore their intricate biology, essential role in pollination, and the current challenges they face. Learn about their complex social structures and remarkable communication methods. What are the best plants to attract and support pollinators in your own garden? Our speaker, Anne LeSenne, will help you discover practical tips on how to create a bee-friendly environment and the alarming decline of bee populations and the impacts of climate change on these vital insects. **We hope you'll *BEE* there!**

For any further information or questions, please email [susanslocum@arizona.edu](mailto:susanslocum@arizona.edu)



Speaker Anne LeSenne, MS is a Master Beekeeper and Board-Certified Master Arborist. She is a Pinal County Assistant Agent in the Horticulture Department at the University of Arizona. She will have honey from the bees in Maricopa for sale \$15 each for those interested. Cash only.

**Anne LeSenne, MS**  
University of Arizona  
Assistant Agent, Horticulture



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

**Cooperative Extension**

Master Gardener