

## **Steps to Becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer**

The Tulsa Master Gardener program is looking for active adults that enjoy interacting with people, get along well with others, are life-long learners and are ready, willing and able to volunteer their time to enhance the numerous Master Gardener community outreach programs.

The training program for new Master Gardener Volunteers is offered once a year beginning in September.

For those interested in training, an orientation session for the 2017 season will be held at the Tulsa County OSU Extension Center at 4116 E. 15th Street this coming Wednesday, August 9th at 10am. The orientation will last approximately one hour and will review the requirements to participate in this year's class, provide an overview of Master Gardener programs and outline the requirements of volunteer hour participation after training is completed.

Following orientation, interested parties are invited to sign-up for an interview. If accepted into the program, attendance begins on the first Wednesday of September and continues each following Wednesday through the second Wednesday of December. The cost for the classes will be \$250. Class size is limited to approximately 40 participants.

The education curriculum consists of over 70 hours of instruction by OSU faculty and OSU extension horticulturists. Topics covered include lawns; ornamental trees and shrubs; annual and perennial flowers; insect and disease management; soils and plant nutrition; vegetable gardening, organic gardening and much more. These classes provide a good background in horticulture and prepare you to confidently deal with most gardening problems. Learning is ongoing during all the activities.

No previous horticultural training or education is required to enter the Master Gardener program—training starts with the basics. You do have to be able to use a computer and have an email address. Not only do you learn a lot, but you will make many new friends, joining the group of over 400 Tulsa County Master Gardeners.

Come to the orientation and learn about the program as it may be the perfect fit for your volunteer activity.

Questions may be emailed to: [mg@tulsamastergardeners.org](mailto:mg@tulsamastergardeners.org)

Phone inquiries to: Fran Palmer 918-746-3707