How to Become a UF/IFAS Extension Florida Master Gardener Volunteer?

The UF/IFAS Extension Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Program recruits individuals who are interested in gardening and enjoy sharing what they learn with others through educational outreach.

The outreach efforts of the Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Program extend the vision of UF/IFAS, all the while protecting and sustaining natural resources and environmental systems, enhancing the development of human resources, and improving the quality of human life through the development of knowledge in agricultural, human, and natural resources and make that knowledge accessible.

Certified Master Gardener Volunteers work through the UF/IFAS Extension Polk County office to educate Polk County residents and provide research-based information about gardening—America’s most popular pastime.

Master Gardener Volunteers can fulfill their volunteer hours in a variety of ways, including:

- answering horticultural questions over the phone, in person, or through a newspaper, blogs, and other media outlets
- participating in community and school garden projects
- giving educational programs to the public
- supporting youth activities
- performing soil sample evaluations

**Requirements**

- Complete a 50-hour (or longer) training course sponsored by the University of Florida and the UF/IFAS Extension Polk County office.
- Adhere to the Master Gardener Volunteer policies.

**Commitment**

- Master Gardener Volunteers serve 75 hours within the first year of their certification, per the statewide program bylaw.
- Master Gardener Volunteers can renew their certification by participating in 10 learning hours and completing 50 volunteer hours each year.

To get on waiting list [http://bttr.im/fb719](http://bttr.im/fb719)

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