

July 17, 2009

Dear Gardener:

Thank you for requesting information on the Purdue Extension - Marion County Master Gardener training classes. This popular program is for people who would like to learn more about gardening and help others grow.

Two Master Gardener programs will be conducted this fall with 18 three-hour sessions in each program. See the enclosed information for current dates, location, and program topics. Participants in the Master Gardener program are required to volunteer at least one hour for each hour of training. Therefore, Marion County Master Gardener participants should complete 50 volunteer hours after the program to receive their Purdue Master Gardener certificate. This is to be done within a year of completing the course. Ideas for volunteer activities will be given during the course. See the class registration forms for specific volunteer requirements. For example, participants in MG class 2009-3 must spend 10 of the 50 hours in an "internship" individually helping others grow in our Master Gardener Answerline Phone Center. It is important to attend every class session. **Do not register for these classes if you intend to miss many class sessions. If you miss more than 3 sessions, it is recommended that you drop out of the class and reapply for a future class at no additional charge.** The next series will be held in Spring 2010.

Registration deadline is September 4, however, enrollment is limited and classes fill quickly. If you would like to participate in this Extension Master Gardener class, please complete the following four (4) forms and return them with the registration fee.

- Registration Form for Afternoon or Evening Class
- Purdue Extension Master Gardener Pest Management Information Policy (if not sent previously)
- Adult Behavior Expectation for Master Gardener Volunteers (if not sent previously)
- Consent for Master Gardener Volunteer Background Check (if not sent previously)

Advance payment and pre-registration is required before class acceptance (refunds requests will incur a \$5.00 check process charge). The registration fee for the course is \$95.00. This includes two comprehensive Master Gardener notebooks as well as a CD for your computer that includes more than 250 Purdue publications. If you have questions on registration, please contact Debbie Schelske at (317) 275-9305, ext. 286, or e-mail: dschelsk@purdue.edu

If you would like to participate in the Master Gardener program and have special needs, please contact me at least one week prior to the first educational session (317-275-9305).

Sincerely,

Steve Mayer

Steve Mayer
Extension Educator
Horticulture

