

## Become a 2020 Texas Master Gardener – Brazos County

Master Gardener is a **volunteer program** of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. The Extension Service develops volunteers to extend objective, research-based knowledge and solve problems for the citizens of Texas.

First, program participants receive relevant in-depth horticultural training from many Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Specialists. They provide volunteer service, staffing AgriLife Extension programming in their communities. Master Gardener volunteers serve as “horticultural docents” supervised by AgriLife Extension personnel.

It is advantageous if applicants have 1) prior community service, 2) basic gardening knowledge 3) a desire to help others garden sustainably, 4) public speaking experience, 5) worked with people of diverse backgrounds, 6) internet access.

**Step 1:** Apply Sept. 1 to Nov. 1 at [brazosmg.com](http://brazosmg.com) or at the Brazos County Extension office (2619 Highway 21 W, Bryan)

**Step 2:** Attend orientation interview.

**Step 3:** If accepted, acknowledge and consent to all trainee requirements, including:

- a minimum of fifty (50) hours of classroom instruction. Training classes meet weekly, Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. January through May, except Texas A&M spring break. The course fee is \$275 per person, payable in a single amount or installment plan, after acceptance into the training program. Guests (adult or children) may not attend class, due to limited space.
- write an essay
- complete satisfactorily the training course open book, final exam
- actively participate as a member of the Brazos County Master Gardener Association
- 50 service hours (15 in the demonstration garden) in Brazos County by December 1 of training year.

**Step 4:** Upon meeting all requirements, certification in January, 2021, as a Texas Master Gardener

**Step 5:** Re-certification of a Master Gardener in Brazos County is an annual process that requires:

- 25 volunteer service hours in a calendar year
- 6 hours of continuing education credits (CEU)
- membership in good standing of the Brazos County Master Gardener Association.

### Applicant Instructions – note dates:

1. By November 1, 2019, provide completed application to the Brazos County office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 2619 Highway 21 West, Bryan, TX 77803. Email to: [Janice.anderson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Janice.anderson@ag.tamu.edu)
2. Do not include payment at this time
3. Interview – will be scheduled after application is received
4. Orientation – January 9, 2020, 6-7 pm, Brazos County Extension office
5. Class begins Thursday, January 16, 2020, 9am and meets on Thursdays 9am – 3pm through May 14, 2020.

To learn more, go to [brazosmg.com](http://brazosmg.com) and the Texas Master Gardener website: [mastergardener.tamu.edu](http://mastergardener.tamu.edu)

## Application for 2020 Texas Master Gardener Training – Brazos County

Applications are accepted from September 1 through November 1 for the Master Gardener training in Brazos County. Upon completion of all requirements, each participant is certified as a Texas Master Gardener in January. Thereafter, Master Gardeners re-certify annually through a minimum of 25 service hours and 6 continuing education hours. Signature of this application is indication of your agreement to these standards and all requirements.

I desire to be a Master Gardener volunteer in Brazos County, Texas. I recognize that Master Gardeners are trained volunteers – community educators – who share their horticultural knowledge and expertise as representatives of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. As a Master Gardener in training, I agree to:

- Join and participate in the Brazos County Master Gardener Association
- Volunteer a minimum of 50 service hours in Brazos County initiated Extension programs in 2020
- Participate in a minimum of 50 hours classroom training, including an essay and final exam
- Re-certify annually thereafter – with at least 25 service hours and 6 continuing education hours
- A background check

Applicant signature/date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: Texas Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Brazos County: \_\_\_\_\_

Career/Professional Experience: \_\_\_\_\_

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Volunteer & Community Service – list organizations and service performed: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Why do you want to become a volunteer in Extension’s Master Gardener program?** Useful training, increase skills, give back to the community, personal accomplishment, etc.

**How did you learn about Extension’s volunteer program?**

**Are you presently employed? If so, where and how will you meet training requirements?**

**Days and times preferred for volunteer service:**

Monday – Friday	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Saturday	Morning	Afternoon	

**What is your experience in the field of horticulture? Include knowledge of gardening with annuals, vegetables, herbs, roses, turf, trees, fruit, nuts and other perennials. Any experience with composting, propagation or other practices? What is your gardening story? – when did you begin gardening? Have you worked professionally in horticulture or a related field? What is your favorite thing about gardening?**

**Applicant's Statement of Agreement:**

- I acknowledge that the Master Gardener program is a program sponsored by the Brazos County office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.
- Furthermore, that the Brazos County Master Gardener Association is a non-profit (501C3) educational service organization of volunteers trained in horticulture, landscaping, soil improvement, water conservation and other subjects of importance to Texas gardeners.
- I understand that AgriLife Extension supervises Master Gardeners who provide leadership to this association while providing a variety of educational programs in conjunction with the Brazos County office of AgriLife Extension.
- I understand that as a Certified Texas Master Gardener, I represent Brazos County, the Brazos County office of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, the Texas A&M System and the Brazos County Master Gardener Association and agree to adhere to their policies and guidelines.

**Applicant signature/date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Instructions – please note dates:**

6. By November 1, 2019, return your completed application to:  
Brazos County office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
2619 Highway 21 West  
Bryan, TX 77803  
Or email to: [Janice.anderson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Janice.anderson@ag.tamu.edu)
7. Do not include payment at this time
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10. Class begins Thursday, January 16, 2020, 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

***Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any AgriLife Extension activity are encouraged to contact the Brazos County Extension Office to discuss specific needs.***