



HILL CITY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

“Volunteer Educators for Virginia Cooperative Extension”

Post Office Box 2275

Lynchburg VA 24505-2275

<http://www.hcmga.com>

July 12, 2011

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in our training program. Training is sponsored by the Hill City Master Gardener Association (HCMGA) under the guidance of the Lynchburg Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE).

Master Gardener Training was developed by American Land Grant Universities to extend the resources of Cooperative Extension Agents. It is in place in all 50 states and uses trained volunteers to educate community citizens with research-based horticulture. In the Lynchburg area about 130 active volunteers meet community needs for educational information.

Master Gardener Training consists of 50+ hours of Virginia Cooperative Extension approved classroom instruction followed by an Internship involving 50 hours of hands-on participation in VCE/HCMGA sponsored projects. Upon completion of the 100-hour course you will have earned the designation of **Virginia Master Gardener Volunteer**.

Enclosed is a description of the course and an application for enrollment. Enrollment is limited to 25 students. Your basic orientation will be scheduled in mid-January, at which time we will mutually agree that you fully understand and accept your commitment for your volunteer obligation.

Since ample time is available for enrollment decision, understanding and acceptance of volunteer obligations, and student interviews, HCMGA has instituted a no-refund policy once class has started. Regrettably, this is necessary because certain expenses are incurred by this non-profit association once classes begin.

The Master Gardener Training Team welcomes your interest. We have all thoroughly enjoyed our volunteer work and gained personal satisfaction from our experiences. We look forward to having you assist VCE/HCMGA in providing valuable information and service to the citizens in the Lynchburg area.

Sincerely,

Joe Pond
Master Gardener Training Chairman

encl: Course Overview
Application Form

**MASTER GARDENER TRAINING “2012”
Application**

Please Print or Type

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

e-mail address _____ Fax _____

I. Describe any personal training, experience, or special interests that you have in horticulture (e.g. vegetable gardening, landscaping, lawns, trees, annuals, perennials, your own flowerbeds, etc.).

II. List any volunteer work experiences you have had.

III. List any non-horticultural abilities you have (e.g. accounting, public speaking, writing, artistic, computers, administration, media relations, marketing, etc.)

IV. The following projects are typical of those being accomplished by the Hill City Master Gardeners and Lynchburg Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension. Please indicate what projects you would like to help with when fulfilling your Intern hours.

- Daytime School Programs
- Community Children's Programs
- Compost Education
- Public Education for the Homeowner
- Public Speaking
- HCMGA Festival of Gardening
- Adult Special Needs Programs

When can you volunteer your time? Weekdays and/or Weekends? Daytime or Evenings? (Circle your choices)

V. How did you learn about Master Gardener Training?

VI. Why would you like to become a Master Gardener?

VII. Hill City Master Gardeners volunteer their services in Lynchburg and the counties of Amherst and Campbell. Where do you plan to volunteer your services?

Signature _____

Date _____

Please complete this form and mail with your check for \$135 payable to HCMGA to:

Hill City Master Gardener Association
P O Box 2275
Lynchburg, VA 24505-2275

For further information please contact: Joe Pond, 434 - 384 – 7868 or tjpmg05@verizon.net

Note: Applications must be received prior to 1/13/12

HCMGA is a non-profit organization and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, or veteran status.

MASTER GARDENER TRAINING “2012”

Course Overview

I. The Class

Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in Room #5122 - 5125, Merritt Hall at Central Virginia Community College (CVCC). Classes begin February 7, 2012, and run through April 19, 2012. Text for the class is “*Virginia Master Gardener Hand book*” which is included in your application fee.

Field trips and hands-on experience are part of the curriculum. There will be a take-home/open-book test each week and in-class/open-book final exam. A combined average of 70% is required for completion, as well as missing *no more* than three classes.

II. The Instructors

Instructors for the MG Course include Lynchburg Extension Agent, Kevin Camm and other local Extension Agents, professors from local colleges and Virginia Tech, veteran Master Gardeners, and local horticulture professionals.

III. Internship

50 hours of volunteer service in VCE/HCMGA programs is required for completion of the Master Gardener Course. This service should be completed within the year following classroom instruction. Of these 50 volunteer hours, a minimum of six hours of supervised activity must be accomplished at the Lynchburg Extension Office Master Gardener Help Desk, and/or the HCMGA Booth at the Community Market and a minimum of ten hours in children’s programming.

Interesting volunteer opportunities include: assisting young children in VCE/HCMGA sponsored school and community center horticulture programs, staffing the volunteer desk at the Extension Office and the Lynchburg Community Market, Festival of Gardening, and/or supporting the role of Cooperative Extension in community endeavors such as speaking to groups interested in learning about horticulture, staffing the compost education center, or development of a new program that the Association could adopt.

IV. Application

Submit your completed application and check for \$135 (payable to HCMGA) no later than January 13, 2012. No refunds will be made after classes start. An orientation session will be scheduled for mid January.

V. *Welcome future Master Gardener!* *We look forward to meeting you, working with you, and helping you become a fellow Master Gardener.*