

2026 HCMGA TRAINING CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Topic-Assigned Reading	Presenter	Venue
Feb 5, Thurs	9 to 12	Orientation Better Impact Introduction with Mentors	Training Committee Better Impact – Rosanna Gidner & Deb Morris	American Legion 1301 Greenview Dr Lynchburg, VA 24502
Feb 9, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 1 – Botany READ ONLY Chapter 5 - Abiotic Stress Effects on Plant Growth and Development	Yvonne Hansotte, City of Lynchburg Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources - Horticulture	Campbell County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) 163 Kabler Lane Rustburg, VA 24588
Feb 12, Thurs	9 to 10	Risk Management & General Liability + Q & A READ – Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Handbook	Risk Management Videos	VCE
	10 to 11	Safety in the Garden	Russ Lescault, President-Elect Hill City Master Gardener Association	
	11 to 12	Working with Youth; Civil Rights	Debbie Lester, Amherst County 4-H Youth Development Associate Extension Agent	
Feb 16, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 4 – Plant Pathology READ Chapter 6 – Diagnosing Plant Damage	Kameron Kilday, Diagnostician, Virginia Tech Plant Disease Clinic	VCE
Feb 19, Thurs	9 to 12	READ Chapter 8 – Plant Propagation Activity: Hands-on Lab	Melanie Barrow, Henry County Extension Agent	VCE
Feb 23, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 10 – Fruits in the Home Garden	Michael LaChance, VCE Agent, retired	VCE
Feb, 26 Thurs	9 to 10:45	READ Chapter 16 - Landscape Design	Jonathan Sledge, Above Ground Trees	VCE
	11 to 12	HCMGA Programs & Records	Richard Givens & Rosanna Gidner, HCMGA Master Gardeners	
Mar 2, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 7 – Integrated Pest Management and Pesticide Safety	Todd Scott, Campbell County Extension Agent	VCE
Mar 5, Thurs	9 to 12	READ Chapter 11 – Lawns (Zoom Presentation + Q & A)	Mike Goatley, VT, Professor & Extension Turf Grass Specialist	VCE

Mar 9, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 14 - Pruning Pruning Lab	Dean Dykeman, Arboristry Associates	VCE
Mar 12, Thurs	9 to 9:30	FOG Presentation	Sheri Hollingsworth/Mike Kelly, HCMGA Master Gardeners	VCE
	9:30 to 12	READ Chapter 9 - The Vegetable Garden	Linda Papadopolous, HCMGA Master Gardener	
Mar 16, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 15 - Herbaceous Landscape Plants	Melanie Barrow, Henry County Extension Agent	VCE
Mar 19, Thurs	9 to 10:15	READ Chapter 13 - Woody Landscape Plants	Jason Fisher, Bedford County District Extension Agent Agriculture and Natural Resources, Forestry	VCE
	10:30 to 12	READ Chapter 17 - Water Quality & Conservation	Rob Mangrum, Mangrum Consulting and Design	
Mar 23, Mon	9 to 12	READ Chapter 3 - Entomology	Michael LaChance, VCE Agent, retired	VCE
Mar 26, Thurs	9 to 12	READ Chapter 19 - Virginia Native Plants READ Chapter 18 - Habitat Gardening for Wildlife	Jennifer McCarthy, President, Blue Ridge Wildflower Society	VCE
Mar 30, Mon	9 to 11	READ Chapter 2 - Soils and Nutrient Management READ ONLY Chapter 12 - Indoor Plants	Scott Baker, Bedford County Extension Agent, ANR	VCE
	11:15 to 12	Composting	Ronnie Waryas, HCMGA Master Gardener	
Apr 2, Thurs	9 to 11	Snow Day	TBD	VCE
	11 to 12	Introduction to HCMGA Activities	Community Education Chairs	
Apr 6, Mon	9 to 12	Final Exam	Open Book Exam	VCE
Apr 8, Wed	11 to 1	GRADUATION - Following the HCMGA Monthly Meeting	Training Committee	American Legion 1301 Greenview Dr Lynchburg, VA 24502