

Summer 2017

Dear Potential Rutgers Master Gardener:

Thank you for expressing interest in the Mercer County Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension/New Jersey Agriculture Experiment Station. I am enclosing a copy of the program history, components, and requirements and a separate application form. Please read the information carefully. The Rutgers Master Gardeners of Mercer County is not a “**garden club**,” but is a volunteer service organization to train you to provide information (education) to the public.

The 2018 course begins on Thursday, September 28, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and will continue nearly every Thursday (with a few exceptions) through March 2018. Each class will cover a different topic. We plan to have a field trip to the Mercer Educational Gardens in Pennington near early to mid-October on a date to be announced.

We request \$230 to cover the costs of the program and assume you will volunteer. If you decide to apply, please enclose your check or money order payable to **Rutgers, the State University** with your application.

Many of your questions and concerns should be covered on the program sheet. If you need more information about our Master Gardener program or the courses, please call me at (609) 989-6830 or the Master Gardener Helpline at (609) 989-6853 to talk to someone who is currently or is training to be a Master Gardener. You may also access the Master Gardener website at [www.mgofmc.org](http://www.mgofmc.org).

Mercer County is extremely proud of our award-winning Master Gardeners, their program, and the public response to the information provided. I hope you will want to be included as a member of the Class of 2018.

Brian M. Hughes  
County Executive

**County Board  
Of Chosen  
Freeholders**

Ann M. Cannon  
Anthony P. Carabelli  
Pasquale Colavita, Jr.  
Keith V. Hamilton  
Tony Mack  
Lucille R. S. Walter

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Bromley  
Mercer County Horticulturist  
Master Gardener Program Advisor

Enclosures: MG Application and Program History



***RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF  
MERCER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION: 2017-8***

I wish to be a participant in the RCE of Mercer County Master Gardener Training program and would like to be accepted into the 2018 class. I understand that upon successful completion of the training, I will perform 60 hours of volunteer service by mid-October 2018 to attain the title of Certified Master Gardener.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT **VERY NEATLY** (especially the **email address**). The application and a check for \$230 payable to ***Rutgers, the State University*** are due at the Extension office by early Sept. (September 6, 2017) at the latest; however, acceptance is on a first come-first served basis. Return in person or by mail to: *Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Mercer County, 930 Spruce Street, Trenton, NJ 08648.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name (for nametag) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (be neat!) \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your occupation (before retirement, if applicable) and any skills in non-horticultural areas (art, computer, graphic design, public speaking, photography, etc.) that might be relevant to your Master Gardener volunteer activities: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Past volunteer experience or civic activity and positions held: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your level of expertise in gardening and horticulture. (Experience is *not* a requirement)  
beginner \_\_\_\_ intermediate \_\_\_\_ advanced \_\_\_\_ expert \_\_\_\_

Why are you interested in becoming a Master Gardener volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The 60-hour volunteer requirement is **not** optional. Is there any circumstance that would keep you from fulfilling this requirement? yes \_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_ The circumstance is \_\_\_\_\_.

Are you a professional horticulturist or in a horticulture-related field? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Office use: Date rcvd _____ Accepted Y N \$230 rcvd/ck # _____ Wait-listed: _____
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