

NOTE: Please download and save this document to your computer. From there, you can edit it for your own use.

News Release

CONTACT: _____, Volunteer Coordinator
_____ County Extension Master Gardeners
Insert phone number, insert email address



Become an Extension Master Gardener in _____ County

If you have an interest in plants and gardening and would enjoy sharing that interest with others, apply to become a University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener volunteer. Applications are being accepted for the _____ County Extension Master Gardener Program now until October 1, 2025.

Individuals joining the program begin an internship that starts with the Master Gardener core course training in January 2026. The course is taught online at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and is self-paced. Instructors are University of Minnesota Extension educators and faculty.

Following the course, interns will complete a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service in the first year, working with local Master Gardener volunteers on a variety of projects that educate the public about gardening and horticulture. You might share your pollinator knowledge at a farmers market; help a Habitat for Humanity family plan their garden; or show children how to grow food at their schoolyard garden. The primary projects in *(Insert name)* County include *(insert several major projects.)*

After completing the internship, you become a certified University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener. To remain certified, Master Gardeners must contribute at least 25 hours of volunteer service annually.

For an application packet and more information, please call the University of Minnesota Extension *(insert name)* County, *(insert phone number or preferred contact information)*. For more information about the Extension Master Gardener program go to www.mg.umn.edu.

###