



Chatham County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program 2017 Training Schedule

Attend an Information Session

The first step in becoming an EMG in Chatham County is attending an information session. During this session you will learn what it means to be an EMG, and the training and volunteer requirements for the program. This will help you decide if becoming an EMG is the right choice for you.

Sessions are currently scheduled for:

- Jan. 31, 6:30pm
- Feb. 1, 10:00am
- Feb. 9, 10:00 am

More sessions may be added based on interest. [Sign up and learn more about these sessions.](#)

Attend at Least 4 Extension Gardener Classes This Spring

In addition to being part of Extension Master Gardener training, Extension Gardener classes are open to the public. Anyone can register for and attend these free classes, each of which will be offered twice, on a Tuesday evening and again on Wednesday morning:

Click on each class for full details and registration information:

- [Growing Fruits and Berries](#), Feb. 14 & 15
- [Growing Vegetables Year-Round](#), Feb. 21 & 22
- [Growing Culinary Herbs](#), Feb. 28 & March 1

[Details and registration for the following classes will be posted here soon:](#)

- Plants for Living Landscapes
 - Class 1 – Perennials, March 28 & 29
 - Class 2 – Trees and Shrubs, April 4 & 5
- Piedmont Lawns and Lawn Alternatives, April 25 & 26

Submit Your Application by April 27

Applications for the Chatham County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program are due by April 27, 2017. To receive a printed copy of the application and Certification Agreement, contact Chatham County Cooperative Extension at 919-542-8202 or email charlotte_glen@ncsu.edu.

- [Download an application](#)
- [Download a Certification Agreement](#) – this document must be signed and included with your application

Attend Orientation

An orientation session for participants accepted into the Chatham County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program will be scheduled for May 2017. The date will be based on participant availability, with every effort made to find a date that everyone can attend. The \$100 training fee will be due when you attend orientation.

Get Involved in Summer Activities and Projects

A variety of optional, formal and informal learning and volunteer activities will be scheduled for the summer including garden tours, propagation workshops, and the NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Conference at NC State University, June 8 – 10. Summer activities are a great way to get to know your fellow volunteers and increase your knowledge and skills.

Complete EMG Core Training

Core training classes focus on skills you will need as a volunteer. Core training classes will be held on Wednesdays, Aug. 30 – Nov. 1, from 10am – 3pm with a lunch break from 12 – 1. EMG meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, 9:30 – noon. Please plan to attend these as well.

Core Training - Date/Topic:

- Aug. 30 – Extension resources and finding research based information
- Sept. 6 – Botany and plant ID
- *Sept. 13 – EMG Meeting*
- Sept. 20 – Soils and fertilizers
- Sept. 27 – Plant diseases
- Oct. 4 – Insect pests
- *Oct. 11 – EMG Meeting*
- Oct. 18 – Integrated pest management
- Oct. 25 – Weeds and weed management
- **Nov. 1 – Final review and exam – ATTENDANCE REQUIRED**
- *Nov. 8 – EMG Meeting, graduation ceremony*

One or two field trips may be scheduled based on participants' availability. Field trip locations may include the [NC Botanical Gardens](#) in Chapel Hill, and a visit the NC Department of Agriculture's [Agronomic Services Lab](#) and NC State's [JC Raulston Arboretum](#) in Raleigh.

Volunteer!

Volunteers will complete a 50 hour internship within one year of completing their training. Trainees are encouraged to begin volunteering during the training course by assisting with a class project.

[Learn about volunteer opportunities and outreach efforts you can be part of!](#)