



Rock County UW-Extension
51 South Mains Street, Courthouse
Janesville, WI 53545

To: Master Gardener Volunteer Applicant
From: Mike Maddox, Horticulture Educator
(608) 757-5696 [messages]
mike.maddox@ces.uwex.edu
RE: 2009-2010 Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program

Thank you for your interest in Rock County University of Wisconsin-Extension's Master Gardener Volunteer Training program. We are currently accepting applications for the 2009-2010 program.

Since its inception in Wisconsin, the Master Gardener Volunteer program has continued to be a premier community service-learning program connecting America's foremost past time – gardening -- with volunteer opportunities in the areas we live. In a combination of informal lectures and service-learning activities, participants in the Master Gardener Volunteer program have the opportunity to expand their horticultural background, network with like-minded people, and return something to the community.

Rock County UW-Extension's program consists of 60-hours of intense, yet informal, lecture-type classes offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays nights, Labor Day through Thanksgiving, 6pm to 9pm, at Rotary Botanical Gardens. To successfully earn your Master Gardener Volunteer status, participants must complete a minimum of 36-hours of the initial training, pass the final exam, and complete a minimum of 24-hours volunteer service by August 31, 2010.

Registration for the program is \$225 (total) and covers all resource materials and costs associated with the program. Dues of \$20 (included) are required for membership into the Rock Prairie Master Gardener Association (local) and the Wisconsin Master Gardener Association (state). Both groups provide leadership and guidance to you as you pursue your Master Gardener Volunteer certification.

Attached you will find an application form, volunteer service agreement, and background check form. Please complete and return all forms to the stated address along with check or money order. Payment will be held until acceptance into the program. All candidates will be screened prior to admittance (felony background check and in-person interview). You will receive notification of acceptance into the program sometime in August. No refunds will be given after the program begins in September. You will receive a refund minus the background check service charge (\$5) if not accepted into the program. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Our goal is to create for you an awarding, educational, and enjoyable experience. Class enrollment is typically limited to ensure individual attention. However, experience has shown those who actively participate in volunteer and social opportunities in addition to class achieve the most rewarding experience from the program. *You only get as much out of the program as you are willing to put into it.*

I look forward to your participation in the Master Gardener Training program!

ATTENTION

CLASS WILL BE LIMITED TO 25 PARTICIPANTS.

APPLICANTS WILL BE SCREENED ON A FIRST COME BASIS.

BE SURE TO RETURN:

- COMPLETED APPLICATION** with interview date selected.
- SIGNED VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT**
- SIGNED BACKGROUND CONSENT**
- CHECK OR MONEY ORDER MADE PAYABLE TO
'ROCK PRAIRIE MG ASSOCIATION'**
- RETURN APPLICATION TO:**
 - Mike Maddox**
 - Rock County UW-Extension**
 - 51 South Main Street**
 - Janesville, WI 53545**
- Deadline: August 1, 2009**