

## Who We Are and What We Do

NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteers of Beaufort County are a team of dedicated and certified individuals who use research-based information to help community residents improve their home gardens and landscapes.

Our volunteers have a broad spectrum of ages and life experiences, bringing a variety of educational, professional and socioeconomic backgrounds, all of which benefits us in serving diverse groups of Beaufort County residents.

There are approximately 32 Extension Master Gardener Volunteers in the Beaufort County program, a number of whom have been with the program for over ten years.

We meet the third Wednesday of each month to learn about research-based gardening topics and to discuss ongoing projects such as:

- NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Phone Hotline
- Ask an NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Information Booth at the Washington Farmer's Market
- Horticultural Events: Annual Plant Sale
- Planning of Educational Opportunities and Field Trips
- Demonstration Garden Activities
- Writing Articles of Interest for Newspapers and / or social media.



## NCSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer of Beaufort County



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## Become an Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

## Role of the Extension Master Gardener™ Volunteer

The NCSU Master Gardener Program is an outreach of NC State University Extension Service. The Extension Master Gardener (EMG) program is an educational program designed to enhance public education in consumer horticulture using unbiased, research-based information. Under the guidance and direction of our Extension Agent Gene Fox, we provide educational assistance to the citizens of Beaufort County concerning lawns, fruits, vegetables, trees, and ornamentals through the utilization of our trained and supervised volunteer staff.

Previous formal training or exceptional gardening skills are not required for acceptance to the NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer training program.



## Is the EMG Program Right for Me?

To help you decide if you should apply to become an Extension Master Gardener volunteer, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I want to learn more about growing many types of plants from horticulture experts?
- Do I want to participate in a training program that helps me better understand sustainable gardens, lawns and landscapes?
- Do I look forward to sharing my knowledge with people in my community?
- Do I enjoy working with others who share my interests?
- Do I have enough time to attend training sessions and to serve as a volunteer?

If you answered **YES** to these questions, the EMG volunteer program could be for you!

**Just bring your enthusiasm for learning and your passion to help others grow in their knowledge of gardening!**

## Program & Certification Requirements

*Thank you for your interest in the NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer program of Beaufort County!*

The next training session is in the planning stages.

### Initial Volunteer Training

- Minimum of 40 hours of instruction
- Classes are taught by Extension staff and local experts.
- A wide range of topics are taught from soils, various plant types, pests/insects, lawns, gardening, landscape design and much more.

### Internship & Certification

- 40-hour internship is required
- Individuals participate in a variety of volunteer opportunities to reach this goal.
- Following initial training and internship, the volunteer is eligible to become a Certified NC Extension Master Gardener Volunteer.

### Re-Certification

To remain active in the program, the volunteer must meet annual re-certification requirements which varies by county.

If you are interested in participating in the 2019 session, please email your interest and include the following details:

- Your full name
- Mailing address
- Phone number
- Preferred email address

We'll maintain your information on file.

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