



## 2021 Master Gardener Volunteer Application

*This application is also available online at:*

<https://extension.umaine.edu/gardening/master-gardeners/how-to-apply/>

*Applicants must agree to the following statements in order to be considered for the program. Please check the provided space below next to each statement:*

\_\_\_ In order to become a University of Maine Cooperative Extension Volunteer, **I must complete all of the assignments, participate in 4 local county meetings and complete a minimum of 40 hours approved volunteer work by December 31, 2021. In order to maintain my Master Gardener Volunteer certification, I understand that I'll need to continue to volunteer a minimum of 20 hours every calendar year with an approved project and submit an annual enrollment form.**

\_\_\_ If I am accepted as a Master Gardener Volunteer trainee, I will abide by all regulations and recommendations of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. As a Master Gardener Volunteer, I am considered a volunteer representative of the University of Maine. I commit to conducting myself in accordance with the established University of Maine Cooperative Extension volunteer standards of behavior.

\_\_\_ I consent to a background check, at the expense of the University of Maine, prior to enrollment in the Master Gardener Volunteer Program. Background checks are required of all new Master Gardener Volunteers. Because Master Gardener Volunteers might interact with youth and adults who may be vulnerable for potential exploitation, a background check of volunteers is required.

\_\_\_ I understand that the 2021 Master Gardener Volunteers Training Program will be entirely online and that I will need to have an email address, access to a reliable internet connection and an electronic device (i.e. laptop, desktop, iPad, or tablet) with video/audio capabilities to complete this course.\*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit your completed application via email at [extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu](mailto:extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu) or mail to the following address:**

**UMaine Extension, ATTN: MGV Application  
307 Maine Avenue  
Bangor, ME 04401**

**Applications are due by Sunday, January 24, 2021.**

*Accepted applicants will be notified by Monday, February 8, 2021 and will have two weeks to complete the online registration and background check.*

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE**

*Please feel free to attach extra pages to this application as needed. Include your name on all attachments. Do not attach or send pictures.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to receive information about financial assistance or payment plans?  
*(This information will not influence your application)*

\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ No

1. Have you ever participated in a Master Gardener Program in Maine or another state?

\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ No

If yes, indicate in which state or Maine county and in what year(s).

2. Have you ever applied for the Master Gardener Volunteer training in Maine, prior to this year?

\_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ No

3. Please tell us about your current gardening knowledge and abilities. Consider including information such as how long you've been gardening, types of gardens you've tended, how successful you feel in your gardening pursuits, etc. (300 max. word count)

**Please note:** *Being an expert is not a requirement when applying to become a Master Gardener Volunteer.*

4. During the gardening season (April through October), at which times are you typically available to volunteer? (check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_ Weekday Mornings

\_\_\_\_ Weekday Afternoons

\_\_\_\_ Weekday Evenings

\_\_\_\_ Weekend Mornings

\_\_\_\_ Weekend Afternoons

\_\_\_\_ Weekend Evenings

5. Volunteering is a big part of what it means to be a Master Gardener, please explain your volunteer experience in this chart below (use additional space if needed). Consider areas such as school, Red Cross, youth sports, scouting, 4-H, public committees, non-profit work, church, or service groups.

Volunteer Type	Frequency	Estimated Dates
<i>Example: Nursing Home Volunteer</i>	<i>2 hours per week</i>	<i>Jan. 2015 - present</i>

6. Why do you wish to become a Master Gardener Volunteer? (Use additional space if needed) ***Please consider the following when answering this question: Personal motivation, social aspects, work related, familiarity with the program, develop new skills, build on existing skills, environmental concerns, and to make a difference in your community.***

7. Please list at least two subject areas in which you would like to gain additional skills as a result of your Master Gardener Volunteer training. If possible, include why you would like to gain these specific skills.

8. In what ways would you like to possibly apply the knowledge and skills gained from the Maine Master Gardener Volunteer training? When responding to this question, think about a potential audience or garden-related project or effort in or near your community.

9. Please check the following project areas that you would likely be interested in pursuing as Master Gardener Volunteer. *Note: not all project types available in all counties.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Providing fresh fruits and vegetables to local food security organizations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Working with elderly or individuals with disabilities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maintaining and/or designing demonstration gardens
- \_\_\_\_\_ Creating and/or staffing educational displays (*i.e. at a flower show or county fair*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Working with youth (*i.e. school gardens, 4-H clubs*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presenting gardening talks and/or teaching workshops
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mentoring new gardeners
- \_\_\_\_\_ Writing, editing or designing educational materials or promotional materials (*i.e. newsletter articles*)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Developing educational videos or social media content
- \_\_\_\_\_ Serving on a planning committee (*i.e. fund-raising committee, development committee*)

*Please note: The County Coordinator for your program may request additional information at their discretion.*

**Thank you for applying for the 2021 Master Gardener Volunteer Program!**

If you have any questions, please contact us at [extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu](mailto:extension.mastergardeners@maine.edu) or 207-581-3188 or 1-800-287-0274.

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