



# Master Gardener Application: Class of 2020

## General Instructions and Requirements

Due to the limited enrollment capacity of the Master Gardener training program, we encourage you to make a thoughtful and complete application that fully represents you. Before submitting your application, we recommend that you attend the Master Gardener Information Orientation on **Wednesday, September 11, 2019** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the War Memorial Building in Balboa Park (3325 Zoo Drive, San Diego, CA 92101). Attendance is not required to apply.

Submit your completed application and two letters of recommendation by email to Scott Parker, MG Program Coordinator, at [saparker@ucanr.edu](mailto:saparker@ucanr.edu) by October 1, 2019. Please include your name in the subject line of your email. Your complete application package must include this completed form *and* two letters of recommendation.

Alternatively, you may mail your application and letters of recommendation to: Master Gardener Association of San Diego County; c/o Scott Parker, MG Program Coordinator, UC Cooperative Extension; 9335 Hazard Way, Suite 201; San Diego, CA 92123.

Notifications as to your status in the selection process will be done by email, informing you of next steps, as applicable. Acceptance and Rejection letters will be sent via US post office.

## **Requirements to become a UCCE certified Master Gardener in San Diego County:**

- Live in San Diego County
- Enjoy volunteering to teach / share with the public UCCE based research on topics of gardening, integrated pest management and horticultural practices
- Willingness to focus on community outreach to educate the public
- Value the concept of 'Life-Long Learning'

## **If accepted into the MG program:**

- Must be fingerprinted and agree to a background check before beginning the program
- Have a valid driver's license and proof of current auto insurance
- Complete and sign a Code of Conduct / Responsibilities and Rights Form
- Complete and sign a Self-Disclosure Form
- Attend weekly, Tuesday classes, running January 7 – June 16, 2020
- Attend planned field trips, requiring extended days on those class days
- Pass all exams with a 70% or better score
- Perform 50 hours of volunteer service within the first year of certification
- After the first year, 25 volunteer hours *and* 12 continuing education hours are required for recertification to remain an active MG
- Some travel within the county may be necessary



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All applications must be received by October 1, 2019.

### Applicant Information (please print legibly)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Race/Ethnicity (optional):

- ☐ White, non-Hispanic American. A person having origins in any of the original people of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East (except those of Hispanic origin)
- ☐ Black/African American, non Hispanic. A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa (except those of Hispanic origin)
- ☐ Hispanic. A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Latin culture or origin, regardless of race.
- ☐ Asian or Pacific Islander. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or Pacific Islands. This includes people from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, American Samoa, India, and Vietnam.
- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native. A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America or who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
- ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Gender (optional): ☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

### How did you find out about the Master Gardener (MG) Program?

- ☐ MG Information Orientation ☐ MG Bookmark/Flyer ☐ MG Website ☐ MG Facebook page
- ☐ MG Seminar ☐ Newspaper ☐ Friend
- ☐ Community/Professional Organization (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_



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### Applicant Background and Interests:

1. Tell us why you would like to become a Master Gardener.

2. Have you applied to the Master Gardener Program in San Diego County before. If so, when?

3. If you were active in another Master Gardener Program, please indicate where and when.

4. List your membership in garden clubs or other organizations and describe your volunteer services in those organizations (e.g., officer, committee chair, event coordinator, member, etc.) with approximate hours per year.

5. Since the MG Program is an educational service organization, we are looking for examples of your involvement in the community. Describe a specific project or activity you have initiated or participated in, or a leadership role you played, for your community or work (e.g., special event, fundraiser, youth group, school program, church event, etc.). Provide examples with your role indicated.



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6. List your horticultural education or training (e.g., college classes, adult education, seminars, self-taught, etc.).

7. Briefly describe the extent of your personal gardening experience (e.g., growing edibles/ornamentals, composting, pruning, plant propagation, irrigation, construction skills, garden art, etc.).

8. List gardening subjects about which you are the most knowledgeable and are willing to share.

9. How many years have you gardened? How many of those years were in San Diego County?

10. In addition to English, what languages do you speak proficiently?



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11. Select MG public education activities that might be of interest to you:

- |                                                                  |                                                                     |                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering in Underserved Communities | <input type="checkbox"/> Answering the Public's Gardening Questions | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Speaking   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardens                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Team Teaching Small Groups                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration Gardens                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Conducting Workshops                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing Articles  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Gardens                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Creating Educational Exhibits              |                                            |

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe how you would like to participate in the activities you checked.**

12. Select MG fundraising activities that you would like to help with:

- |                                                |                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Sale            | <input type="checkbox"/> Building Birdhouses   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Staffing Sales Tables |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Tours          | <input type="checkbox"/> Propagating Plants    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |                                                |

**Describe how you would like to participate in the activities you checked.**



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13. Indicate special skills and technology in which you are proficient and willing to contribute the MG organization:

- |                                                   |                                           |                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Design           | <input type="checkbox"/> WordPress        | <input type="checkbox"/> Bookkeeping/Accounting       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint Presentations | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio / Visual   | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Quality Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising              | <input type="checkbox"/> Video Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodworking Skills           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Photography      | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media     | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Management             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____    |                                           |                                                       |

**Describe your proficiency for all items you checked.**

14. Describe any teaching and/or communication experience you may have (e.g., research and writing, speaking to large or small groups, demonstrating to groups, one-on-one consultations, educational displays, etc.).

15. A. What is your current work status (e.g., retired, not employed, student, seeking employment, employed # hours per week)?

B. List your previous experience. How will your experience or skills benefit the MG organization?



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16. New Master Gardener classes meet in Kearny Mesa each Tuesday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm starting January 7, 2020 and ending June 16, 2020. There will be 4-5 off-site field trips, requiring extended class days. Attendance is required at all sessions and field trips. Additionally, new Master Gardeners are required to complete 50 hours volunteer service their first year and 25 hours/year thereafter. Will you be able to fulfill these requirements?

☐ YES      ☐ NO

Comments:

17. As a Master Gardener, there will be times when you will be required to advise the public on the use of pesticides as part of an Integrated Pest Management Program as recommended by the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE). If your personal views on the use of pesticides differ from these recommendations, would you be able to set your personal philosophy aside and advise the public based on the research information provided by the UCCE?

☐ YES      ☐ NO

18. What else would you like us to know about you as a potential Master Gardener?

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Please submit two (2) letters of recommendation that support your ability to be a successful Master Gardener. These letters should emphasize specific qualifications such as horticultural / gardening knowledge, leadership skills, volunteer experience, and/or organizational activities. Please include each reference's full name, telephone number, and email contact information so that we may check references.

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### Agreement

I wish to be considered for acceptance into the Master Gardener training program offered by the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE). I understand that if I am accepted, I will become a certified UCCE Master Gardener Program volunteer when I complete the training course and pass a written examination by 70% or better. I understand that in exchange for the training provided by the program, I will perform at least 50 hours of volunteer time with the UCCE Master Gardener Program within one year of being certified. I will attend the training classes, record my volunteer activity online, follow UCCE policies and procedures while acting as a Master Gardener, and agree to a background and fingerprint screening at the beginning of the program. I also agree to complete the forms required for appointment which include: Proof of Driver's License and Automotive Insurance, Code of Conduct/Responsibilities and Rights, and Self Disclosure Form.

Digital Signature

OR

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
With typing name here I am accepting all terms as if signing.

In compliance with the California Information Practice Act of 1977, the following information is provided: The information on this form is being requested by the UCCE for use in the Master Gardener Program. The individual completing this form may make inquiries concerning the use of the information collected and may ask to review the form as well as other non-confidential personal information maintained on record by contacting the local UCCE county director, the Master Gardener Advisor or County Program Coordinator or the statewide Academic Coordinator for the Master Gardener Program at: Statewide Master Gardener Academic Coordinator, University of California, DANR NC&MR Office, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616-8575.

Information on this form is being requested under the authority of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 covering Cooperative Extension activities and Article ix, Section 9 of the State of California Constitution covering the University of California. Ethic information is required to maintain compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and gender information is requested to maintain compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Statistical information on this form is being collected to satisfy the U.S. Department of Agriculture Extension Service reporting requirements for Affirmative Action and the Federal Affirmative Action Program Report. Statistical information includes gender, ethnic information and residential location. Submission of the above noted information is voluntary and if the information is not submitted by the source, the County Master Gardener staff may use his or her judgment to complete the information and satisfy federal reporting requirements. Other personal information on this form is being collected to provide the County Master Gardener staff with information to assist in program planning. This information consists of name, address, phone and email in addition to your skill set assessment.

The University of California prohibits discrimination or harassment of any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy (including childbirth, medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth), physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran (covered veterans are special disabled veterans, recently separated veterans, Vietnam era veterans, or any other veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized) in any of its programs and activities. Inquiries regarding the University's non-discrimination policies may be directed to the Affirmative Action/Staff Personnel Services Director, University of California Agricultural and Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin St., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200, phone (510) 987-0097.

University policy is intended to be consistent with the provisions of applicable state and federal laws.

The Master Gardener Association of San Diego County supports the University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of San Diego County.