

**MASTER  
GARDENER**  
**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA  
IFAS Extension

107 Mehrhof Hall  
PO Box 110675  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0675  
Phone: (352) 273-4521  
Fax: (352) 392-1413  
<http://mastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu>

Form 10

## Florida Master Gardener Awards and Recognition Form Awards of Excellence

Each county is allowed **ONE ENTRY PER CATEGORY**. Although your Master Gardener Coordinator may have been heavily involved in this effort, only the efforts of the Master Gardeners themselves are to be evaluated. Points will be deducted if it is perceived that most of the effort or submission of entry forms came from the Master Gardener Coordinator.

Only efforts made since the last awards ceremony will be considered by the judges. Any new or re-certified active Florida Master Gardener(s) are eligible. In the event your entry does **not** take top honors in this category this year, we would encourage you to improve your submission and resubmit your entry next year should you *repeat or continue* this project. If your project has won in **ANY** year, it **CANNOT BE RE-ENTERED** again, despite any significant changes in format or participants.

Judges for the awards shall be appointed by the State Master Gardener Program Leader, University of Florida. Decisions by the judges will be final.

### ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT

#### SEE BELOW FOR APPLICATION CRITERIA:

The correct and completed award application forms including:

- A typed application form not to exceed 3 pages in length. Supporting materials (where requested may be additional pages)
  - The three pages must include the 150 word project summary.
- 12 point font
- No more than 8 photographs in addition to the three pages of text. (Photos no larger than 8 x 10)
- This form typed and completed including: appropriate category checked
- Name of MG Coordinator (The coordinator must approve application prior to admission)
- Application, photos and supporting materials must all be in PDF format and packaged into one document. Submissions are to be emailed to: [twichman@ufl.edu](mailto:twichman@ufl.edu)

County: Hillsborough  
Name of Project: Greenfest  
Project start date: October 2011 Project end date: April 2012  
Name of person(s) typing application: Nicole Pinson  
Name or names of Master Gardeners preparing application: Heather Diaz and Toni Armstrong  
Name of Agent: Nicole Pinson

**CATEGORY:** Indicate only one category per entry form. *You must assign your entry to a specific category to be considered for an award in that category.* Entries are limited to the categories indicated below.

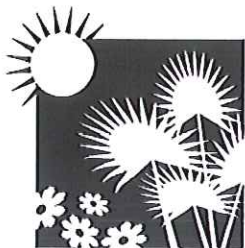
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 11 Beautification                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 18 Personal Communications           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 12 Demonstration Garden              | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 19 Service to 4-H and other youth    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 13 Educational Materials Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 20 Special Audiences                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 14 Extension Awareness    | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 22 Written or Verbal Mass Comm.      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 15 County Displays/Exhibits          | <input type="checkbox"/> Form 23 County Master Gardener Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 16 General Achievement               | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Form 17 Outstanding Master Gardener       |  |

Email PDF Applications to:

Tom Wichman  
twichman@ufl.edu

**TO BE ELIGIBLE ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 1, 2012**





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Form 14

## FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER EXTENSION AWARENESS AWARD

This award category recognizes the Master Gardener(s) who has or have made the effort to give credit to the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) and the Florida Cooperative Extension Service for a particular project they were involved with. It is not the particular project that is being judged, but the attempt to gain awareness for the Extension Service's role in the effort. If credit was given to the Master Gardener Program, there must be evidence that the Extension Service was also recognized for this entry to qualify in this category.

To enter this category, attach this form to Form 10 and include any supportive documentation (newspaper clippings, photos, etc.) with the body of the entry scan items and package them into PDF format). All documentation must be packaged into one PDF document and limited to the guidelines outlined on Form 10. Be brief but complete in your statements.

Forms must be **TYPED AND COMPLETED** for consideration by the committee. **Remember to submit Form 10 with your entry.** Entrants are limited to the category they indicate on that form.

1. Give a brief account of the project undertaken and explain how the public was aware of the Cooperative Extension Service. Note that simply giving the Master Gardener Program recognition will only be considered "half the effort" and judges will be looking to see that the University of Florida, IFAS and the Cooperative Extension Service received their full share of credit. Rationale here is that the Master Gardener Program is not to be perceived by the public as a "Stand Alone Program," but is an integral part of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service and IFAS. You should cite during your discussion:
  - a. At what point in the project you began the effort to attain public awareness for Extension's role in this project (i.e., initial planning process, during implementation of the project, after the project was completed, etc.)
  - b. What methods did you chose to draw public awareness to the project (include actual photos, scripts, minutes, tapes, or written articles documenting your effort).
2. Please estimate the number of people you were able to inform, making them aware of the Extension Service and IFAS role in the project. Consideration will be given to those entries which document in "real terms" what the impact of the effort was (i.e., survey tool written or verbal, etc.) in creating an enhanced awareness of Extension. Especially desirable are those efforts which can document that individuals targeted and/or reached had not previously been aware of Extension's existence or role in such projects before this effort was made.
3. Briefly discuss how you would modify these efforts if you were to undertake a similar project in the future. Describe inventive techniques that could be employed for bringing more attention to the Extension Program effort with respect to a project such as you were involved with.

Entries in this category will be judged on:

1. Appropriateness of method for making public Extension's role in the effort (10 points).
2. Skill with which Extension involvement was highlighted (30 points).
3. Estimated impact of the awareness effort and skill with which it was measured (30 points).
4. Creativeness in presenting entry for competition (20 points).
5. Suggestions on thoroughness and creativeness on how to gain more public awareness of Extension for similar projects if done in the future (10 points).
6. Also, you must include a 150 word (or less) summary of your project so that we can let others know of your accomplishments. Your application will NOT be judged without this summary included.

Form 14  
FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER  
EXTENSION AWARENESS AWARD

GreenFest

The University of Tampa is a historic structure and home to the Henry B. Plant Museum and the Tampa Bay Hotel. In its glory, the Tampa Bay Hotel was home to travelers from around the world, offered refuge in times of war, and became a frequent stop for the railroad. On the campus of the University of Tampa is a park called Plant Park. A support organization, called "The Friends of Plant Park," plans events and fundraisers to support park maintenance and refurbishing of the historic landmark. GreenFest is an educational nature festival designed to give the Tampa Bay community an opportunity to learn more about the care and cultivation of indigenous plants and flowers. This annual event is held at Plant Park on the historical campus of the University of Tampa.

The Friends of Plant Park, a non-profit volunteer organization, initiated GreenFest in 1997. The proceeds from GreenFest have allowed the restoration and additional enhancement of the historical garden, located in the heart of downtown Tampa.

In a cooperative effort, Hillsborough County Master Gardeners coordinate with the Friends of Plant Park, to organize an educational event for the residents of Hillsborough County, the City of Tampa, and surrounding areas. This two day gardening festival features a Hillsborough County Master Gardener tent and Speakers' tent. MG volunteers staff the information booth and Speakers' tent. Two primary Master Gardeners are responsible for coordinating speakers, developing the education programming, creating a checklist, marketing and publicity, organizing volunteers, and working with the Friends of Plant Park.

This well-oiled machine begins planning months in advance. Both Heather Diaz and Toni Armstrong meet with the Friends of Plant Park members to determine program needs. They identify speakers, coordinate logistics, and create an agenda. They organize event setup and break down. In addition to the Speakers' tent, Hillsborough County Master Gardeners also have an "Ask the Gardening Experts" booth for residents to ask gardening questions and receive current information and recommendations from MG volunteers representing UF/IFAS Hillsborough County Extension. The UF/IFAS Hillsborough County Master Gardener Program was also featured in the June 2012 issue of *In the Field* magazine, available at this link: <http://www.inthefieldmagazine.com/cms/archives-2/hillsborough-issues/hills-june-2012> Photos from GreenFest were included in article. More than 40 Master Gardeners assist with the event by staffing morning and afternoon shifts at the booth, presenting on various gardening topics, and providing the labor and manpower to set up and take down/pack-up tents and program materials.



2012 Master Gardener volunteers that participate in the GreenFest gardening festival include: Andy Anderson, Toni Armstrong, Lisa Arato, Lynn Barber, Dave Beck, Lynn Black, Carol Bockenek, Mary Carow, Kathryn Castillo, Anne Cazares, Charissa Costner, Phil Channell, Heather Diaz, Bob Dickey, Verna Dickey, Beth Eisenfeld, Cynthia Glover, Harriet Gord-Noghani, Mary Hagerty, Jim Hawk, Kathy Hattan, Al Latina, Marilyn Lewis, Sherry Louer, Julie Hirst, Lois McLane, Lorraine Whyte, Debbie McLaury, Nadine McPherson, Dave Mracek, Barbara Olsen, Pat O'Shea, Virginia Overstreet, Cindy Paulhus, Chris Peterson, Nicole Pinson, Sharon Pilot, Lindy Sanchez, Carol White, Mary Louise Wojahn, Randy Wojahn. Please see attached article. Checklist includes UF/IFAS materials used during GreenFest to make recommendations.

The Friends of Plant Park and UF/IFAS Hillsborough County Extension work together months in advance to publicize the event. Hillsborough County Extension faculty and Master Gardener volunteers/speakers are featured on the GreenFest website available at these links:

<http://tampagreenfest.com/>

<http://tampagreenfest.com/speakers.html>

Program evaluations are reviewed to determine outcomes and impacts and needs for future programming.

#### **Summary:**

The UF/IFAS Hillsborough County Extension and Friends of Plant Park organize an event called "GreenFest." This two day gardening festival provides opportunities for residents and visitors to attend Extension educational programs, and obtain answers to gardening questions by visiting the "Ask the Gardening Experts" booth. The public and Master Gardener volunteers look forward to this event. Residents of Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa brought plant samples for identification, insects for control recommendations, and the willingness to learn from speakers and volunteers. This year's GreenFest had 5,900 people in attendance. Master Gardeners personally helped over two and half days, answering questions, coordinating speaker evaluations, and passing out a myriad of materials to over 672 people. Our speakers provided ten presentations to over 331 people.



**March 24 & 25, 2012**

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM ~ Rain or Shine!

Historic Henry B. Plant Park at The University of Tampa

\$3 suggested donation per adult

### **SCHEDULED SPEAKERS**

#### **SATURDAY**

##### **TENT #1 – The Tampa Tribune, News Channel 8 and TBO.com**

- 10:30 AM Growing and Cooking with Herbs - Dennis Gretton, D&D Growers
- 11:30 AM Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Florida-Friendly Landscaping:  
Q&A - Lynn Barber, Hillsborough County and UF/IFAS Extension  
*Sponsored by The Tampa Tribune*
- 12:30 PM Oak Trees: Their Health and Green Solutions to Problems - Jason Zysk,  
Certified Arborist, Greenworks
- 1:30 PM Hydroponics – John Lawson, Hydro Harvest Farms
- 2:30 PM Gardening with Color – John King, King Landscaping

##### **TENT #2 – Hillsborough County and UF/IFAS Extension - Master Gardeners**

- 10:00 AM Growing Florida Fruits – Jim Hawk
- 11:00 AM Vegetable Gardening – Phil Channell
- NOON Bonsai Basics – Debbie McLaury
- 1:00 PM Water-Wise – Virginia Overstreet, Hillsborough County Extension
- 2:00 PM Ornamental & Culinary Herbs – Heather Diaz
- 3:00 PM Fun with Orchids – Al Latina

#### **SUNDAY**

##### **TENT #1 – The Tampa Tribune, News Channel 8 and TBO.com**

- 11:30 AM 2012 Plants of the Year – Will Womack, President of the Florida Nursery,  
Growers and Landscape Association (Tampa Chapter) and Dr. Geoff Denny
- 12:30 PM Building “Green” Soil – David Whitwam, Whitwam Organics
- 1:30 PM Gardening for the Birds! – John King, King Landscaping
- 2:30 PM The Moringa Tree Story – Elizabeth Helfert, MPH, CPH, Program Director  
at Village Partners International

##### **TENT #2 – Hillsborough County and UF/IFAS Extension - Master Gardeners**

- NOON Worm Composting – Harriet Gord-Noghani
- 1:00 PM Canning What You Grow – Mary Keith, Hillsborough County Extension
- 2:00 PM Compost Happens – Monica Raguckas, Hillsborough County Extension
- 3:00 PM Rain Barrels – Lynn Barber, Hillsborough County and UF/IFAS Extension

*Presentations will be 20 – 30 minutes, followed by questions and answers from the audience.*

[\*\*www.tampagreenfest.com\*\*](http://www.tampagreenfest.com)



# MASTER GARDENER

## "Hopefuls" Encouraged To Plan Ahead

Extension Suggests Looking A Year Out  
By Jim Frankowiak

The State of Florida's popular Master Gardener program is overseen by the University of Florida/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service which trains and maintains horticulture volunteers for this program throughout the state.

To give you an idea of the program's popularity, here in Hillsborough County, "more than 200 applicants have expressed interest in the next class which is limited to 20 participants," said Urban Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Program Coordinator Nicole Pinson. This high level of interest for the program is not unusual and has prompted Pinson and her colleagues to suggest planning well ahead if you want to be considered for the program. "We would suggest potential candidates for our 2013 class make application now," she said.

To understand why the program is so popular, it's important to recognize its scope and substance, which is dynamic and continually changing to meet the needs of the community. "One example of that is the growing popularity of urban gardening and the establishment of urban community gardens," noted Pinson. "To be effective with our county programs, we must be sensitive to emerging trends and adjust our programs accordingly," she said.

Program goals are to increase the availability of horticultural information for the community at large and to improve the quality of life for the residents of each county in Florida through horticulture

volunteer activities. Each county Extension office in the state determines the focus and structure of the program locally. The volunteers undertake a variety of outreach tasks as determined by the county coordinator. Here in Hillsborough County, those tasks include answering horticultural questions over the phone and in person at the Extension office. They also participate in educational outreach activities. This may include research assistance, providing gardening presentations and helping to spread information via emerging techniques such as the use of new media.

"While our Master Gardener volunteers share a common love for horticulture, we appreciate and try to utilize the other talents they bring to the program such as subject area expertise, management expertise and outreach skills like writing, public speaking and dealing with the media," said Pinson.

If you have an interest in becoming a certified Florida Master Gardener, you are required to attend the prescribed hours of instruction and pass an exam. In Hillsborough County, the course is 10 weeks, typically one five-hour day each week of the course. While specific dates have yet to be determined, this year's schedule will be late summer through early fall.

The cost for the course, which primarily covers the expense for materials, including three substantial handbooks, is \$175. Upon successful completion of the course and examination, you receive a one-year

certificate. After the initial year of certification, new Master Gardeners are required to volunteer for 75 hours during the year and undertake 10 hours of continuing education. In subsequent years the annual service requirement is 35 hours and the 10 hour continuing education requirement continues unchanged.

"We currently have just over 120 active Master Gardeners ranging in each from the 30's to 80's and many of our volunteers serve well above the required 35 hours," said Pinson. "We also have a group of emeritus Master Gardeners who continue to participate in our program."

The county's Master Gardeners have a core group that coordinate library programs and oversee the Speakers Bureau program. "Many also co-teach," said Pinson. "We are really talking about an extension of Extension through the activities of our Master Gardeners both at our offices and throughout community outreach." •

For additional information and an application to participate in the Florida Master Gardener Program in Hillsborough County, visit:  
<http://hillsborough.ifas.ufl.edu>  
or call Nicole Pinson, (813) 744-5519,  
or by email at  
[pinsonn@hillsboroughcounty.org](mailto:pinsonn@hillsboroughcounty.org)

Please keep in mind that Extension is accepting applications for the 2013 Master Gardener class. The 2012 class is closed.

[WWW.INTHEFIELDMAGAZINE.COM](http://WWW.INTHEFIELDMAGAZINE.COM)





GREENFEST 2012 – PLANT PARK  
MASTER GARDENER DISPLAY CHECKLIST  
as of Feb 26, 2012

1 Tent for Master Gardener Booth

(Speaker Tent, 6 Tables, 55 Chairs & Speaker system ordered & being provided thru GreenFest logistics)

Hammer

Extension cords

Reference books:   Lawn Handbook, set of MG books,  
                              Florida Landscape Plants,  
                              The Edible Landscape,  
                              Southern Living Problem Solver  
                              Jr. Master Gardener Book

Any brochures regarding Jr. Master Gardener program

6-8 UF/IFAS tablecloths

4 plastic tablecloths (clear or blue) for Speaker Tent tables

Folding "We Can Help" display board

"We Can Help" brochures

Backyard Habitat flyer

MG recruitment flyers

FYN flyers and bookmarks

Community Association Outreach Program flyers

Workshop flyer for Compost Happens, Water-Wise, Rain Barrel, Landscape Design and BYH

Trash to Treasure brochure

Bette Walker Discovery Garden postcards

**\*\* Please add any other flyer material you think appropriate\*\***

Bean bag weights for flyers

Writing tablets for follow-up calls, & to keep count of # of people who visit the MG booth, etc.

Pens

Extra velcro in "We Can Help" display box

Plastic garbage bags for rain protection for flyers, etc.

Plastic tubs with covers for paper materials

1 Water-Wise fishing tackle box with goodies included

Bug repellent

(1) PVC Flip Chart Stand to hold

GreenFest 2012 Speaker Schedule Posters one for Saturday and one for Sunday's  
Speakers Schedule (2 Laminated with Rings posters).

(2) Flip Chart Stands (metal) that will be shared and used for the following:

Compost Happens presentation flip chart



Water-Wise presentation flip chart

Heather Diaz's presentation flip charts "Ornamental & Culinary Herbs"

Al Latina presentation flip charts "Fun With Orchids"

Phil Channel for presentation flip charts "Vegetable Gardening"

??Phil do you have and will you bring this presentation flip chart??

\*\* Please add if I missed anyone that has and needs Flip Chart Stand \*\*

Compost Bin & thermometer

"Baby" manatee rain barrel

(Check with Lynn B Demonstration rain barrel(s) Information for compost bin and speakers schedule)

Gardening Questions Answered Here banner

Bungi cords

Sign-up sheet for Master Gardener Program

Hillsborough County Extension Horticulture E-Mail Address Sign-up sheets

MG business cards

Hort notepads

Plastic publication holders

Micro-irrigation kit

500 Speaker Evaluation Forms with pens/pencils

Speaker Tent Sign-in Sheets for 500 attendees

Any folding carts to haul items dropped off and for pick up for speakers

Small compact display of mulch types / mulch samples

Doz. Clip boards

Blank stick-on Name tags for people who forget their name tags

Easel & White Erase Board with pens and eraser

Raffle tickets for speaker give-aways

Speaker requested handouts and equipment (more TBD)

Al Latina's handout for my "Fun With Orchids" 50 copies

Heather Diaz's handout for "Ornamental & Culinary Herbs" 50 copies of "Herbs in the Florida Garden" # CIR570

Phil Channel needs bookmarks with the IFAS web sites printed on them. 50 copies of the vegetable gardening publications

Mary Keith - "I'll talk to Lynn and see if she can take handouts, etc. I will be bringing the canners and demo items that I need with me when I come, I won't burden her with those."

\*\* Please add if I missed anyone's handout requirements \*\*

**Heather & Toni to bring:**

Towels  
Paper towels  
Napkins  
Kleenex  
Hand wipes  
Hand sanitizer  
Cooler/Ice with Drinks/water/sodas  
Ziplock bags mints/munchies  
MG Volunteer List w/Contact Info (Volunteers to wear MG Name Tags & Shirts)  
Cart/dolly  
Stones to hold down brochures  
Bug repellent  
Sun screen  
Big bags  
Old grocery bags  
Tools (screw drivers, adjustable wrench, etc....)  
Basket for raffle tickets



## **Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program**

Attract birds, butterflies and other Florida critters to your yard. Develop your landscape into a wildlife habitat.

## **Speakers Bureau**

Need a speaker? Presentations are available on a wide variety of topics.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Become a Master Gardener or lead a Junior Master Gardener group. Learn, have fun, and help your community.



University of Florida Extension  
Gardening Information on the Web:  
<http://hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu>  
<http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu>

## **On the Internet**

Our web sites are loaded with useful information: a gardening calendar, workshop and plant clinic dates and locations, questions and answers, and more.

<http://hillsborough.extension.ufl.edu>  
<http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu>

## **Hillsborough Extension Service**

5339 County Road 579  
Seffner, FL 33584-3334  
Phone: 813-744-5519 x7  
Fax: 813-744-5776



The printing of this brochure was made possible by the Hillsborough County Master Gardener volunteer program.

**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
**FLORIDA**  
IFAS Extension

Hillsborough Extension Service

# **We Can Help!**

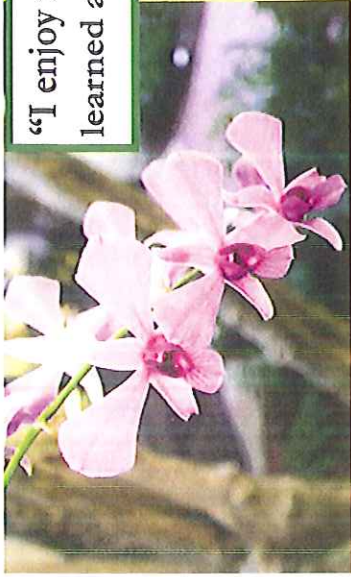
Resources for Gardening  
and Landscaping in  
Hillsborough County



**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
**FLORIDA**  
IFAS Extension

Hillsborough Extension Service





**"I enjoy my yard so much more since I've used what I learned at the Extension Service." ~ Tom Dixon, Homeowner**

*We can help you with your lawn, landscape and gardening problems and questions.*

Florida is a gardener's paradise, and we want you to enjoy and benefit from every moment you spend in your yard. Good gardening practices keep your yard beautiful and healthy... *and* they protect Florida's natural resources.

### **Phone Support**

Have a question? Call 744-5519 x7.

### **FREE Publications**

Obtain free University of Florida fact sheets on hundreds of horticultural topics. Get the facts you need to know about plant selection, lawn and garden care, and pest management.

### **Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program**

Learn how to design and maintain your lawn and landscape in a Florida-friendly way. Resources available for homeowners, community associations, property managers, and builders and developers.

### **Soil Testing**

For a nominal fee we check your soil pH and provide recommendations. Call 744-5519 x6 for instructions on taking and submitting a soil sample.



**"Being a Master Gardener is an opportunity to share my knowledge while continuing to learn." ~ Lynn Barber, Master Gardener**



### **Demonstration Gardens**

View the perennial/butterfly garden, native plantings, compost/mulch demonstration areas, and the Bette S. Walker Discovery Garden. The Discovery Garden serves as a "living lab" to illustrate the concepts of Florida-friendly landscaping.

### **Plant Clinics**

Master Gardener volunteers offer monthly presentations at public libraries throughout the county.

### **Gardening Workshops & Conferences**

Hear the latest information and develop new skills. Topics include Rain Barrels, Water-Wise, Composting, 9 Steps to a Florida-Friendly Yard, and more!