



TOMATOES



COULD YOU BE A MASTER GARDENER?

- Do you like to learn about plants, growing things, and gardening?
- Are you willing to participate in an intensive training program?
- Do you like working with people, sharing your knowledge, and offering help?
- Do you have time to train and volunteer in your community?



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UF/IFAS EXTENSION

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UF/IFAS EXTENSION

FLORIDA

MASTER

GARDENER





WHO ARE THE MASTER GARDENERS?

Master Gardeners are volunteer educators of the horticultural arts and sciences. With training from UF/IFAS Extension, Master Gardeners are active in their communities, offering leadership and guidance in gardening projects of all types and sizes.

The Florida Master Gardener Program has been around since 1979, and each year, approximately 4,700 Master Gardeners contribute a total of 420,000 hours of service, helping to make their communities better informed, more sustainable, and more beautiful.

WHAT DO MASTER GARDENERS LEARN?

If you're accepted into the Master Gardener training program, you'll receive 50 hours or more of practical horticultural training on topics such as:

- Botany
- Plant pathology & integrated pest management
- Soil management & plant nutrition
- Growing garden vegetables, fruit crops, trees, & turf
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping™
- Working with the public

WHAT DO MASTER GARDENERS DO?

Once you've successfully completed training you're required to volunteer a minimum of 75 hours the first year to achieve Master Gardener certification. Master Gardeners work closely with the public, answering questions and providing guidance over the phone or in person, participating in community and school garden projects, writing newsletter columns, recognizing Florida-Friendly™ yards, and many other activities.

Many Master Gardeners far exceed the required service hours, and continue in the program well beyond the first year because of their passion for gardening and willingness to help others in their community. UF/IFAS Extension provides advanced training to keep Masters Gardeners up to date on the latest horticultural information.

WHERE DO YOU START?

The desire to help others is the first and absolute requirement. A personal commitment to complete the training and to serve the required volunteer service hours is equally important.

Enrollment is limited and selection can be highly competitive, so call or E-mail today and learn how you can become a Florida Master Gardener!

To learn more about becoming a Master Gardener, contact your local county UF/IFAS Extension office.