



Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM APPLICATION
Class of 2018

I wish to become a Rutgers Master Gardener and would like to be considered for the training class (mid-September of 2017 to late March 2018). Upon successful completion of Master Gardener class training, I agree to perform at least 100 hours of volunteer service within 18 months of graduation in support of Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County. I will volunteer a minimum of 50 hours on the Rutgers Master Gardener Helpline in Somerset County, the remaining 40 hours in specified Master Gardener activities (see current Position Description), and 10 hours continuing education. If I am not a resident of Somerset County, I will volunteer the hours described in Somerset County. I understand there is a fee of \$250.00 to cover course materials and speaker fees. These fees are payable upon admission to the class after the interview process.

Do not send your check with this application. Application deadline post mark or office delivery is June 2, 2017.

Signature:

Date of Application:

Name:

Address:

City:

Zip Code:

County:

Phone (H):

Phone (C):

Email:

Please complete the following:

1. Rate your gardening expertise: Beginner Intermediate Advanced Expert

2. Briefly list your experience and/or training in gardening/horticulture:

3. List areas of Gardening specialization (such as vegetables, lawns, perennials, etc.)

4. Why do you wish to become a Rutgers Master Gardener Volunteer?

5a. Please check the one area of specialization you wish to dedicate a minimum of 20 hours of the 100 hour for initial certification.

Community Gardens:

Youth programs such as school gardens:

Garden Helpline:

Community events:

Sustainable Landscapes:

Gardening with special needs populations:

5b. In addition to the program areas above, what types of volunteer projects would you like to get involved with as a Rutgers Master Gardener volunteer?

6. Do you belong to a garden club or plant society? If so, which one(s)?

7. Please list past volunteer work experiences, community, or civic activities and positions held.

8. List three references from past or current employment and/or volunteer activities. Please DO NOT list family members, relatives, or email contacts as references. Please provide complete information for names, addresses, and phone numbers.

Name	Mailing Address	Phone number
1.		
2.		
3.		

9. Do you have skills in non-horticulture areas such as writing, computers, graphics, art, or photography that might be relevant to Master Gardener activities?

10. Do you anticipate any circumstances that would keep you from attending class, fulfilling the minimum volunteer commitments within 18 months of graduation, or participating in other volunteer activities?

Yes:

No:

Please return this application to:

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Somerset County  
c/o Joe Gyurian, Horticulture Consultant  
310 Milltown Road  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-3587



**RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
N.J. AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY  
NEW BRUNSWICK**

Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding special needs or accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination, 848-932-5000, ext. 584.

*Cooperating Agencies:* Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

**RCE MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT**

Name (please print):

Position: Master Gardener Volunteer:

Intern

Certified

Educator



We appreciate your you commitment to the RCE Master Gardener program. Your satisfaction and progress in this volunteer position is important to us. Please read the following expectations and indicate your willingness to cooperate by signing the end of this form. This form must be signed and filed with the county Rutgers Cooperative Extension office, and may need updating as volunteer activity changes. Volunteers not adhering to all items in this agreement may forfeit their certification as a Master Gardener Volunteer.

**The RCE Master Gardener Program agrees to provide:**

- Philosophy and direction for the Master Gardener volunteer
- Information on state and federal policies that govern RCE and volunteers
- Opportunities for volunteers from all backgrounds
- Assistance, support, encouragement, and motivation
- Educational materials and ongoing training opportunities
- Information regarding coming events and programs
- Recognition for time and effort devoted to volunteer efforts
- Support for all Master Gardener volunteers using due diligence when dealing with the general public's inquiries

**As a RCE Master Gardener, I agree to:**

- Maintain my certification by following and fulfilling all annual requirements
- Support and promote RCE and the RCE Master Gardener Program
- Carry out all duties in a responsible and timely manner
- Work cooperatively with RCE faculty, staff, and other volunteers
- Provide quality service to the public
- Conduct myself in a courteous and respectful manner
- Serve as a positive RCE role model
- Welcome Volunteers from all backgrounds

***I understand that this agreement will be in effect until it is either rescinded by RCE or I withdraw from active volunteerism within the RCE Master Gardener program of my county, or my RCE Master Gardener Certification lapses.***

County Agent

Date

RCE Master Gardener

Date

**Media Release:**

***I also acknowledge that the above-named organization has my permission to distribute my quotes, photographs, and/or videotape clips as part of its educational and promotional programming efforts. I further acknowledge that my authorization and permission is voluntary and I will not be paid any royalties, fees, or other form of remuneration.***

RCE Master Gardener

Date