

## Michigan Master Gardener Volunteer Program

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The Michigan Master Gardener program is a horticulture education and volunteer leader training program offered by Michigan State University Extension. It provides home gardening information to Michigan citizens through a network of trained volunteers. An interest in plants, a personal commitment to volunteerism and an enthusiasm for sharing knowledge with others are the only prerequisites.

### HISTORY

The Master Gardener program originated in Washington State in 1972. It has grown to over 600 programs in at least 46 states and Canada. MSU Extension created and held its first Master Gardener Volunteer program in 1978. Today, more than 23,000 residents from more than 72 Michigan counties have earned and enjoy the "Master Gardener Volunteer" designation.

### MISSION

The Master Gardener Volunteer program serves two major and equal functions:

- To provide instruction in basic horticulture science to motivated and active gardeners through an adult educational program offered through MSU Extension.
- To provide MSU Extension with trained volunteers committed to educating others in the community through horticulture-related activities.



## Clare County Master Gardener Volunteer Program

2007



*Providing Basic Horticulture  
Education to Motivated  
Gardeners*

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

MSU Extension-Clare County  
Attn: Marybeth Denton, Coordinator  
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*Michigan State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties cooperating.*

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# Clare County Master Gardener Volunteer Program

## Class Schedule

Mid Michigan Community College, Room 166  
1375 South Clare Avenue  
Harrison, MI 48625

January 22, 2007 through April 23, 2007  
Monday Evenings, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**Directions:** Take US 27 expressway to the Mannsiding Rd exit (south of Harrison). Proceed east on Mannsiding Rd to Clare Avenue. Turn left on Clare Avenue to travel north 1 mile to the MMCC entrance. MMCC is located on the east side of Clare Avenue.

## Topics covered in class sessions:

Introduction & Volunteerism (approx. 1 hour)

Plant Science

Soils for Plant Growth

Flower Gardening

Woody Ornamentals

Turf / Lawn Care

Vegetable Culture

Small Fruit Culture

Tree Fruit Culture

Integrated Pest Management

Indoor Plants

Household Pests & Diagnostic Training

Gypsy Moth Education & Wildlife Management

Composting & Herb Gardening

## Educational Requirement

The educational component of the Master Gardener Volunteer program provides an overview of major horticulture subjects in a classroom setting. Master Gardener Volunteer trainees attend a series of classes, covering a minimum of 12 topics and work from an 800-page manual.

## Volunteer Commitment

The volunteer component of the Master Gardener Volunteer Program takes the Master Gardener trainee out into the community to educate others through a variety of horticulture-related activities. These activities may range from designing an elementary school garden with children, to creating a horticulture therapy program at a senior center, or helping a neighborhood beautification team with site and plan selection.

Upon completion of the educational component and 40 hours of volunteer service, the Master Gardener trainee will receive his or her Master Gardener certification.

## Possible Opportunities for Community Involvement:

- Clare Welcome Center
- Clare County Fair
- Gateway Farmer's Market
- Horticulture Management Hotline
- Lincoln Township Hall
- Northern Gateway Master Gardener Association
- Roadside Park
- Shamrock Park



## The Michigan Master Gardener Program Application

January 22, 2007 through April 23, 2007

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration:

Please register As Soon As Possible to ensure that you will receive your manual on the first class.

**Course Fee:** \$210.00/person  
\$385.00/couple desiring 1 book

Course fees can be paid in full or with the following payment arrangements:  
Minimum Deposit: \$60.00/person  
Balance paid \$25.00/week for first six weeks of class.

Please return application to and make checks payable to: **MSU Extension-Clare County**

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I understand that 40 hours of horticulture-related volunteer service is necessary to receive Master Gardener certification.

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