

Master Gardener Training Information 2011

The Mason County WSU Master Gardener volunteer training will be held this year from September 16, 2011 - December 16, 2011, every other Saturday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Three classes will be held in Belfair at the Salmon Center, with the rest being held in Shelton or at local points of interest. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to be trained and who have a sincere interest in helping WSU Extension provide unbiased gardening information to the public. Applications are available at the Extension office. Contact R. Jeanne Rehwaldt, Program Coordinator at 427-9670 X688 or email at rehwaldt@wsu.edu.

If you value scientific research, personal experience, and diverse opinions, and know when to use the appropriate recommendations for each particular situation this program is for you! We are looking for people who are open minded, flexible, conscientious, and who have good people skills in one-on-one interactions or group settings. The primary focus of volunteer activities after completion of training is education: giving presentations and demonstrations, teaching classes for youth and adults, offering advice on plant and insect questions, and working in the Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens at the Food Bank Community Garden at Catalyst Park in Shelton and Belfair's Theler Center. There will be a \$175 registration fee, plus 60 volunteer hours that must be met the year following training.

It is highly recommended that you have access to the internet, as the core curriculum is delivered via on line modules through Washington State University. If you are not comfortable with navigating the internet, we can pair you with another classmate and you can view and complete the modules together. If you do not have access to high speed internet, we have computers at the Extension office and at the Conservation District. The library also has high speed internet computers that you can use. Don't despair; we will also have live speakers in class, field trips, and lots of hands on learning experiences.

Sample Training Schedule

September 16	Shelton	Orientation On line training Tour of Gardens
September 30	Hope Island	Fruit Tree Pruning
October 14	The Salmon Center Belfair	Propagation Tour of Theler and Salmon Center
October 28	Shelton	Diagnosing Plant Problems Native Plants
November 11	The Salmon Center Belfair	Weeds
November 18	Shelton	Pesticides Water Quality Field trip to Kennedy Creek
December 2	The Salmon Center Belfair	Composting
December 16	Shelton	Class presentations Graduation

Cooperating agencies: Washington State University, US Department of Agriculture and Mason County. Extension Programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension Office.