



P.O. Box 8181  
306-E Revere Road  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
919-245-2062

To: Individuals interested in the Master Gardener Volunteer Program

Subject: Application Letter; Master Gardener Volunteer Intern Training Program

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in the NC State Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program in Orange County. This volunteer program represents an outstanding opportunity to learn new horticultural skills and at the same time make a significant contribution to your community. We have a very active program with a wide variety of designated volunteer opportunities. Our mission is "Help Gardeners put Knowledge to Work".

We offer the Master Gardener Volunteer training every other year. In Orange County, instruction begins in the first week of September after Labor Day and proceeds through December. The next class will start in the fall on September 5, 2018. An application is enclosed. I encourage you to complete the application and submit it now. Your application will be kept on file; we will keep you informed about interview dates. The interview is a part of the application process and is a good opportunity to discuss the designated volunteer opportunities and answer any questions you may have about the program.

The MGV training will be held at NC State Extension Orange County Center, Hillsborough, North Carolina. Classes meet Wednesday mornings from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Extension Specialists, County Agents and Master Gardener Volunteers will teach classes. It is important that you understand that this is a comprehensive course, all classes need to be attended. You will be required to volunteer for a minimum of 40 hours the year following course completion supporting designated Extension sponsored Master Gardener Volunteer activities to become a Certified Master Gardener Volunteer. Going forward, you will be expected to volunteer a minimum of 40 hours each year to maintain your Certified Master Gardener Volunteer status. If accepted into the program, there will be a \$125.00 fee to cover texts and refreshments. If this fee presents a financial burden, scholarships are available. Once certified, you will be expected to attend a minimum of four out of nine MGV membership meetings, generally held on the fourth Thursday of the month (except for June, September and December).

If you are interested in gardening and/or classes but choose not to become a Master Gardener Volunteer, I suggest you consider classes offered through the Orange County and the Chapel Hill Parks Departments, the North Carolina Botanical Garden, Duke Gardens, Durham Technical Community College or Alamance Community College or join one of our local garden clubs.

Please call me at (919) 245-2062 or email [mart\\_bumgarner@ncsu.edu](mailto:mart_bumgarner@ncsu.edu) if you have any questions about the program. Please call the Master Gardener Volunteer information line to discuss any home landscape questions you might have or to talk directly with a Master Gardener Volunteer. We can be reached most mornings from 10 am–12 pm at (919) 245-2061.

Thanks again for your interest and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mart Bumgarner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mart Bumgarner  
Crops and Horticulture Agent and Pesticide Coordinator  
(919)245-2062  
mart\_bumgarner@ncsu.edu