



## **Informational Meeting**

### **UC Master Gardener Class of 2024**

Our Mission Statement: *“To extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscape practices to the residents of California and be guided by our core values and strategic initiatives.”*

#### **Application and Interview Process**

- Applications are available on our website and can be completed and submitted online: <http://ucanr.edu/sites/mgslo/>
- Paper applications <https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgslo/files/385599.pdf> can be printed, completed, signed, and mailed to 2156 Sierra Way, Suite C, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, attention Master Gardener Program.
- Applications are due September 30, 2023, by 5:00 pm.
- Interview invitations will be sent out in early October. Interviews will be scheduled for late October.
- Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by early November.

#### **Requirements for New Class Members**

- Fingerprints and a Department of Justice background check are required after acceptance and must be completed before December 15, 2023. This is at your own expense. The Live Scan form and county location options will be provided.
- Only two class absences are allowed.
- An open-book final exam must be passed with a score of 70% or better.
- During the first year after graduation (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) new Master Gardeners must complete 50 hours of volunteer time.
- To maintain active status after the first year, Master Gardeners must complete a minimum of 25 volunteer hours and 12 continuing education hours annually.
- Master Gardeners must post all their volunteer and continuing education hours to the online Statewide Master Gardener Volunteer Management System.

#### **Classes**

**The Orientation class** for new class members *is required* and will be Tuesday, November 14, 2023, from 1:00-4:00 pm. This class will include introductions to classmates and to the UC Master Gardener program and policies. Books and supplies will be distributed. New class member photographs will be taken.

**Classes** will be held on Tuesdays from January 9 - May 28, 2024 from 12:30-4:00 in the Cooperative Extension Auditorium at 2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo.

**Class topics** include Introduction to Horticulture, Soils and Fertilizer Management, Composting, Plant Pathology, Plant Propagation, Apple Grafting, Fruit Trees, Water Management and Irrigation, Vegetable Gardening, Weeds, Integrated Pest Management, Entomology, Diagnosing Plant Problems, Landscape Trees and Woody Landscape Plants, Vertebrate Pest Management, and Sustainable Landscaping.

**Homework** will require approximately five hours each week, and will entail assigned reading and viewing of lectures and videos.

**Program cost** of \$200 may be paid online prior to November 14 (preferred) or at the Orientation meeting on November 14 (cash or check made out to "UC Regents"). The cost covers books and supplies.

Fee waivers are available: <https://ucanr.edu/sites/mgslo/files/385191.pdf>. For more information, contact Maria Murrietta, Program Coordinator, at [mmurrietta@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:mmurrietta@co.slo.ca.us).

## **Contact Us**

Call or email us with questions: (805)781-5939, [anrmgslo@ucanr.edu](mailto:anrmgslo@ucanr.edu).