



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Hardin County Extension News Release

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Become an OSU Master Gardener Volunteer

Hardin County – Do you have an interest in gardening, want to improve your skills, and at the same time, enjoy sharing your knowledge with others? The Hardin County OSU Extension Master Gardeners in conjunction with Allen County OSU Extension Master Gardeners will begin a Master Gardener Volunteer training course for new Master Gardener Volunteers this fall.

The classes will begin September 23 and end November 20, with no class on Veterans Day. The classes will meet at OSU-Lima on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for three hours. The first class on September 23 will be an orientation to the Master Gardener Volunteer program and will take place in Hardin County for local residents. The cost for the course is \$150, which includes a Master Gardener Volunteer manual, course handouts, and class refreshments. The fee also covers expenses to bring in guest speakers who are experts in their fields. Prospective Master Gardener Volunteers will also need to get a background check at their own expense.

The Ohio State University Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program provides intensive training in horticulture to interested Ohio residents who then volunteer their time assisting with educational programs and activities for Ohio residents through their local Ohio State University Extension county office. Volunteers are not required to have gardening skills or knowledge; but a passion for learning about gardening and sharing this knowledge with others is a must!

Working with county Extension personnel and a local Volunteer Coordinator, Master Gardener Volunteers provide such educational services to their communities as: answering gardening questions from the public; conducting plant clinics; gardening activities with children, senior citizens, or disabled persons; beautifying the community; developing community or demonstration gardens; and other horticultural activities.

Look for the OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers display in the Arts and Crafts Building during the Hardin County Fair to find out more about becoming a Master Gardener Volunteer. For more information about the Hardin County OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers, visit their Facebook page. You can also call the Hardin County Extension office at (419) 674-2297 or email badertscher.4@osu.edu for more information and to obtain an enrollment form.