Guadalupe County Master Gardeners



2014 Class 26

Master Gardener Programs

Master Gardener Programs (also known as Extension Master Gardener Programs) are volunteer programs to advise and educate the public on gardening and horticulture.

In the US, groups are affiliated with a land grant university and one of its offices.





Master Gardener Programs

Master Gardeners are active in all 50 states in the United States and four Canadian provinces.

According to the 2009 Extension Master Gardener Survey, there are nearly 95,000 active Extension Master Gardeners, who provide approximately 5,000,000 volunteer service hours of per year to their communities.

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners About our Organization

- ❖503 C Non profit organization
 - Chartered under the Texas Master Gardeners through A&M university
- Guadalupe County Agrilife Extension Service
 - Coordinator: Travis Franke
- Elected Governing Board

What do we do?

- Educate the public through a wide variety of venues (workshops, newsletter, information booths at fairs, etc.)
- Provide resource information and answer questions
- Maintain office hours and a lending library
- Support the activities and mission of the Guadalupe County Agrilife Extension Service

Guadalupe County Fair

We are responsible for the Horticulture Division of the annual Guadalupe County Fair

- Educational materials and demonstrations
- Children's activities
- Judging and Awards for Garden and Field

Crops

We are one of the few remaining counties that still provide this opportunity for local gardeners and farmers



Located at 1101 Elbel, Schertz

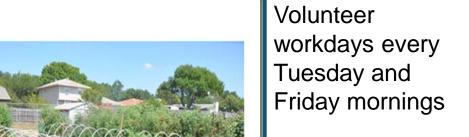
In 2013, we harvested 5,703 lbs of fresh produce

Produce supplied to Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program Food Bank

Immaculate Conception Catholic Food Bank in Marion



In 2013 1,648 volunteer hours





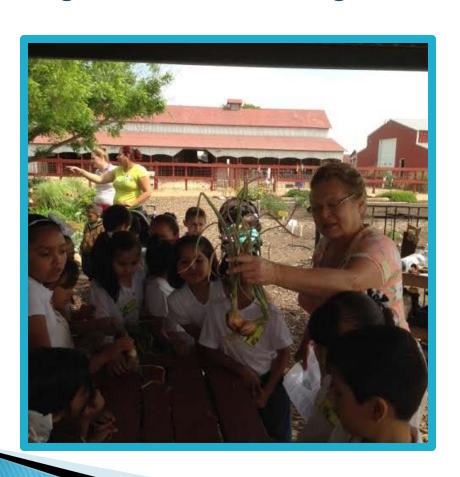
Water Fairs



In the Spring, the Guadalupe County
Agrilife Extension Agents conduct a Water Fair to 3rd grade students across the school districts in Guadalupe County

The Master Gardeners
help prepare and conduct
several presentations and
demonstrations for the
students and teachers
regarding water
conservation

Big Red Barn Agricultural Heritage Center



- ❖GCMG support the gardens at the Big Red Barn.
- Students come for educational programs
- Volunteer work days every Friday

Seguin Earth Day



GCMG support the efforts of the City of Seguin through participation in the Earth Day event.

This April we provided three booths

Children planted a flower in biodegradable pots

Information booth with materials and consultation with Master Gardeners

40 Gallon Challenge to education about household water use and conservation

Junior Master Gardeners





Requirements of the certified members:

Pay the annual dues of \$20

Conduct a minimum of 12 hours of volunteer work on approved projects annually

Attain a minimum of 6 hrs of continuing education annually

Obtain a criminal background check every 2 years (through the organization)

Sign a volunteer agreement with the state organization annually



How do I get Certified as a GCMG?

Attend classes through Guadalupe County Master Gardeners (minimum of 50 hrs)

2014 class will meet Wednesdays, August 13-

December 10

Time: 10-2:30

First Presbyterian Church 305 King Street, Seguin, Tx

Application Deadline is July 31, 2014



GCMG Class information

Cost: \$190 (10% discount if registered and paid by July 15, 2014)

Classes will be taught by professional practitioners, Agrilife Extension Agents and experienced Master Gardeners

Course content is comparable to college level classes



The Texas Master Gardener Handbook . . . is designed to be a problem-solving tool for Master Gardeners as they work to address public needs in the areas of horticulture and the environment.



How do I get Certified as a GCMG?

Complete an internship within 1 year of finishing your class

50 hrs of approved activities

Pay your annual dues when certified

How can you help?

❖ Volunteer

Become a certified Master Gardener

❖Make a donation, it is tax deductible



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