



Henderson County Master Gardeners Weekly News Article August 20, 2018

Master Gardener Class Starts Soon

By Lydia Holley

Applications are now being accepted for the next Henderson County Master Gardener class. The class starts Friday, September 7 at Trinity Valley Community College (TVCC), with registration ending this week. County Extension Agent Spencer Perkins will teach the class. Guest speakers, field trips and hands-on demonstrations will be a part of the curriculum.



If you are interested in becoming a Master Gardener in Henderson County, there are two steps to complete in order to be registered for the class: fill out an application at the Extension Office (903-675-6130) and register at TVCC (Continuing Education). The class will meet every Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. through December 7. The cost for the class and manual is approximately \$200.

After passing the class, interns must also pass a criminal background check and complete 50 volunteer hours their first year in order to gain certification as a Master Gardener. Hours are easy to acquire by volunteering at the numerous projects and programs of the Henderson County Master Gardener Association (HCMGA).

The Master Gardener program is designed to provide education to the public in horticulture. HCMGA does that through presentations by Master Gardeners, guest speakers and featured experts at the Library Series, Summer Series and Fall Conference. The public can walk through HCMGA's Dream Garden, an ornamental demonstration garden, located inside the East Texas Arboretum. HCMGA has a speaker's bureau, sends out an e-newsletter, and consults on teaching gardens. HCMGA also meets the public, passes out information, and provides answers to gardening questions from booths set up at numerous events.

HCMGA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and all Master Gardeners are volunteers. In order to retain certification, Master Gardeners must meet yearly continuing education and volunteer requirements.

If you have an interest in gardening, want to learn more, meet other gardeners, or share your knowledge, HCMGA hopes you will consider being a part of this fun, active group of gardeners.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email hendersonCMGA@gmail.com, or visit txmg.org/hendersonmg.