

About the Master Gardener Program

The Master Gardener Program, founded in 1972, now serves as volunteer arm of the University Extension programs in more than 40 states. Master Gardeners are required to pursue a year of intensive study of botany, entomology, plant diseases, landscaping and environmentally-sound methods of horticulture.





Following state certification, master gardeners perform community service. Programs include a helpline for gardeners, lectures for community groups, and advice and assistance to schools to bring an understanding of the interrelationships of nature to our lives. Monthly meetings and field trips provide the opportunity for advanced training in horticulture.



How do I become a Master Gardener?

Once you successfully complete the training program and pass the final exam, you will be awarded your diploma at a graduation ceremony. You will become a Certified Master Gardener once you fulfill your commitment by returning 100 approved volunteer hours to your community or the statewide association. The title Certified Master Gardener can only be used when you are engaging in activities that have been approved by Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension, or MGEC.

Other Facts:

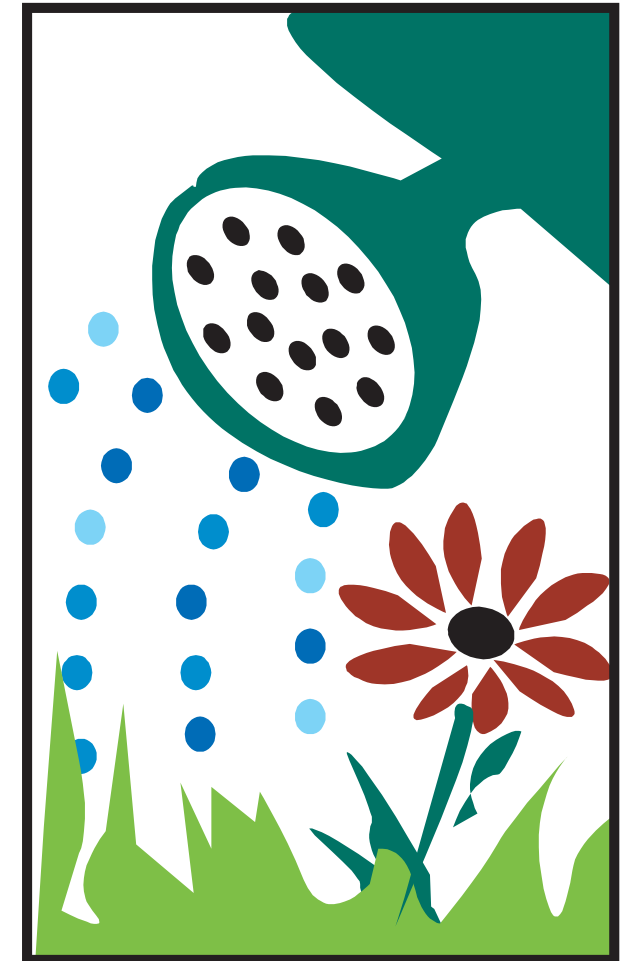
-  Monthly Newsletter "The Essex Gardener" and Meetings
-  Over 90,000 Volunteer hours since program inception
-  Annual Plant sales in 2 Locations (Montclair and Roseland)
-  Yahoo Group for MGEC

Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension of Essex County

N.J. Agricultural Experiment Station
Roseland, NJ
Rutgers, The State University of N.J.
New Brunswick, NJ

MGEC

Master Gardeners of Essex County



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973 228 2210
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A unique group of trained volunteers who provide horticultural programs and services to enhance their communities



Master Gardeners serve their Communities

Gardening Helpline

973 228 2210

Monday ~ Friday 10AM to 2PM

Let us help you solve your landscaping and indoor plant problems!

Growing a flower or vegetable garden

Selecting and caring for your landscape: trees, shrubs, flowers, and lawns

Recognizing problems: insects, disease or something else?

Where to go for soil, or other tests

Where to go for further research or advice

And much more!

Community Service and Programs

Restoration of The Glen at Glenfield Park

Rose Garden at Brookdale Park

GROW ~ Urban Community Gardens Outreach

Plant Classes

Gardening Demonstrations

Staff Booths at Public Events

Help Desk at Farmers Markets

Historical Restorations

Senior Horticultural Therapy Programs

Speakers Bureau

Topics:

Backyard Gardens in NJ

Small Space Gardening

Container Gardening

IPM (Integrated Pest Management)

Vegetable and Herb Gardening

Pruning

Composting

Education Outreach

Youth Organizations

Outreach to the Community

School Programs

Evening Adult School Programs

Greenhouse and Grounds

In Roseland, NJ, Master Gardeners maintain several facilities, including a greenhouse, display and herb gardens, as well as surrounding grounds.

Here you can ask questions and see us demonstrate such techniques as:

Composting

Propagation

Transplanting

Seed and Bare Root Planting

Garden Planning & Improvement