

Become a Wayne County Master Gardener Volunteer

Who are Extension Master Gardener Volunteers (EMGV)?

An Extension Master Gardener is a volunteer for NC Cooperative Extension. Volunteers are trained to assist their local county extension office to provide practical information to gardeners of all ages on home lawns, landscapes, and gardens.

Master Gardeners are ones who want to:

- Learn more about gardening
- Meet & connect with other gardeners
- Give back to others through volunteering



What do EMGVs do?

- Volunteer hours are spent towards Wayne County EMGV programs.
- Volunteer opportunities include:
 - Answering gardening questions in the office plant clinic (10am to 1pm, Mondays and Wednesdays)
 - Organizing and holding plant sales
 - Volunteering at Wayne Extension Demonstration Gardens and Wayne Regional Agricultural Fairground Gardens
 - Teaching a 4-H Summer Youth Gardening Camp
 - Organize mobile plant info clinics to share gardening information to general public
 - Attending monthly meetings (3rd Monday of each month at 1pm)

To Become an EMGV

Step 1: The Application Process

- Selection into the Wayne County EMGV program is through an application process based on:
 - Commitment to volunteering in sharing gardening knowledge through NC Cooperative Extension
 - Ability to volunteer on weekdays
 - Interest in learning more about gardening
 - A working e-mail address and basic internet skills
 - Pass a background check
 - **Prior gardening knowledge is NOT required**

To receive an application packet:

- Join our e-mail list at <https://wayne.ces.ncsu.edu/email-me> and select "Gardening".
- Announcements will be made through the gardening e-mail list of when applications are being accepted for an upcoming EMGV training course.

Step 2: The EMGV Training Course:

- Training course is held as additional volunteers are needed, usually annually or biennially.
- The course consist typically of approx. 20 classes that meet 3-hours weekly during the daytime.
- Students are not to miss more than two classes.
- Training classes prepare volunteers to answer gardening questions and diagnose common problems related to cultivating lawns, fruits and vegetables, and landscape plants.

Training Course Registration Cost:

- **Selected applicants are required to pay a registration cost of \$85 without a handbook or \$135 with a hard copy handbook.**
- Registration cost is non-refundable. Registration cost is not accepted until applicant is accepted into the training class.
- Extension publications and presentations provided for all students
- View the NC Extension Gardening Handbook online at: <https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/extension-gardener-handbook>



Step 3: Beyond the EMGV training course:

- After the training course, interns are required to volunteer 40 hours by the end of the year.
- After the internship, volunteers complete at least 20 volunteer hours and 10 educational hours each year to remain active.

NC Cooperative Extension – Wayne County Center
3114B Wayne Memorial Drive, Goldsboro, NC
919.731.1520

Jessica Strickland
Horticulture Extension Agent
jessica.strickland@waynegov.com

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