

RUTGERS MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: (H) _____ (CELL) _____

E-MAIL: _____

I wish to become an intern in the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Master Gardener training program and would like to be considered for the next class. I understand there is a cost to cover the course and administrative expenses.

I understand that to become a certified Rutgers Cooperative Extension Master Gardener, I am required to:

- Be over eighteen years (18) of age.
- Complete the course of study, including specialized training in:
 - (1) Phone Helpline
 - (2) Tick ID
 - (3) Plant Diagnostics

Classes start the third week of January thru and into the third week of April, every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at the RCE of Ocean County, plus educational field trips.

- 85% class attendance is required.
- Pass the final exam with a minimum score of 80%. Exam is take home and open book.
- Volunteer 60 hours to the Rutgers Master Gardener Program of Ocean County.
- 45 hours total in Helpline, Tick ID, and Community and Education Outreach.
- 15 hours in program areas of your choice
- You have until the second week of December to complete and record your volunteer hours.
- Yearly volunteer requirements are needed to maintain your certification. (The annual service hours requirements are 25 volunteer hours and minimum of 10 education hours.)
- Read the attached Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement and sign to adhere to the stipulations outlined.

*Be aware, as interns and Certified Master Gardeners, the bulk of opportunities for volunteering are during the business hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm Monday- Friday, except major holidays.

Please complete the following:

Emergency Contact Information

Emergency contact Name _____ Relationship _____

Emergency Phone number _____

Continued on next page

1. Reasons for becoming a Rutgers master Gardener Volunteer (Circle all that apply)

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| To help my community | To learn about horticulture |
| For something to do | To a better gardener |
| To meet new people | To make better choices for the environment. |
| Other: _____ | |

2. Areas in horticulture that interests you- (Circle all that apply)

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Native plants | Edibles- fruit, veggies and herbs |
| Wildlife | Indoor/ Tropical Plants |
| Trees/ Shrubs | Sustainable Gardening |
| Perennials/ Annuals | Community Gardens |

3. Level of gardening experience:

_____ Beginner _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced

4. Skills in non-horticultural areas (circle all that apply):

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Public relations | Writing | Carpentry |
| Public speaking | Computer skills | Photography |
| Working with youth | Graphic arts | Design |
| Other: _____ | | |

5. Have you ever participated in a volunteer program? YES NO

6. Do you belong to a garden club or environmental group? YES NO

The program fee of \$300.00 must be paid (cash or check) on or before December 15, 2019. You will be notified the week after December 15th if your application is accepted. If you are not accepted, program fee will be returned.

Payments can mailed (checks only) to or dropped off at our office located at 1623 Whitesville Rd, Toms River, NJ 08755. Make checks out to Ocean County Board of Agriculture (OCBA)

Thanks to the generosity of the 2018 Rutgers Master Gardener class, we are able to offer two scholarships of \$150.00 each to two applicants for the RMG program year of 2020. Requirements and applications for this scholarship can be downloaded from the Rutgers Master Gardener Program page on the RCE of Ocean County website, or by clicking on this link:

<http://ocean.njaes.rutgers.edu/garden/RutgersMasterGardenerProgram.htm>

Should you have any questions, please call the office- 732-505-4563.

I have read the Master Gardener volunteer requirements and agree to adhere to the stipulations outlined.

Applicant's Signature

Date