

## 2026 Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (daytime): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening): \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **MISSION**

The Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Association represents Kansas State University and the Lyon County Extension Council. Members will communicate research-based information to improve home and community environments and quality of life through horticultural activities.

### **PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES**

- Have a high school diploma or equivalent and possess a broad interest in horticulture.
- Support the objectives of the *Master Gardener Program* and the educational programs of the Lyon County Extension Council.
- Be able to read and comprehend an extensive notebook of support materials to be used for future reference.
- Complete the basic *Master Gardener Training Course* – 12 in-person or virtual training sessions on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. starting in September and ending in December. Exact dates to be announced.
- Complete additional hands-on training to be conducted in-person. Meeting day and times to be determined by trainees.
- Complete 40 hours of volunteer work with Advisory Board approved projects and 5 hours continuing education hours during the calendar year following training.
- Be willing to communicate research-based information from KSU, even if it includes the use of pesticides.
- Continuation of a *Master Gardener* in good standing requires attending Advanced Master Gardener (continuing education) training, attending EMG business meetings, participating in EMG public event, and completing 15 hours of EMG volunteer time plus 5 hours of continuing education hours annually.
- Submit payment of \$100.00 to cover class materials, Master Gardener t-shirt, name badge and other training expenses; due the first day of class.

**PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THE LYON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE NO LATER THAN August 7, 2026.**

How did you hear about the Extension Master Gardener program?

Are you acquainted with any active Lyon County Extension Master Gardeners?

Yes (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

No

**TIME AVAILABILITY**

Employed Full Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Homemaker: \_\_\_\_\_

Employed Part Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Retired: \_\_\_\_\_

Will your employment or other regular commitments allow you to be available to participate in the Basic *EMG Training* Course and in required volunteer hours?

Most *EMG* volunteer activities occur during the day with only a few weekend opportunities. Please describe your availability to volunteer in *EMG* activities within these time parameters.

How would you like to attend basic training?

In-Person

Virtual

**EXPERIENCE**

Please list any training, courses, or class experience you have had on gardening and/or environmental issues.

Check area(s) of specialization or experience:

Annuals

House Plants

Trees and Shrubs

Art or Drawing

Landscaping

Vegetables

Beekeeping

Lawn Care

Water Gardening

Composting

Native Plants

Writing

Computers

Ornamental Grasses

Other (please explain)

Floral Arranging

Perennials

Fruit

Photography

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List environmental or garden group affiliation(s).

Share other volunteer activities.

### **AREAS OF INTEREST**

Please indicate the level of your interest in participating in **each** of the *Extension Master Gardener* volunteer projects listed below by entering an A, B or C in the spaces provided. Some activities require physical work or interacting with the public, while others concentrate on planning and administrative tasks. All activities are vital to the success of the *Extension Master Gardener* organization in fulfilling its mission to the community.

**A= very interested    B= interested    C= least interested**

- \_\_\_ **School Programs:** Projects and events designed to increase awareness and active interest in gardening among young people.
- \_\_\_ **4-H Youth:** Working with 4-H members on horticulture project activities; helping with 4-H Horticulture Judging Team (training/conducting Aworkouts@ and coordinating trips to judging contests).
- \_\_\_ **Educational Booths/Exhibits:** Plan and staff educational booths at community events such as the Flint Hills Greener Living Show.
- \_\_\_ **Demonstration Gardens:** Extension Master Gardeners help to plant and maintain demonstration gardens at the Lyon County Fairgrounds, Lyon County Extension Office and the William Allen White house.
- \_\_\_ **Sick Plant Clinic:** Be available at publicized sessions where the public can bring horticultural problems for diagnosis and remedy.

### **AREAS OF GREATEST INTEREST**

You have indicated your general level of interest in all the *Extension Master Gardener* projects. Please select **three** from the previous list of activities that are the most appealing to you and explain why.

## **WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE AN EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER?**

Discuss your reasons for wanting to join the *Extension Master Gardener* program.

# **Extension Master Gardener Agreement**

I wish to become a K-State Extension - Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Trainee and would be available for the training sessions for the Class of 2026, which begins in September and meets every Thursday through December from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., either in person or virtually. Exact dates to be announced. Additional in-person hands-on training will be scheduled based on trainees' availability.

I understand that:

If I am accepted into the Extension Master Gardener training program, I am entering into a contract to return at least 40 hours of volunteer time and 5 hours of continuing education time in the first year and other commitments as described in the Participation Guidelines for the Extension Master Gardener Program.

Extension Master Gardeners operate under the guidance of trained Extension Professionals responsible for monitoring their performance and the progress of their continuing education.

Extension Master Gardeners are expected to provide gardening advice based on research-based information, and to provide educational program assistance in support of the general County Extension Educational Program.

To continue as an active Extension Master Gardener in good standing requires completion of both 5 hours of continuing education and a minimum of 15 hours of volunteer service annually on approved projects.

Extension Master Gardener volunteers may not participate in the Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Program for financial gain or for commercial credentials, recommendations, or endorsements. The title Master Gardener is a trademarked name and is not meant to be used in advertising for commercial businesses. The title Master Gardener should be used only by individuals trained in a Cooperative Extension Service Program. The title is valid only when used by an active Master Gardener who is participating in a program approved by an Extension Agent. When an individual ceases to be active in the Master Gardener Program, their designation as a Master Gardener ceases. Master Gardeners should not display credentials or give the appearance of being a Master Gardener at a place of business unless that place has been designated the site of a Master Gardener activity by the local Extension unit. The title Master Gardener should not be used in a manner which implies Cooperative Extension Service endorsement of any product or place of business. The title Master Gardener should be used only when doing unpaid volunteer works for Extension.

By signing below, I am agreeing to the Participation Guidelines and the Extension Master Gardener Agreement. I am also verifying all the information I provided in this application is current.

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Signature

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Date

Thank you for your interest in the Lyon County Extension Master Gardener Association and for taking the time to fill out this application. If you have any questions, please contact Travis Carmichael, Horticulture Extension Agent at (620) 341-3220.

This institution is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Program information may be available in languages other than English. Language access requests and reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, including alternative means of communication (e.g., Braille, large print, and American Sign Language), may be requested by contacting Travis Carmichael four weeks prior to the start of the event, August 7, 2026, at (620) 341-3220 or [trcarmic@ksu.edu](mailto:trcarmic@ksu.edu). Requests received after this date will be honored when it is feasible to do so. Language access services, such as interpretation or translation of vital information, will be provided free of charge to limited English proficient individuals upon request.

Kansas State University is an equal opportunity provider and employer.