The Fairfield County Master Gardener Program provides leadership to:

- Gardener’s Educational Day “Dig Into Gardening”
- Fairfield County Ag Center Gardens
- Fairfield County Fair
- Entrance Gardens
- Fairfield County Fair
- Master Gardener Educational Display
- Green Machine Gardeners
- Learning Gardens at the AHA Children Museum
- Sherman House Teaching Gardens
- Tranquility Gardens at the Fairfield Medical Center sponsored by Fairfield Medical Center Foundation
- Wagnalls Garden Renovation Project
- Wesley Ridge Retirement Center Gardens

The formal training program is the responsibility of the Fairfield County Extension professionals. Instructors are Ohio State University faculty, Extension Specialists, Extension Associates, experienced Master Gardeners, and other experts.

Statewide Mission Statement

We are Ohio State University Extension-trained volunteers empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information.

The Ohio State University
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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WHAT IS THE MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM?

The OSU Extension Master Gardener Program is a premier statewide network of volunteer education and leadership development; as well as a consumer horticulture education delivery system that maximizes human, material, and natural resources, and values teamwork and excellence in educational programming.

There are many exciting opportunities for continuing education and camaraderie and this has helped OSU Extension to develop a corps of dedicated volunteers. Volunteers are an important component of the OSU Extension system.

The Master Gardeners’ knowledge, experience and enthusiasm have become essential to Extension education of consumer horticulture in the state of Ohio.

TRAINING

The training program provides a balanced, integrated practical course in plant science. Core topics that are to be part of the training in every county are oriented to Extension and the Master Gardener Program:

- Basic Botany
- Soils
- Entomology
- Plant Pathology
- Plant Propagation
- Herbaceous Ornamentals
- Woody Ornamentals
- Lawns
- Vegetables
- Herbs
- Fruits
- Pollinators
- Integrated Pest Management
- Pesticide Safety
- Backyard Wildlife
- Houseplants
- Therapeutic Horticulture

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

The Master Gardener training course consists of a minimum of 50 hours of instruction. An equivalent number (50) of horticulturally significant volunteer hours is required to become a certified Master Gardener.

2019 TRAINING PROGRAM

A training program is being planned for Fairfield County to begin early 2019. Approximate cost of the class will be $130.00 which includes reference manual. Many of the classes will be held at the Fairfield County Agriculture Center located at 831 College Avenue, Lancaster. Classes are scheduled to begin March 21, 2019. For more information or details, please contact Connie Smith, Fairfield County Master Gardener Coordinator at 740-652-7267.

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