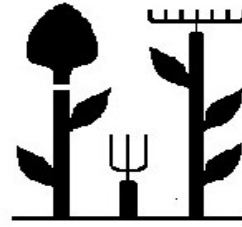


**MASTER GARDENER 2010 SCHOOL PROGRAM
COBB EXTENSION - COBB SCHOOL SYSTEM
MASTER GARDENERS VOLUNTEERS OF
COBB COUNTY**



I INTRODUCTION: What is a “Master Gardener?”

The Cobb Extension and Master Gardener Volunteers of Cobb County have partnered with Cobb County Water System and other educational organizations to help schools grow environmental youth leaders, sustainable gardening practices and interdisciplinary, hands-on curriculum. The School and Master Gardener Program of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service provides community-minded gardeners and teachers with practical horticultural training that can be taken back and shared in their schools and communities. This training is an **introductory** course in horticulture and school related topics. Completion of 50 hours of school service earns each volunteer the designation of Master Gardener.

II SCHOOL AND PARTICIPANT BENEFITS

Knowledge: The traditional Master Gardener Program training has been adapted to provide participants with the background and knowledge needed to implement successful, student-centered gardens and landscapes at their school. Gardening will expand classroom lessons on the sciences, literature, math and history.

Materials: Teams will receive the Master Gardener textbook, and an assortment of materials for the school garden.

Staff Development Credit: The ten day training (June 14 – 25) is approved for 5 PLU credits.

III TEAM COMMITMENT

Classes: Participants are required to attend all classes of the training to receive certification and qualify for PLU credit.

Volunteer Component: Participants must contribute 50 hours of volunteer service at their school and develop an educational garden (design training and some plant materials will be provided).

IV SCHOOL TEAM PROPOSAL

Team proposal must demonstrate:

- Student, teacher, parent, administrator and school involvement.
- Project-related activities that involve gardening, landscaping and/or horticulture that are

- student-centered and school oriented.
- Enhancements to school grounds and go beyond aesthetics to provide substantial educational and environmental benefits.
- Interdisciplinary focus.

Team applicants need to adhere to the following:

- Only ONE team per school may apply.
- Teams must consist of 3 – 5 school representatives (teachers, administrators, custodians, faculty, parents and community volunteers) that include at least **two teachers**.
- Letters of support from both the school principal and PTSO must be submitted with the application. The application is included with this material.
- A check for \$75.00 per person **MUST** be attached to the application. Checks should be made payable to Cobb County 4-H. The application is due by Friday, April 16. Mail to:

Cobb County Extension
678 South Cobb Drive, Suite 200
Marietta, GA 30060

Attn: Carolyn Gentry

V APPLICATION REVIEW AND NOTIFICATION

A panel will review the applications and select the school teams. Acceptance letters will be mailed in mid-May.

VI REPORTING

Teams will be required to submit a final report to the Cobb County Extension describing their school volunteer project, plans for use and sustainability. It will also require documentation from each team member of at least 50 hours (outside of the classroom) school volunteer service for Master Gardener certification. In addition, teams **should supplement** the written summary with **photographs, published articles, conference presentations, or other relevant materials.**

VII QUESTIONS

Please direct all questions concerning the program and/or application to:

Carolyn Gentry 770 528-4070 or
Carolyn. Gentry@CobbCounty.org

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