

## **“Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” Training Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services**

### **Advanced Training Program Purpose and information:**

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” program is designed to provide advanced training and resources whereby Master Gardeners can obtain specialization in areas that support or expand designated educational programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.

To become a certified “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables”, Master Gardeners are required to attend the “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” training and subsequently meet service requirements described below. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within her/his local county programs.

“Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” training will be comprised of high-quality training combined with hands-on experience including how to grow vegetables such as tomatoes, peppers, asparagus, kale, onions, squash and broccoli. This training will also cover site selection; soil testing; weed management; and provide instruction on planting seeds, using fertilizers and pesticides and much more.

### **Participation requirements:**

To be eligible for the “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” training, an individual must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener certification, or be an employee of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services. Master Gardener applicants must be approved by their local County Extension Agent.

### **Position Description and Service Requirements:**

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” is charged to increase awareness, provide training in Vegetables and facilitate implementation of growing vegetables on a home/neighborhood/community level. Training activities during the course will empower the Master Gardener to complete these service requirements.

Service requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Attending the “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” training
- Volunteering 20 hours above and beyond the county’s current volunteer obligation within one year of the advanced training.
- Serving as a local “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” resource in the Extension program for a minimum of one year
- Assisting in educating Master Gardeners, interns, and the public about vegetables
- Increasing client awareness of vegetables through presentations, training, and mass media efforts (i.e. radio, newspaper, social media, television, and newsletters)
- Submitting a completed “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” Training Volunteer Report Form as directed
- Optional: Submitting TMGA reimbursement paperwork

### **Advanced Training recognition and certification:**

Upon completion of the “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” training and service requirements, the Master Gardener will be awarded an “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables” certificate and lapel pin.

**Resources Available to the “Advanced Master Gardener – Vegetables”:**

- Advanced training on vegetables and networking with presenters
- Educational materials on vegetables
- Direct access to Texas A&M AgriLife County Extension Agent – Horticulture