



Advanced Training Program Purpose and information:

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass” 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.

To become a certified “Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass”, Master Gardeners are required to attend the “Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass” 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 – Turfgrass” training will be comprised of high-quality training combined with hands-on experience including turfgrass physiology; nutrient rate and application; cultivar selections; and weed, disease, insect ID and control.

Participation requirements:

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

Position Description and Service Requirements:

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass” is charged to increase awareness, provide training in turfgrass and facilitate implementation of proper turfgrass practices 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 – Turfgrass” 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 – Turfgrass” resource in the Extension program for a minimum of one year
- Assisting in educating Master Gardeners, interns, and the public in turfgrass
- Increasing client awareness of turfgrass through presentations, training, and mass media efforts (i.e. radio, newspaper, social media, television, and newsletters)
- Submitting a completed “Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass” Training Volunteer Report Form as directed for certification
- Optional: submitting TMGA reimbursement paperwork

Advanced Training recognition and certification:

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

Resources available to the Master Gardener Advanced Training: Turfgrass:

- Advanced training on turfgrass and networking with presenters
- Educational materials on turfgrass
- Direct access to the Texas A&M Extension Services Program Advanced Training

TENTATIVE

Advanced Master Gardener –Turfgrass Training

Thursday, May 23

Day 1 – Turfgrass Selection & General Management

8:00 – 8:30: Check-In + Breakfast

8:30 – 10:00 - Turfgrass Selection (Grubbs/Potter)

An overview of the 14 primary turfgrass species found in the state of Texas with their respective attributes and appropriate regions for growth. This will include 30 minutes outdoors in the demonstration area where attendees can see different turfgrass species in person.

10:00 – 10:15: Break 1

10:15 – 12:00: Turfgrass Planting & Establishment

Appropriate steps to properly plant and establish new turfgrass from seed, sod, and sprigs. This section will also include an overview of good site preparation and practice with soil sampling.

12:00 – 1:00: Lunch

1:00 – 2:30: Cultural Management

Foundations for good mowing, irrigation, and cultivation practices including a hands-on introduction to equipment commonly used for turfgrass management.

2:30 – 2:45: Break 2

2:45 – 4:30 Nutrient Management (Fertilization) – (Dr. Becky Grubbs)

Introduction to the 17 essential elements required for plant growth, and a summary of common nutrient challenges in turfgrass management. There will also be a hands-on activity where we look at various fertilizer products available to homeowners and their labels.

4:30 – 5:00 Final Questions and Review

5:00-6:30 Dinner

Friday, May 24

Day 2 – Pest ID and Management in Turfgrass Systems

8:00 – 8:30: Check-In + Breakfast

8:30 – 10:00 – Principles of IPM (Dr. Becky Grubbs)

An introduction to integrated pest management (IPM) and its five primary components: preventative, biological, cultural, mechanical and chemical control. Each component will be introduced within the context of turfgrass management. At the end, course participants will be presented with a series of questions to evaluate current management practices in a troublesome turfgrass area.

10:00 – 10:15: Break 1

10:15 – 12:00: Insect ID and Management (Dr. Mike Merchant)

Introduction to 8-10 key turfgrass insect pests including grubs, fall armyworms, and bermudagrass mites. There will be discussion of symptomology and appropriate cultural and chemical control practices to both prevent and treat for each pest.

12:00 – 1:00: Lunch

1:00 – 2:30: Turfgrass Disease ID and Management (Dr. Young-Ki Jo?)

Dr. Jo will introduce key turfgrass diseases found in the state of Texas including Large Patch, Take-all Root Rot, and Fairy Ring disease. In addition to discussing key identifying characteristics for each disease, he will also cover basic disease management practices.

2:30 – 2:45: Break 2

2:45 – 4:30 Basic Weed ID & Management (Dr. Becky Grubbs)

Beginning with an introduction to plant morphology, specialists will learn how to appropriately photograph and assess plants for proper identification. From there, participants will be introduced a basic herbicide program, an overview of primary “homeowner” products, and a brief overview of indicator weeds for diagnosing larger management issues.

4:30 – 5:00 Final Questions, Review, and Evaluations

REGISTRATION FORM
TEXAS MASTER GARDENER
Advanced Master Gardener –Turfgrass Training
 8:00 am May 23 through 5:00 pm May 24, 2019
 Montgomery County Master Gardeners – Conroe, Texas

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS May 3, 2019 PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

NAME _____ (*Please wear Master Gardener name tag*)

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY / ZIP CODE _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

COUNTY _____

MG Coordinator/Extension Agent Signature (Required) _____

Registration fee of **\$235.00**, includes lecture, hands-on instructional sessions, thumb drive with resource materials, 1 dinner, 2 lunches and snacks.

Denim shirt order – to purchase a Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass Training denim shirt for **\$35.50 (includes tax)**, please complete the information below.

Shirt Size: Ladies _____ Men _____ S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL _____ (\$2 additional) XXXL _____ (\$4 additional) Short Sleeve _____ Long Sleeve _____

TOTAL:

Registration fee = **\$235.00**

(Optional) Denim Shirt @ **\$35.00** each x Qty _____ = _____

Guest(s)/Spouse attending Friday dinner _____ X (\$25.00 each) = _____

Total Amount Enclosed = _____

*Please indicate if you need a Special Diet _____ or Vegetarian _____

Mail check made out to MCMGA along with registration form to: Montgomery County Master Gardener Association, Turfgrass Training, Attn. Kim Pierce, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe, Texas 77303.

Remember, **deadline is May 3, 2019.**

For additional information please contact: Kim Pierce at 936-539-7824 **TRAINING IS LIMITED TO 30 APPLICANTS, two per county.** (*Please note: we have to order supplies in advance so there will be no refunds after May 3, 2019.*)

Advanced Master Gardener – Turfgrass Training
April 12-13, 2019
Montgomery County Master Gardeners

Master Gardener Turfgrass Training: Course will include high quality training combined with hands-on experience.

Dress: Dress casually, wear comfortable closed-toe shoes. Be prepared for both indoor and outdoor activities.

Hotel Accommodations:

Fairfield Inn & Suites

3010 Interstate 45 N, Conroe, TX 77303

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houcr-fairfield-inn-and-suites-houston-conroe-near-the-woodlands/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2>

(936) 756-3040

Homewood Suites

3000 Interstate 45 N, Conroe, TX 77303

https://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/homewood-suites-by-hilton-conroe-CXOHWHW/index.html?SEO_id=GMB-HW-CXOHWHW

(936) 703-6000

Hampton Inn & Suites

2242 Stoneside Rd, Conroe, TX 77303

https://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/hampton-inn-and-suites-conroe-i-45-north-CXONOHX/index.html?SEO_id=GMB-HP-CXONOHX

(936) 539-1888

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

2240 Stoneside Rd, Conroe, TX 77303

https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/conroe/cxotx/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps-_-EX-_-US-_-CXOTX

(936) 788-5200

Course Location:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Montgomery County

Tom R. LeRoy Education Building

9020 Airport Rd. Conroe, TX 77303