Cornell Cooperative Extension Livingston County

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Master Gardener Assistant Volunteer Description

Are you interested in learning more about becoming a Master Gardener or currently don't have the time to commit to the full Master Gardener experience? We are looking for volunteers to become Master Gardener Assistants, a "lite" version of our program that will allow you to tailor your training and work to your own schedule. Master Gardener Assistants will be able to take advantage of the continuing education classes offered to Master Gardeners and interns. You'll have the option of participation in garden maintenance, planting, development, and public relations. And, of course, you'll get to work with all the Master Gardeners and interns.

Volunteer's Responsibilities:

- Participate actively in training sessions.
- Provide reliable, unbiased information always representing both sides of an issue.
- Promote involvement in Cooperative Extension.

Assists with any or all of the following:

- Garden Maintenance
- Garden Planting
- Garden Development
- Classes/special activities as they arrive

Volunteer's Qualifications

- Basic interest in gardening
- Enthusiasm
- Interest in helping people
- Belief in the value of Extension's educational programs

Available Training and Resources:

- Master Gardener classes
- Horticultural Library
- Consultation with Extension staff

Time Estimate:

- 1-3 hours weekly during gardening season (April October)
 - Involvement is at the discretion of the participant (in order to participate in classes or workshops you must volunteer for equal number of hours.)
- Each Volunteer is expected to maintain records of program contacts, recommendations, and time devoted to volunteering,

Benefits:

- Participate in training programs in all aspects of basic horticulture.
- Learn new skills and sharpen old ones.
- Meet and work with other individuals interested in horticulture.
- Receive basic program materials.

Level of Background screening required:

- Reference Check references provided by you on your application will be contacted
- **Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) Check** Enrolled Volunteer responsibilities may involve transportation of others and/or the use of Cornell Cooperative Extension vehicles
- Criminal Background Check Enrolled Volunteer responsibilities may include unsupervised work with minors, individuals over 65, or individuals with disabilities

Contact Ken Estes at 585-991-5446 or kge7@cornell.edu.