

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension's Master Gardener Training is available throughout the state.

The Nebraska Master Gardener program is a horticulture-related volunteer training program based in many counties and has been part of UNL Extension since 1976.

Master Gardener volunteers are trained by UNL Extension faculty and staff. They contribute time as volunteers working through their local extension office to provide horticulture-related information to their community. More specifically, they provide education about sustainable horticultural practices.

Participants are required to complete 40 hours of training and 40 hours of volunteer service during the initial year of their involvement in the program.

Master Gardener volunteers retain their certification through annual training and volunteering.

Some of the topics that will be covered are: plant functions and the growing environment; insect identification and management; turfgrass management; plant diseases and management; weed identification and management; trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plant selection and management; wildlife management; landscape design and management; water conservation and management and many more.

Master Gardener training in Imperial will begin Feb. 8, 5:30 p.m. MT at the Chase County Extension office, 135 West 5th Street. Cost of the program will include all materials and costs for the program. Attendance will be limited to 20.