



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
**State Master Gardener Extension Volunteer**  
**Advanced Training**  
**Texas Superstar® Plant Program**  
*Using plants for a healthy Earth-Kind® Landscape*

Hosted by Bexar County – San Antonio  
Training Location at San Antonio Botanical Garden Culinary Garden Classroom  
555 Funston Pl, San Antonio, TX 78209  
October 7, 2024 (Mon) – October 9, 2024 (Wednesday)

**What does it take to be become a Superstar® plant?**

It isn't easy to become a Texas Superstar® plant. Only the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants make the cut. Every plant earning the Texas Superstar® designation undergo several years of intensive field trials by both Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. During these field trials, plants receive minimal inputs regarding soil preparation, levels of water, pesticides and simply must perform and look aesthetically pleasing under harsh and variable Texas growing conditions.

For more information go to Texas Superstar website <https://texassuperstar.com/>

**What does this mean to the average homeowner?**

It means landscape success with beautiful, proven Texas-tough plants.

**So, what is this Advanced Training About?**

This training provides Master Gardener Extension Volunteers and County Extension Agents a training opportunity on the history of the Texas Superstar® plant program as well as the benefits and landscape usages of these plants. Upon completion of this training, individuals with have the knowledge and confidence to help expand Earth-Kind® educational outreach programs of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in their home counties.

**Master Gardener Volunteer Requirements**

To be eligible for the Master Gardener Extension Volunteer- Advanced Training in the Texas Superstar® Plant Program, an applicant must possess an up-to-date Master Gardener Extension Volunteer certification or be an employee of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Master Gardener application must be approved by their local Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Program Coordinator or their County Extension Agent.

**Time Commitment**

Master Gardener Extension Volunteer completing this Advanced Texas Superstar® Plant Program Training **will volunteer 20 hours above and beyond their county's current volunteer obligation.**

These hours must be approved by their County Program Coordinator.

These include supporting:

- (a) Youth and Adult presentations
- (b) present information to at least three other groups
- (c) A Texas Superstar® Plant Program presentation for Master Gardener Extension Volunteer; a garden club; a neighborhood association or civic organization.

**You will have one (1) full year (ending date is October 9, 2025) for completion of this requirement.** Submit your hours in a timely manner:

David Rodriguez

County Extension Agent – Horticulture

3355 Cherry Ridge, Suite 212, San Antonio, TX 78230-4818

(210) 631-0400 or by email to [dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu)

### **Recognition and Certification**

Master Gardeners who fulfill specified training and volunteer requirements will be recognized. This certification does not empower the individual with supervisory or administrative authority within their local county programs but provides them the knowledge to support their Master Gardener Extension Volunteer Earth-Kind® Educational Outreach Program.

### **Registration**

Registration is on a first come/first served basis.

Only two (2) Master Gardener Extension Volunteers per county, unless space is available by noon on Monday, September 30, 2024, we may be able to accept applicants from the Waiting List.

**Do apply early as space is limited**

### **Submit Your Application and Payment**

Application must be submitted by email to either David Rodriguez ([dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu)) or Humberto Cruz ([Humberto.cruz@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Humberto.cruz@ag.tamu.edu)). **Upon acceptance you will receive a registration link that will guide you on how to make your payment.** Cancellations will incur a \$100 surcharge. After **12pm on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, there will be NO REFUNDS.**

### **Cost**

Registration fee of \$220 per person includes:

- Texas Superstar® resources
- Two lunches
- Snacks, drinks, and other goodies will be provided each day
- **Dinner will be on your own**

### **Travel**

Applicants will need to provide their own travel and hotel arrangements. Dress appropriately for outdoor activities (i.e. hat, **close-toed shoes (mandatory)**, and sunglasses).

For more information, contact **David Rodriguez**, County Extension Agent-Horticulture at [dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:dhrodriguez@ag.tamu.edu). Or **Humberto Cruz**, Office Assistant – Horticulture at [Humberto.cruz@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Humberto.cruz@ag.tamu.edu)

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