



## **Bastrop County Master Gardener Program**

### **Who are Texas Master Gardeners?**

Master Gardeners are members of our local community who take an active interest in their own lawns as well as other gardening projects in the area. We are people who love to learn! The goal of the Master Gardener Program is to share our knowledge through many ways with many diverse groups. What sets a Master Gardener apart from other home gardeners is our special training in horticulture. In exchange for this training we contribute back to the community as volunteers. Our activities and programs are coordinated through our local Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Office.

**We welcome you! We hope you will join Bastrop County Master Gardeners!**

### **Our Course Objective:**

Bastrop County Master Gardeners will complete at least 50 hours of classroom training to gain a basic understand of the topics covered in the *Texas Master Gardener Handbook*. The topics will include plant growth and development, propagation, soils analysis and improvement, water management, plant nutrition, Earth-Kind landscaping, plant health management, fruit, berry and nut production, vegetable and herb gardening, landscape design, plus lawn and turf care. These are all presented by well-trained individuals, usually professionals in the field.

### **Your Commitment:**

- 50 hours of classroom and field training; completion of all tests; presentation of your own landscape project; and completion of 50 hours of volunteer time in

Bastrop County Master Gardener projects to be completed within one year of your last class.

- In all volunteer programs representing the Master Gardener Program, we use only research-based information as recommended by Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service.

### **Is the Bastrop County Master Gardener Program for me?**

- Do you want to learn about the culture and maintenance of a variety of plants?
- Would you enjoy an active training program?
- Can you meet the time requirements for training and volunteering?
- Will you represent the Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas A & M System?
- Would you enjoy sharing information about our program in our community?

### **Certification:**

Participants become certified Master Gardeners after they have completed the training hours, the tests, fulfill their volunteer commitment and paid current dues. Each year thereafter, a Master Gardener must complete a minimum of 20 volunteer hours and 6 continuing education hours to remain active. Annual Bastrop County Master Gardener dues are currently \$25 (subject to change). The title "Texas Master Gardener" can be used after completing training, actively engaged in the program, and when engaged in Texas A & M AgriLife Extension-sponsored activities.

**Please consider all these factors before completing the attached application.**

If you have any questions, please contact us at [class@bcmga78602.org](mailto:class@bcmga78602.org)