

## **“Advanced Master Gardener – Entomology” Training Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services**

### **Advanced Training Program Purpose and information:**

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Entomology” 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 Services.

To become a certified “Advanced Master Gardener – Entomology”, Master Gardeners are required to attend the “Advanced Master Gardener – Entomology” 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 – Entomology” training will include experts speaking on insect identification, insect diversity, integrated pest management (IPM), pesticide safety, insects in the garden and landscape, butterfly gardening, and digital photography for insect identification. Participants will have the opportunity to make or improve their own collection during the course.

### **Participation requirements:**

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

### **Advanced Training recognition and certification:**

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

**Resources available to the “Advanced Master Gardener- Entomology:**

- Advanced training in entomology and networking with presenters
- Educational materials on entomology
- Direct access to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension entomology program specialist and County Extension Agent