

## **“Advanced Master Gardener - Tree Care” Training Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services**

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

The “Advanced Master Gardener - Tree Care” program is designed to provide advanced training and resources whereby Extension 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 - Tree Care”, Extension Master Gardeners are required to attend the “Advanced Master Gardener - Tree Care” 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 - Tree Care” training will be comprised of high-quality training including tree benefits, tree biology and function, site selection, tree species selection, proper planting techniques, proper training and pruning, tree nutrition, common stress factors, alleviating soil compaction, abiotic tree problems, common pests and diseases, tree risk assessment, legal issues and hiring a professional arborist.

### **Participation requirements:**

To be eligible for the “Advanced Master Gardener - Tree Care” training, an individual must possess an up-to-date Extension Master Gardener certification, or be an employee of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Extension Master Gardener applicants must be approved by their local County Extension Agent.

### **Position Description and Service Requirements:**

The “Advanced Master Gardener – Tree Care” is charged to increase awareness, provide training in tree care and facilitate implementation of tree care practices 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 - Tree Care” 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 - Tree Care” resource in the Extension program for a minimum of one year
- Assisting in educating Extension Master Gardeners, interns, and the public in tree care
- Increasing client awareness of tree care through presentations, training, and mass media efforts (i.e. radio, newspaper, social media, television, and newsletters)
- Submitting a completed “Advanced Master Gardener – Tree Care” Volunteer Training Report Form as directed for certification

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

Upon completion of the “Advanced Master Gardener - Tree Care” training and service requirements, the Extension Master Gardener will be awarded an “Advanced Master Gardener – Tree Care” certificate.

**Resources available to the “Advanced Master Gardener – Tree Care”:**

- Advanced training in tree care and networking with presenters
- Educational materials on tree care
- Direct access to the Texas A&M Extension Services County Extension Agent - Horticulture