

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 28, 2024

Name: _____
(Print or Type)

Date: _____

Johnson County EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM K-State Research and Extension

Mission: The mission of the Johnson County K-State Research and Extension Master Gardener volunteer program, hereinafter named “Program,” is to preserve and beautify the environment and improve the quality of life in the community by providing current research-based horticultural information to the public. The Program promotes horticultural practices, sustainability, and environmental initiatives supported by K-State Research and Extension. The Program embodies the horticultural education objectives of the Johnson County Extension Council in cooperation with Kansas State University and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Guidelines for Extension Master Garden (EMG) Program Participation:

- Be a resident of Johnson County
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- Possess a broad interest in horticulture
- Understand the value of volunteering
- Comply with the policies, rules, and regulations of the Extension Master Gardener Program and the Johnson County Extension Council
- Attend the approximately 65-hour EMG Basic Training Course held on Thursdays from 9:00-12:00 and from 1:00-4:00. Sessions are a mix of in-person and online. **These classes are required.** Classes run from September 5 through December 5, 2024. A schedule of class activities will be provided once you have been accepted into the program.
- Complete 40 hours of volunteer activities beginning in 2024 with Advisory Board-authorized projects, including at least three (3) EMG Hotline shifts, on or before September 5, 2025.
- After successful completion of the EMG training program, to continue as an EMG requires an annual commitment to volunteer a minimum of 30 hours on volunteer projects and attend at least 10 hours of EMG advanced training = 40 hours
- Agree to support the Extension pest control policy based on a combination of sound horticulture practices, organic controls, and chemical treatment as necessary.
- Pay a \$125 entrance fee (after acceptance into the program).

Selection for the EMG program is based on your responses to this application. Please reply to all questions in a complete and informative way, but keep your answers brief and concise. DO NOT exceed the original length of the page or attach extra pages.

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Master Gardener
Johnson County

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1. Time Availability

- a. **Are you available for basic training?** Basic training is every Thursday starting September 5 and runs through December 5, 2024. Training is offered as a combination of in-person learning and Zoom. Attendance is required except for preapproved absences, which shall not exceed more than one. Morning sessions are in-person and are hard to make up. Afternoon sessions are on Zoom, which allows flexibility in obtaining the content. Please describe your time availability and known conflicts for Basic Training.

- b. **Are you available for volunteer activities?** EMG Volunteer activities occur on weekday mornings and from March through October. There are limited opportunities for afternoon, evening, and weekend volunteering. Describe your free time to engage in volunteer activities.

2. Garden Interests

Describe your garden experience and any areas of specialization or interests you have. Include any training, courses, or other horticulture education programs you have attended.

3. Gardening and Non-Gardening Volunteer Activities

Briefly discuss why/where you are a volunteer and describe a significant volunteer experience. What do you enjoy most about them, what do they satisfy in you?

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4. Tell us about your hobbies/skills/talents/areas of interest/professional skills etc.

5. EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER AREAS OF INTEREST

Please indicate your interest in participating in **each** of the EMG volunteer projects. Some activities require physical work or interaction with the public, while others concentrate on planning and administrative tasks. All activities are vital to the success of the EMG organization in fulfilling its mission to the community.

Place an x in the box that matches your interest in that project.

A = Very Interested B = Interested C = Not Interested D = Unsure until I learn more

Demonstration Gardens (Designed, planted, and maintained to help educate the public in plant selection, culture, and environmental stewardship.)

A	B	C	D	
				Blue Valley Wilderness Science Center: Butterfly and bird gardens to support Blue Valley school programs at 163 rd and Nall.
				Deanna Rose Children’s Farmstead: flower and vegetable gardens at 137 th and Switzer in O.P.
				Garden Gallery: Showcasing recommended trees, shrubs, and flowers for Kansas City Gardens; 119 th and Ridgeview Olathe.
				K-State Research Center Backyard Garden: Vegetable, flower, and pollinator gardens and horticulture research plots in Western Olathe.
				Overland Park Arboretum—Monet Garden: This garden features trees, shrubs, and flowers in the Monet Style at 179 th and Antioch, Overland Park.
				Shawnee Indian Mission: A mid-1800s period vegetable garden, rain garden, and native plants at this Kansas historical site on Mission Rd. north of Shawnee Mission Parkway.
				Shawnee Town Gardens: Historical and theme gardens located in Shawnee Town on Johnson Dr. in downtown Shawnee.
				Wassmer Park: Intimate Garden in Prairie Village showcasing annuals, perennials, and shrubs.
				West Flanders: Belgium-themed garden in Shawnee, includes herbs, vegetables, perennials, and natives.

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Community Outreach (Participate in projects to help educate the community.)

A	B	C	D
			Community Outreach: Staff information tables at community events where the public can learn more about the EMG program and ask gardening questions.
			Evergreen Horticulture Therapy Project: Maintain vegetable and flower beds and interact with the residents, staff, and families who visit the senior living center at 119 th and Ridgeview, Olathe.
			Johnson County Developmental Support: We provide Horticultural Therapy for the Garden Club of Johnson County Developmental Support (JCDS). Our work accompanies the staff's focus on providing best practices support for the physical and emotional needs of individuals. These residents have varying levels of need. JCDS is focused on maintaining a sense of community.
			Hotline: Supply research-based responses to telephone, walk-in, and email questions.
			Jr. Master Gardener Activities: Plan and participate in after-school programs and special community events that encourage children's interest in gardening. Youth education is a focus of this work.
			Public Garden Tour: Assist with the planning, coordination, promotion, preparation, and staffing of the biennial public tour of EMG gardens (2024, 2026, etc.).
			Speakers' Bureau: Research, prepare, and present talks on various horticultural subjects to garden clubs, church groups, and community groups.
			Wildlife Habitat: provide education to help develop nature-friendly landscapes.

EMG Program Support Services

A	B	C	D
			Educational Materials: Plan, design, and construct displays, exhibits, handouts, and brochures to support EMG activities.
			Merchandise: Coordinate the selection, creation, and sale of garden-related merchandise to be sold during EMG events.
			Social and Entertainment: Plan and staff banquets, picnics, and other social events
			Training and Tours: Plan, arrange, and promote programs, tours, and seminars to satisfy needs of EMGs for continuing education.

6. Areas of Greatest Interest:

Please select **three projects** from **question 5** and explain why they appeal to you most.

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7. Why Do You Want to Be An EMG?

SIGNATURE OF UNDERSTANDING

Thank you for your interest in the EMG program and for completing this application. Members of the Advisory Board will carefully consider it.

EMGs operate under the guidance of trained extension professionals who are responsible for monitoring their performance and the progress of their continuing education.

EMGs are expected to provide gardening advice based on research-based information and to provide educational program assistance in support of the general county Extension education program.

EMG volunteers may not participate in the Johnson County Extension EMG program for financial gain or for commercial credentials, recommendations, or endorsements.

I wish to become a Johnson County EMG Trainee and agree to abide by the qualifications for acceptance and continued commitment as described in the **Guidelines for EMG Program Participation**.

Name: _____
(Print or type)

Address: _____

City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Telephone Number (Home): _____

Telephone Number (Cell/Business): _____

Email: _____

Note: EMG communication occurs by email.

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

Publicity Release (Click on or check one of the boxes below)

- I authorize K-State Research and Extension or their assignees to record, video, and photograph my image and/or voice for use in research, educational, and promotional programs. I also recognize that these audio, video, and image recordings are the property of K-State Research and Extension.
- No, I do not authorize use of my individual image or voice.

Mail to: Johnson County K-State Research and Extension
11811 S. Sunset Drive, Suite 1500
Olathe, KS 66061-7057
Attention: Heather Cwach
Email to: Heather.Cwach@jocogov.org

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