Extension Master Gardener Training Syllabus

Instructor(s): Varies Contact: [vlneff@ncsu.edu](mailto:vlneff@ncsu.edu)

Thursday (4/16-6/11)\*

Lecture/Lab: Halifax Community College Room 509 1pm-5pm

Cost: **$125** (State Fee $50, Textbook $45, Resources $30)

\*Times and Dates may vary. Please refer to your syllabus for any changes.

# Program Purpose

The Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program prepares potential volunteers to assist North Carolina State Extension staff in addressing home horticulture- related topics, including plant selection, establishment and care of lawn, garden and landscapes with an emphasis on integrated approaches to pest management and environmental stewardship. Volunteers assist with Extension’s educational programs throughout Halifax or Northampton County and extend the reach of horticulture extension staff by providing research-based information to home gardeners. Extension Master Gardeners Volunteers are a part of North Carolina State University, a land grant institution.

Extension Master Gardener Training is an 8-week course designed to enrich your horticultural knowledge so that you can provide non-biased, research-based information to residents of Halifax or Northampton County. This course will cover importance of volunteerism, basic botany and entomology, vegetable/fruit production, as well as advanced topics such as irrigation and landscape design.

There will be a lab component to **most** classes that will work towards a final class project.

# Course Objective:

The EMGV Training Program will equip trainees with the knowledge and skills necessary for addressing home horticulture-related topics. Upon completion of the training program, Master Gardener Volunteers will 1) assist horticulture staff in serving the residents of Halifax or Northampton County in the field of consumer horticulture, and 2) effectively deliver research-based information from NC State Extension and Horticulture Staff to the residents of Halifax or Northampton County

# Class Schedule:

Week 1

**Thu, 4/16** Class: Introduction to the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer (EMGV) Program; **Victoria Neff**

Soils, Plant Nutrients, Fertilizers, and Composting (Chs. 1&2);

# Victoria Neff & Doug Peedin

Lab: Soil Characteristics; taking a soil test; reading and interpreting a soil test

Week 2

**Thu, 4/23** Class: Basic Botany (Ch. 3); Insects (Ch.4); Weeds (Ch.6)

**Victoria Neff**

# F, 4/24 Field trip to NCDA Soils Lab, Raleigh, NC; Wear long pants and closed-toed shoes

Week 3

**Thu, 4/30** Class: Disease and Diagnosis (Ch. 5). Diagnostics (Ch. 7) IMP (Ch 8) **Victoria Neff**

Lab: Plant Disease Diagnosis and Recommendations

Week 4

**Thu, 5/7** Class: Herbaceous Ornamentals (Ch. 10); Lawns (Ch. 9) **Victoria Neff, Joyce Morrow**

Lab: **Grass ID**

Week 5

**Thu, 5/14** Class: Native Plants and Woody Ornamentals (Ch. 11 & 12); **Victoria Neff**

Lab: **TBD**

**Fri, 5/15 Plant ID in the Botanical Garden in Raleigh**

Week 6

**Thu, 5/21** Class: Vegetable Gardening (Ch. 16), Fruit Gardening; (Ch. 14 & 15) **Victoria Neff, Doug Peedin**

Lab: **TBD**

Week 7

**Thu, 5/28** Class: Organic Gardening (Ch. 17); Propagation (Ch. 13) Plants Grown in Containers (Ch. 18) **Victoria Neff**, **Betty Bianconi**

Lab: **TBD**

Week 8

**Thu, 6/4** Class: Landscape Design (Ch. 19) Wildlife (Ch. 20), Exam Review- Take home exams

**Victoria Neff, Steve Hoffman**

Lab: **TBD**

**Tue, 6/9 TURN IN EXAMS BY 3 PM**

Week 9

**Thu, 6/11** Graduation and Celebration Ceremony