
OSU/Crook/Deschutes/Jefferson Extension Service
Master Food Preserver Program
An OSU Extension Volunteer Program

What is the Master Food Preserver (MFP) Program?

The Master Food Preserver program started in 1980 with a dedicated group of volunteers from 4 Oregon counties. These volunteers were trained and certified to assist the county Extension staff in providing up-to-date food safety/preservation information to the citizens in their county. Because of increased interest in food safety/preservation in the past few years, we're offering training in Central Oregon.

What do Master Food Preservers do?

- Master Food Preservers assist county Extension staff with answering food safety/preservation telephone calls.
- Master Food Preservers work as "local food safety/preservation resources" in the community. They conduct workshops and demonstrations for groups and organizations and test pressure canner gauges at workshops and in outlying communities.
- Master Food Preservers staff information booths and present demonstrations at the county fairs in Central Oregon, local festivals, farmer's markets, home shows, fruit stands and Farmer's Markets.
- Master Food Preservers assist the county office staff with distribution, filing and inventory of food safety/preservation supplies and bulletins.

Who can become a Master Food Preserver?

Anyone interested in food safety/preservation who is able to: (1) commit to an 8 week (48+ hour) training program, (2) pay the materials/lab fee (limited scholarships available), and (3) volunteer at least 48 hours.

How do you become a Master Food Preserver?

If selected, applicants pay the \$50 class fee and complete an intensive 48+ hour course in all phases of food safety/preservation. Upon completion of the course, an open-book certification exam is given and those passing are certified **Master Food Preserver**.

What benefits do Master Food Preservers receive from the program?

Master Food Preservers are provided training, plus a resource notebook. Material is presented at the high school level so it is appropriate for people with differing educational backgrounds and food preservation experience. After the training, volunteers continue to receive updated information on the latest research in the area of food safety/preservation. Volunteers become part of a group of dedicated individuals who

are very supportive and caring for one another. Through their experiences, volunteers develop skills in working with people, public speaking, and building self-confidence in addition to increasing their expertise in food safety/preservation.

How long am I committed to the program?

Although only 48-hours are required as payback during one year, it is hoped that Master Food Preservers commit for more than one season. We have volunteers who have been with the program three to five summers. Each year additional training sessions are provided and continual update information is given to volunteers. Volunteers are required to re-certify each year by taking the open-book certification exam.

What are the dates for the training program?

Eight six-hour workshops will be held, followed by monthly update sessions through the year. Volunteers must attend all of the eight training sessions to qualify for the program.

The following schedule is set up for the Spring, 2010 program:

2010 Class Schedule				
OSU/Deschutes County Extension Office, Fairgrounds, Redmond				
Trainings	Session 1	Wednesday	March 31	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 2	Wednesday	April 7	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 3	Wednesday	April 14	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 4	Wednesday	April 21*	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 5	Wednesday	April 28	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 6	Wednesday	May 5	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 7	Wednesday	May 12	9 AM – 3 PM
	Session 8	Wednesday	May 19	9 AM – 3 PM
Fair Judges Training		Wednesday	June 2	9 AM - Noon
Updates	Update Mtg.	2 nd Thursday	Starting in June	9 AM – 11 AM
*Tentative date. If class not held this date, the series will extend through May 26.				

Anyone interested in becoming a Master Food Preserver should return the enclosed application before **Tuesday, March 16, 2010**. Class size is limited, so you should apply early! All applicants are phoned and invited for an interview. After the interview, final selections will be made.

For more information, contact Glenda Hyde, FCD Faculty at 548-6088 or email glenda.hyde@oregonstate.edu.

We will endeavor to provide public accessibility to services, programs, and activities for people with disabilities. If accommodation is needed to participate at any meeting, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the Deschutes County office of OSU Extension Service at 541-548-6088 at least 2 weeks prior to the scheduled meeting time.

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities and materials *without discrimination based on race, color religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status* – as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

MASTER FOOD PRESERVER Volunteer Application

(Please print answers to questions 1-5)

1. Name _____
2. Address _____
3. Home Number _____ Cell Number _____
4. Work Number _____ May we call your work number? Yes _____ No _____
5. Email _____
6. Experience in Food Preservation (Circle all that apply).

a. Canning fruits and vegetables	h. Making fruit leather
b. Pressure canning vegetables	i. Drying fruits
c. Pressure canning meats, fish, and poultry	j. Drying vegetables
d. Freezing fruits	k. Drying and smoking meats, fish
e. Freezing vegetables	l. Making jams and jellies (cooked)
f. Pickling fruits and vegetables	m. Making freezer jams
g. Pickling fish	n. Making low-sugar jams and jellies
7. Have you had previous food safety/preservation training? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, when and where?
8. What resource materials do you presently use for food safety/preservation instructions, recipes, etc.?
9. What are the times that you would not be available for volunteer service? Example – vacation, work, events, etc.
10. What experiences have you had in working with people, answering telephones, and public speaking, either through employment or volunteer work?

11. If you qualify as a Master Food Preserver, which areas of the program do you think you would like to work in? (Circle all that apply).
 - a. Answering telephone (referrals sent to your home number)
 - b. Giving demonstrations and workshops
 - c. Assisting with demonstrations and workshops/set up/clean up
 - d. Staffing information booths at fairs and shows
 - e. Office assistance – filing, sorting, inventory of food preservation supplies and bulletins
 - f. Testing pressure canner gauges
 - g. Other _____

12. Why do you want to be a Master Food Preserver and what do you feel your commitment to the program will be?

13. Other comments you have that will help us get better acquainted with you (family, work experience, other volunteer work, etc.).

14. List two references other than relatives that you have worked or volunteered for that we can contact for additional information.

(Please Print)

Name _____ How person knows you _____

Address _____ Day Phone _____

Name _____ How person knows you _____

Address _____ Day Phone _____

Application must be received by 5:00 PM Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at the OSU/Deschutes County Extension Service office, 3893 SW Airport Way, Redmond, OR 97756. For more information call Glenda Hyde, MFP Instructor at 541-548-6088 or email: glenda.hyde@oregonstate.edu.

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