Volunteer Service Hours Information for New and Recertifying OSU Master Gardeners™ in Yamhill County, Oregon

New Class Information: The new class Volunteer Service Requirement (VSR) is 65 hours. The breakdown of hours is as follows:

- 24 hours on the Master Gardener Desk in the Yamhill County Extension office. The 24 hours include 8 hours during spring (April, May, June), 8 hours in summer (July and August), and 8 hours during the fall (September and October);
- 8 hours which can be divided among farmers markets, offsite clinics, or additional desk duty;
- 33 VSR hours may be spent in any approved program related or approved Yamhill County Master Gardener™ Association (YCMGA) activity.
- Volunteer Service does not need to be limited to 65 hours. You may accumulate as many additional hours as you would like. New class members completing 100 hours or more qualify for the YCMGA Early Bird Award.
- Classes taken in addition to the prescribed training should be noted, but do not count toward VSR completion.
- New trainees are certified for the year following their training, but must recertify in the second year to continue to be a Recertified OSU Master Gardener. Recertification during any calendar year qualifies a Master Gardener to provide educational activities in the following year.

Note: Exceptions may be approved by the current Community Horticulture Program Coordinator for Yamhill County.

Requirements for Recertifying Master Gardeners:

- The statewide requirement for recertification as an OSU Master Gardener is 10 hours service annually in a clinic-related activity. Veteran’s clinic hours include desk time, community clinics, farmer’s markets, or other activities such as answering “Ask an Expert” questions forwarded by Extension staff.
- 12 hours of classes approved for recertification. Examples are workshops on horticultural knowledge or increasing leadership skills. Included are YCMGA Programs, advanced training offered in Yamhill or other counties, and training offered through the OMGA such as Gardener’s Mini-College. To qualify as recertification hours, the class must be designated as a recertification opportunity or approved by Community Horticulture Program Coordinator. Class hours, though required are not counted as volunteer hours.
- A recertifying OSU Master Gardener may substitute the class requirement through completing an exam approved by the Community Horticulture Program Coordinator.

YCMGA & Other Activities: Activities sponsored by the YCMGA include: plant sales; general membership & board meetings; propagation; committee meetings; work in the greenhouse; the demo gardens; and work parties. Other activities may include giving presentations, working with youth, creating displays, work on the newsletter or other special projects assigned by the Community Horticulture Program Coordinator. If you have a question about whether an activity qualifies in this category, contact the President of the YCMGA, or the OSU Community Horticulture Program Coordinator.