

OSU Extension Master Gardener™ Recertification

Once an individual has completed the necessary training and volunteer payback, he or she is certified as an OSU Extension Master Gardener. This certification is good for one year and OSU Extension Master Gardeners must recertify annually to remain on the "active" list and maintain the Master Gardener title.

Recertification is defined as: *Completing educational training to further/enhance the individual's skills in the areas of community horticulture deemed important to the OSU Extension Master Gardener Program.*

Why do we require recertification? As time goes by, we all forget details of diagnosis and appropriate advice. Also, information changes rapidly as new research results and chemical products or appropriate cultural treatments become available. The goal is to keep our Master Gardeners updated and available to provide high quality and up-to-date advice to the public through the Master Gardener Program. In Lincoln County and nationwide, recertification consists of two parts

- Donating a minimum of **twenty (20) hours** of volunteer service for educational outreach each year. **Six to Nine** of these hours should be helping at the plant clinic in the office. Hours in this category are also those used conducting training as an instructor or having direct public contact providing gardening information at an approved event, or if you are a speaker or instructor for a Master Gardener related subject, volunteering/coordinating in our demonstration gardens, and others as listed in the VRS online reporting system.
- Completing approximately ten (**10**) or more hours of advanced training through any of the following options:
 - Participation in any of a specified set of classes during the annual Master Gardener training within a county. These classes are usually marked with an * asterisk on the training schedule, and include topics such as soils, plant diagnostics, IPM, pesticide safety, or other topics that support a Master Gardener's ability to diagnose plant problems, identify plant pests, or to recommend prevention or control options in a manner that supports OSU Extension's least toxic approach to pest control (*Pesticide Use/Safety and IPM recertification is good for two years*).
 - Participation in any of a specified set of classes during the annual Gardener's Mini-College. These classes are marked with a star (*) on the registration form
 - Participation in any of a specified set of classes in county-sponsored advanced training sessions, such as Insights into Gardening (Benton County), Winter Dreams Summer Gardens (Jackson County), Polk County Fall Fling (Polk County) Lincoln County advanced trainings, OSU horticulture webinars and many others.
 - Participation in any other classes approved by the local Master Gardener Program Coordinator for recertification
 - Scoring a 70% or better on a county or statewide Open Book Recertification Review or Examination.