

**RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF UNION COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENER COURSE APPLICATION**



**PLEASE PRINT:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Work Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_ **Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hobbies:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Skills: (Artwork, Computers, Gardening, Public Speaking, Etc.)**

**Why are you interested in becoming a Master Gardener?**

**How did you learn of the Master Gardener Program?**

**In Case of Emergency, Please Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Day Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Eve Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

As a Rutgers Union County Master Gardener, you are committing to complete at least 60 hours of volunteer service to the Master Gardener Program within a 12-18 month period of enrollment in the program. After completing the course, **ten (10) of the 60 hours are to be spent working in the Master Gardener Demonstration Garden in Watchung Reservation.**

The Master Gardeners of Union County operate a telephone Garden Helpline for county residents to call in with gardening questions and problems. As a Master Gardener Student, you will be required to complete "Helpline" training and work a 2-hour shift on the Garden Helpline with an experienced "Helpliner." The Helpline office is located in the Extension Office. The Helpline operates during the day. Evening sessions are available in the spring & summer.

Students will complete a community beautification project in a Union County Park with other classmates. Students will also design an Integrated Pest Management Plan for their own home.

*Please be sure to complete both sides of this application for the Union County files*

*Another requirement for graduation is to serve at least six hours on a Master Gardener Committee (before graduation).* You may serve on several committees. You will have an opportunity to meet the committee chairs and learn more about their activities during a class session early in the program. Below is a list of the committees.

Following is the list of MG committees in Union County

**“CHECK WHICH COMMITTEES YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON”**

**\*\*\*\*\* BE SURE TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION AND SIGN THE APPLICATION\*\*\*\*\***

- ARTS & CRAFTS:** Create items for the Master Gardener Spring Garden Fair and other events.
- CLERICAL, LITERATURE & RECORDS:** Help with mailings, organize files and reference books, and inform other Master Gardeners about program events.
- COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION:** Provide labor assistance for community landscaping projects.
- COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY:** Maintain Computer in MG Helpline Office, work on RCE of Union County website, answer e-mail inquiries, teach other Master Gardeners how to use the computer.
- CUTTING GARDEN:** The cutting garden will be in the demo garden with flowers cut weekly throughout the season and then donated to cancer patients and their families to the local Sloan Kettering Hospital.
- DEMONSTRATION GARDEN:** Plan, plant and maintain the Demonstration Garden at Trailside in the Watchung Reservation. (Days or evenings)
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Plan and manage Master Gardener program activities by serving as a committee chair. (Evenings)
- FIELD TRIPS:** Organize field trips for the Master Gardeners.
- GARDENING WITH CHILDREN:** Requests from schools for gardening projects or speakers.
- GRANTS COMMITTEE:** Research, contact and solicit grants for various MG projects such as: Demo Garden improvements etc.
- HELPLINE COMMITTEE:** Answer gardening questions and identifying plant problems and insects for clientele at the Extension office. Participate in community events that request Master Gardeners to man a garden question and answer table. (Days, evenings, at the Extension Office)  (Community Events on weekends)
- HORTICULTURAL THERAPY:** Participate in programs for adults and children with various disabilities. (Days, occasional evenings)
- HOSPITALITY:** Set-up refreshments for events. (Days or evenings)
- NEWSLETTER:** Assist with newsletter production. (Days or evenings)
- NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Nominate Master Gardeners to serve as MG Executive Board members.
- PHOTOGRAPHY:** Take pictures of events and create educational displays. (Days or evenings)
- PROGRAM:** Make arrangements for speakers for the monthly Master Gardener Meeting. (Days or evenings)
- PUBLICITY:** Write press releases about Master Gardener activities, events and various services. Assist with the newsletter productions and articles.
- REEVES REED ARBORETUM, SUMMIT, NJ:**
  - Help maintain gardens
  - Serve as an assistant docent, training will be provided.
- SPEAKERS BUREAU:** Give horticultural lectures to civic groups. (Days or evenings)
- SPRING GARDEN FAIR:** Work with other Master Gardeners on this annual event. (Days or evenings)
- SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:** Send cards to Master Gardeners who are ill, or have experienced a birth or death in their family. Coordinate donations to Reeves Reed Arboretum.
- SHARING GARDEN COMMITTEE:** Work in the vegetable garden at the greenhouse located at the Demonstration Garden at Trailside. Harvest vegetables and keep records for Food Bank Donations.
- WORKERS' GARDEN:** Grow vegetables in our transitional organic garden for your pleasure.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_