

WHO ARE MASTER GARDENERS?

MASTER GARDENERS are part of a network of Associations throughout North America whose members share a common interest – a passion for gardening and a willingness to share their knowledge, skills and expertise within their communities as a volunteer.

MASTER GARDENERS are eager to provide outreach to all sectors of the community, from gardeners that are just starting out to experienced gardeners. Master Gardener programs are not-for-profit and information is given in a volunteer capacity only.



MASTER GARDENERS deal with all aspects of gardening including basic plant physiology, soil improvement, pest management, and information on local growing environments. We aim to provide the most current scientific information on local pests and diseases, and the use of environmentally-friendly solutions to plant problems

THOMPSON SHUSWAP MASTER GARDENERS

Our goal is to educate the public about sustainable gardening practices.



The **THOMPSON SHUSWAP MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION** was formed in 2009 and since that time has provided 8,000+ hours of volunteer service to the Thompson Shuswap area. We are volunteers who participate in and/or lead:

- Clinics at local garden nurseries;
- Public garden events including farmers' markets, summer/fall fairs, seedy Saturdays and Sundays;
- Garden tours;
- Presentations for community groups;
- Articles for newsletters, websites, social media, pamphlets and brochures;
- Citizen Science research projects;
- Community and school group projects.

TSMG BASIC TRAINING APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

Postal Code _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

How many years of gardening experience do you have in the dry interior climate?

How many years of gardening experience do you have elsewhere?

List any gardening clubs or societies to which you belong:

List any gardening or plant courses you've completed:

List any gardening podcasts, blogs, websites or magazines you listen to or read:



MASTER GARDENERS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Master Gardeners Association of British Columbia (MGABC) had its origins in a program that was started at Washington State University in the 1970s. That program was formed out of a need to deal with an overwhelming public demand for information regarding local gardening problems. MGABC is incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia and is a registered charitable organization with CRA.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Master Gardeners Association of British Columbia (MGABC) will provide continuous learning opportunities for its members in order to educate the public about environmentally responsible gardening practices and help them enjoy gardening as an activity.

TRAINING

The Basic Training Program for Master Gardeners in this area is offered by the Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners. The purpose of Basic Training is to train experienced gardeners to become future volunteer educators within the Master Gardener organization. Gardening topics include:

Botany	Plant Nomenclature (ID)
Soil & Amendments	Plant Nutrition & Fertilizers
Vegetable Gardening	Tree Fruits
Berries & Grapes	Lawn Care
Herbaceous & Woody Landscape Plants	Basic Entomology
Insect & Vertebrate Pest Management	Plant Pathology
Plant Problem Diagnosis	Plant Health Care & IPM
Pruning Principles	Plant Propagation
Composting	Fire-Resistant Landscaping
Waterwise Landscaping	

COURSE STRUCTURE

- Courses are taught by experts in their field.
- Sessions delivered over 12 weeks, online and in-person (attendance mandatory).
- Successful completion of all assignments is required, followed by successful completion of a final exam.
- Required readings and research assignments may require an **ADDITIONAL** 10 hours per week.

MASTER GARDENER IN TRAINING VOLUNTEER SERVICE

65 approved volunteer hours are completed over a **two-year period**.

Once students successfully complete the Classroom and Volunteer service components of the program, they earn their Master Gardener Certificate.

AFTER TRAINING

Master Gardeners remain active in the program by completing at least 15 hours of volunteer service each year, plus 10 hours of continuing gardening education. Continuing education hours can be accumulated by attending chapter meetings, field trips, garden tours or other workshops and horticultural courses.

INTERESTED?

The cost of Basic Training is \$550 and includes textbooks and supplemental materials. The fee also covers honorariums for expert instructors hired to teach the classes. The next TSMG basic training will commence **JANUARY 2024**

PLEASE FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FORM ON THE REVERSE AND MAIL TO:

#25 -1651 Valleyview Drive
Kamloops, BC V2C 0A4

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:
tsmastergardeners@gmail.com