

Autumn, 2009

Dear Master Gardener Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in attending next year's Monmouth County Master Gardener program. Enclosed please find an application for entry into the program. Please take your time filling out the application, be as complete as possible, and make sure you include as much pertinent information about yourself and your vision of your role as a potential Master Gardener as possible.

Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday mornings, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, starting February 23 and going into May (due to a scheduling conflict, there will be 3 classes held on Friday instead of Monday, final schedule to be determined). Your attendance at all of the classes is mandatory. After the classes are complete, it is required to volunteer back the 60 hours of class time in horticulturally related methods. At least 20 of these hours must be spent on a 'horticulture helpline', answering gardening questions from the public. Since the helpline is located in the Freehold office, and is only open weekdays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, it is expected that you will fulfill this obligation in its entirety by November, 2010. If your current situation or schedule will not allow you to attend all of the classes and complete the 60 hours of volunteer time, please know that this program will be ongoing yearly, therefore you should reconsider applying until your schedule clears up in the future.

Applicant review will not begin until the first week of January, and you will be notified by mail only of your status in next year's program. Please do not contact our office, we will be unable to offer any information on your status.

Best of luck, and thank you again for your enthusiasm and interest in the Master Gardener program!

Sincerely,

Diane Zahorsky
Extension Horticulturist