

2018 Master Gardener Class – General Information

- **Location:** Classes will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem located at 5090 Center St. NE.
- **Dates:** Classes begin Monday, January 8, 2018 and continue each Monday through April 2. Class will be held on Monday, January 15 - (Martin Luther King Jr. Day) and February 19 (Presidents' Day). On February 19th class will begin with orientation to the Marion Demonstration Garden.
- **Time:** Classes are held from 8:45 am to 4:00 pm. The morning session is from 9:00 to noon. There is a one-hour break for lunch. The afternoon session is from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. On the first day, we recommend that you arrive *by 8:30*, since the first check-in usually takes extra time.
- **What you'll need:**
 - * \$100 on the first day, cash or check only. This covers all program materials, including your copy of Sustainable Gardening, the textbook for Master Gardeners in Oregon and Washington. It also covers your 2018 membership in both Marion County and Oregon Master Gardeners' Associations. Sorry, but we cannot accept credit/debit cards.
 - * A large 3-ring binder (at least 3" thick) for your textbook. This comes three-hole punched, but the binder is not provided. Labels for the spine and cover are included, so you may want to get a binder with exterior pockets to hold them. **You will not need to bring the textbook to class with you each week.**
- * **Note-taking materials:** Paper and pen/pencil are most often used. You are welcome to bring a laptop or tablet if you wish, but electrical connections are available.
- * **Comfortable clothing:** We are not in control of the thermostat, so layers or even an extra sweater may be welcome.
- * **Lunch:** if you like to brown-bag, the room is open during the lunch hour, and many students and veteran Master Gardeners enjoy the opportunity to get acquainted over lunch. If you prefer to go out, there are options 2-3 miles away for a quick lunch. Coffee and tea are provided for breaks and lunchtimes. In the interest of sustainability, we encourage you to bring your own cup.
- * **Brown Bag Seminars:** Veteran Master Gardeners offer 20-30 minute mini-workshops, during some lunch breaks. Your participation is optional, but encouraged. Past topics included composting, care & sharpening of garden tools, grape grafting, and mason bees. 2018 topics have not yet been set, but will be listed in the online class materials as they are scheduled.
- * **Bring your questions:** Instructors, mentors, and veteran MGs are happy to answer them.
- * **Attendance:** You must attend all of the class sessions. The Membership Team will have information on schedules for make-up classes available in neighboring counties, in case you must miss a Salem session.

After classes are completed: In signing up for the class, you commit to 66 hours of volunteer service, providing home horticulture information to the residents of Marion County. **Detailed information on service requirements will be posted on our website, provided in hardcopy for those without internet access, and discussed in class.**