

Continuing Education (CE) Hours (Optional for Trainees)

What are CE hours?

Continuing Education Hours are hours which qualify for recertification credit in your county. To maintain their "Active" status, MCMGs must complete a minimum of 20 volunteer hours of service, and 10 CE hours by 10/31 of each year. CE status is granted to educational programs, workshops, classes, lectures and webinars that support a volunteer's ability to deliver research based and objective gardening information to the general public. A recently added option for CE credit is reading approved research-based publications that relate to sustainable gardening.

Where can I find out about approved webinars and recorded videos?

They will be listed on our web site: <https://marioncomga.org/members-login/members/>
After logging on to the website, scroll down to Continuing Education Opportunities to view the topics.

Where are qualified classes available?

One option is to attend any of the MG training classes that will be presented at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Salem at 5090 Center St. NE, starting on January 6, 2020. Some classes count for 3 CE hours and others for 4, be sure to check the schedule for details.

How can I find out about qualified workshops?

They will be posted on our web site. Go to Workshops & Events at the bottom of the member's page.

What about lectures and other educational programs?

Watch for emails from Neil Bell, he frequently sends out information about upcoming events. He will indicate which events will count for CE hours, not all of them will. For events that you learn about from other sources, please get approval from Neil prior to taking or recording the CE hours in the VRS.

Where can I find approved publications? See the following link for full details.

<http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/mgcoordinators/2019/10/09/master-gardener-continuing-education/>

Publications from the following sources are generally deemed appropriate: OSU Extension Catalog, other Extension Services, governmental organizations (i.e. Department of Agriculture, USDA, etc.). Where possible, OSU publications should be given preference. Publications should be current and relate to sustainable gardening, home horticulture, or backyard and local food production.

An example of suggested readings from the OSU Extension Catalog would be as follows:

- Cover Crops for Home Gardens

Please see how to record qualifying publications on the following page.*

This sheet provides an overview of how to report continuing education hours.

Once enrolled, choose the link titled 'Report New Volunteer Service Hours' from your home page. You will be asked to choose between Volunteer Service Hours or Continuing Education hours.

Report CE Hours for attending educational programs/workshops/classes/lectures and webinars:

Date of Training: Date you completed the approved Master Gardener CE training.

Location: The city or town, in Oregon, where you completed the approved training.

Description of Training: A brief (i.e. 2-3 sentence) description of the type of training and the Instructor/presenter.

CE Hours: How many CE hours did you complete? Submit your response as quarters of an hour (i.e. 2 hours and 15 minutes = 2.25 hours; 1 hour and 30 minutes = 1.50 hours).

Mileage: This is for your individual tax purposes only. Enter the total miles driven for this event if you are eligible to deduct mileage associated with volunteer service on your tax returns.

Reporting CE hours for reading approved research-based publications:

*There are specific reporting requirements for each publication that you read. The VRS will be upgraded to accommodate the required information, but for now, the description of service field has been expanded to 500 characters. Please report the following information in the description of service box.

1. Author. Year. Title. Publication Number or other identifying information.
2. Where you found or accessed the publication.
3. What is the overall goal of the publication?
4. List three things you learned from reading the publication.
5. List two ways you can use this information in your volunteer service and/or your own garden.
6. Report 1 hour of CE per publication in the VRS.