

Who are Delaware Master Gardeners?

- The Delaware Master Gardeners (MGs) are volunteer educators whose mission is to provide residents with information to make the best possible choices for managing their home lawns and gardens in ways that are environmentally responsible.
- In NCC, there are currently about 85 MGs from all walks of life. The NCC MGs have in common a love of plants and nature and a desire to share their knowledge with others.

What experience and training do the NCC Master Gardeners have?

- The MGs are experienced gardeners who have gone through 3 months of additional training in topics including plant identification, soil quality, fertilization, plant growth and health, vegetable gardening, composting, plant pathology, entomology, integrated pest management, and many others.
- Additional advanced training is required each year to maintain MG status.

Are the NCC Master Gardeners linked to the University of Delaware?

- Yes. NCC MGs are part of New Castle County Cooperative Extension, based at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. They help to expand and support the college's home horticulture educational programs.

What is Cooperative Extension?

- Cooperative Extension is the educational arm of the USDA. Its job is to provide non-biased, research-based information to the public from the Land Grant College System, of which the University of Delaware and Delaware State University are members.

How did the MGs begin?

- The Master Gardener concept originated in Washington State in 1972 as a strategy for handling an overload of home gardening questions. In Delaware, the MG program started in 1986.

WHO ARE NEW CASTLE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS?



Reach us:

General info 302-831-COOP
ncc-ext@udel.edu

The Garden Line 302-831-8862
garden-line@udel.edu

Web address <http://ag.udel.edu/nccmg>

What are the Master Gardener educational programs?

Workshops and Speakers Bureau

- MGs develop and deliver a wide variety of workshops and lectures for adults, either at our facilities or for your group. For a current list of workshop topics, please visit: <http://ag.udel.edu/nccmg> .

Youth Education

- MGs visit thousands of students in public and private classrooms each year to teach children about topics including composting, bees, trees, and butterflies. For contact information, please visit us at: <http://ag.udel.edu/nccmg> .

Telephone and Diagnostics

- MGs respond to almost 2000 inquiries each year on topics including soil and plant nutrients, disease and pest identification and treatment, water conservation, wildlife habitat, and more. MGs can be reached through email at garden-line@udel.edu or the telephone garden line at 302-831-8862.

Teaching and Demonstration Gardens

- The MGs design and maintain gardens and compost demonstration sites for the purpose of teaching good horticultural practices. Stop by our demonstration site at the Cooperative Extension building to learn more about composting and plants native to our region! Visit us at: <http://ag.udel.edu/nccmg> .

Expert Eye Program

- The MGs offer an at-home lawn and garden service. A team of MGs will visit to help homeowners find solutions to their unique landscaping and gardening situations. Learn more at: <http://ag.udel.edu/nccmg> .

Other Master Gardener Programs

The NCC MGs also offer and/or participate in the following:

- Information sheets on gardening and landscaping topics
 - Community gardens through Delaware Center for Horticulture
 - Ag Day at the University of Delaware
 - Various community events such as Newark Days and the Delaware Nature Society native plant sale
- More information and links can be found online: <http://ag.udel.edu/nccmg> .

Check to receive information on:

- Spring & Fall Workshop Series
- How to Become a Master Gardener
- Plants for a Livable Delaware gardening information

Name

Mailing Address

City, State, ZIP

Phone

E-mail

Mail to:

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Newark, DE 19716-1303

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