

**2013
HIGHLAND LAKES MASTER GARDENER
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM- APPLICATION**

Identification Information (Please Print Clearly):

Name preferred on Name Badges, Class and Association Rosters, and Certificates –

Address - _____

City/State/Zip - _____

Home phone - _____ Cell phone - _____

E-mail address - _____

T-Shirt size- _____ for Master Gardener T-shirt

Application Process

1. Complete the application; submit it with full payment to the HLMGA Certification Program Coordinator: Ray Buchanan, 204 W. Oak St., Buchanan Dam, TX 78609.
2. Cost of the program is \$150.00 per person, make checks payable to "Highland Lakes Master Gardener Association". In the memo indicate "2013 Class"
3. Class size is limited to 20 persons. Applications are taken on a first come, first serve basis, but all applications must be received by January 28, 2013.
4. You must be a resident of the Highland Lakes Area in order to be in this Program.
5. You must attend a mandatory orientation session on Tuesday, February 5, 2013, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Marble Falls meeting room.
6. Classes begin on Tuesday, February 19th and continue every Tuesday until April 30th. Classes are normally held at the First United Methodist Church in Marble Falls from 1:00-5:00 PM, unless the location is otherwise indicated (field trips).
7. All future correspondence, including class assignments and reference material will be sent via email, so you must have regular access to email.

Requirements to Achieve Initial Certification as a Texas Master Gardener

1. Attend all classes scheduled: 40 hours of instruction.
2. Complete 50 hours of Volunteer Service in an APPROVED Master Gardener activity.
3. Complete an additional 10 hours of Advanced Training (beyond the scheduled classes)

Requirements to Maintain Certification (subsequent years)

1. Complete 12 hours of Volunteer Service in an approved HLMGA activity each year
2. Complete 6 hours of Advanced Training each year.
3. Pay Association dues.

Please Answer the Following Questions About Becoming a Master Gardener:

1. Why do you want to be trained as a Master Gardener?
2. Discuss some of your experience in gardening.
3. This program requires a significant commitment to volunteer work and advanced education. How do you plan to complete the requirements to be a Master Gardener and maintain your certification if you become a Master Gardener?
4. On average, how many hours per month can you commit to volunteer activity?
5. If you ever had the opportunity to volunteer in the past, please list that experience here.
6. Do you have any non-gardening skills that would contribute towards the organization?

In the next section, please do a self assessment of your knowledge and skills as it relates to a variety of topics that will be covered in the Master Gardener Certification Program. "None" is not a disqualifying answer, it just provides a basis from which to learn from. Rank your knowledge and/or skill on a 1-10 scale, with 1 being NONE and 10 being HIGH, indicate the appropriate number in front of the skill category.

Self Assessment

___ Irrigation and/or Water requirements

___ Soils & Soil Fertility

___ Composting

___ Insects

___ Plant Propagation

___ Plant Diseases

___ Vegetable Gardening

___ Fruit & Nut Tree Production

___ Trees

___ Turf Grass

___ Landscape Design

___ Gardening for Children

___ Public Speaking

___ Photography

___ Computer Skills

___ Management

___ Organization

___ Work as a Volunteer

Accepting the Challenge:

I have reviewed all of the information and am ready to accept the Challenge: to apply my skills and abilities to developing a gardening ethic in order to promote a sustainable environment; to apply my time and energy to developing a volunteer ethic in order to promote sustainable natural beauty in my community; and to enjoy the direct benefits of these efforts and learning experiences in my home landscape. I understand that accepting this challenge leads to Certification as a Texas Master Gardener only when I have fulfilled all of the requirements of the Master Gardener program as previously outlined.

Signature: _____ Date _____

MAKE \$150.00 CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "HIGHLAND LAKES MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION"

Mail check and completed application to:
Ray Buchanan, HLMGA Certification Program Coordinator
204 W. Oak St.
Buchanan Dam, TX 78609

Any questions should be directed to Wade Hibler, CEA-Ag&NR at 512-756-5463 or to Ray Buchanan, HLMGA Certification Program Coordinator at 325-379-1455

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in this program are encouraged to contact the Burnet County Office of the Texas A & M AgriLIFE Extension Service at 512-756-5463 to determine how reasonable accommodations can be made.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas A & M AgriLIFE Extension Services