

# THE BASICS OF GARDENING

## WINTER 2010

Through instruction by Master Gardeners and Extension Staff, students will learn some of the science behind gardening, plant culture and pest and disease solutions. The series will focus on research-based knowledge of plant resistance, problem avoidance and the most effective control strategies.

**WHEN:** Classes are Saturday mornings, 9:00am until 1:00pm on January 30 and March 6, then 9:00am until 12 noon February 6 through February 27. (A snow date is scheduled for March 13, 2010).

**WHERE:** Class location is McCoy Conference Room –Sudley North Government Building 7987 Ashton Avenue, Manassas 20109

**COST:** Fee of \$50 for the series includes all materials and light refreshments. Couples may register for \$80 for *one set* of materials. Youth over the age of 16 may register. Questions may be addressed to the Extension Horticulture Help Desk at 703-792-7747 or by email at master\_gardener@pwcgov.org.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Date	Courses (class order is tentative)	Description
January 30	Botany (9am-11am)	How plants germinate and grow; plant processes; vascular structure and pesticide action; herbaceous vs. woody growth
	Soils (11am-1pm)	Soil pH, structure and texture; soil improvement strategies, composting
February 6	Trees & Shrubs (9am-2pm)	Woody plant physiology; requirements for good growth; selection criteria
February 13	Annuals, Perennials & Bulbs (9am-12pm)	Landscape uses; growth habits of each group; cultural requirements; appropriate selections for this area
February 20	Lawns (9am-10:30am)	Turf selection; maintenance requirements; overview/resources for common weeds, pests and diseases; control strategies for problems
	Groundcovers (10:45am-12pm)	Groundcovers defined; landscape uses; selection criteria; appropriate species for use in this area
February 27	Insects (9am-11:30pm)	Common insects encountered in our area, including control strategies; resources for identification, prevention, control.
	Vegetables (11:30am-1pm)	Overview of sustainable vegetable gardening, including plant/seed selection, soil prep, planting dates and maintenance.
March 6	Diseases (9am-12pm)	Disease triangle; control strategies (integrated pest management); sampling/resources for identification

Class size limited!  
Registration ends January 15, 2010  
*or when class fills.*

Please register me for the series,  
The Basics of Gardening

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_

(eve) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

We are **GOING GREEN**  
and will be sending information via email.

Please complete the form above,  
detach, enclose a check for \$50 (or \$80 for a  
couple with one set of materials) made payable  
to "MGPW" and mail to:

Master Gardeners of Prince William  
8033 Ashton Avenue, Suite 105  
VCE - Prince William  
Manassas, VA 20109

Your registration will be confirmed after  
receipt of payment. Further instructions for the  
class will be emailed in January, 2010.  
**No refunds after January 15, 2010.**

## Master Gardener Volunteers In Prince William

Master Gardener Volunteers serve Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park. Master Gardener Volunteers teach proper fertilizer and pesticide usage to homeowners; staff plant clinics; conduct classes and workshops on various horticulture topics; collect fresh produce at local Farmer's Markets and deliver to area shelters and food banks; manage a Teaching Garden on the grounds of the St. Benedict Monastery to demonstrate low maintenance lawn, flower and vegetable gardening techniques where they hold monthly classes. They also conduct Saturdays in the Garden at the Teaching Garden April through October.

### About Master Gardeners

Master Gardeners are volunteers in service to Virginia Cooperative Extension, assisting Extension Agents in educating the public on horticultural and environmental issues. Master Gardeners receive extensive training and contribute their time to improve our community one landscape at a time.

### About the Instructors

**Marylou Chiarito**, Master Gardener (MG) Class of 1998, instructs MG trainees on Botany. **Duane Mohr**, MG '99, teaches soils and organic gardening classes for the public. **Ron Cloer**, MG '01, has an AA in Horticulture from NVCC and teaches classes on woody plants and design. **Claudia Feters**, MG '07, taught high school biology and earth science for 25 years in Fairfax County Schools. **Frank Reilly**, MG '98, teaches lawn care and water quality issues to the public and to Master Gardeners. **Patricia Reilly**, MG '95, served as Prince William County Natural Resource Specialist for ten years and has written publications on groundcovers. **Paul Gibson**, MG '06, created Teaching Garden Bio-intensive Vegetable Garden. **Jeff Schneider**, MG '02, has practiced organic gardening for many years. **Paige Thacker**, Extension Agent, Horticulture.

**Questions?**  
Please call the  
**Extension Horticulture Help Desk**  
703-792-7747 or email us at  
**master\_gardener@pwcgov.org**

Virginia Cooperative Extension enables people to improve their lives through an educational process that uses scientific knowledge focused on issues and needs.

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs, activities and employment opportunities are available to all people regardless of race, color, sex, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

If you are a person with a disability and require any auxiliary aids, services or other accommodations to participate in any of these workshops, please notify Virginia Cooperative Extension at  
703-792-6285/TDD PC 1-800-828-1120.

## Virginia Cooperative Extension

A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University [www.ext.vt.edu](http://www.ext.vt.edu)



Paige E. Thacker, Extension Agent, Horticulture

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## A SERIES OF CLASSES FOR THE SERIOUS GARDENER



## WINTER 2010

Presented by the  
Master Gardeners  
of Prince William

An Association of Volunteers in Service to  
Virginia Cooperative Extension