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Adams County News and Information

Master Gardener Fall Classes to begin in September

The Colorado Master Gardener program in Adams County is taking applications for the fall 2015 night class which will be held at the Recycling Center in Boulder at 1901 63rd St. Boulder, CO on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9 p.m. starting Tuesday, Sept. 22 through Thursday, Dec. 3, 2015.

Master Gardeners are part of the outreach program of Colorado State University Extension—a statewide network including Master Gardeners, CSU faculty and staff that provides lifelong educational programs for all Coloradans in their local communities using research-based information.

Participants receive intensive training in horticulture through 10 weeks of classes taught by Colorado State University professors, specialists and agents. Beginning with basic botany, the program focuses on plant health issues such as soil composition, plant selection and care, disease diagnosis and insect identification and control. Topics also include water-wise gardening, home vegetable and fruit production, turf management, irrigation, flower, tree care and plant care during drought.

In the first year, Colorado Master Gardener apprentices return 50 hours of volunteer time to the program during the next growing season. Volunteers help the community by staffing the Master Gardener office, staffing clinic sites at community events, as well as planting and maintaining community demonstration gardens. After the first year, Colorado Master Gardeners are required to attend 12 hours of continuing education and provide 24 hours of volunteer service a year.

The Colorado Master Gardener program can be a stepping stone toward a career in horticulture. Recognized by the green industry as a great vocational education course, the Colorado Master Gardener program is open to everyone. Many people considering a career in the green industry start with master gardener training as an all-around introduction to advanced plant care. For those interested in the training without the volunteer side, students can take the class for a higher fee and receive a Colorado Gardener certificate with completion of the ten weeks of training.

If gaining knowledge about plants and helping others through horticulture is of interest to you, the Colorado Master Gardener program is an ideal volunteer choice. Contact the Colorado State University Extension office in Adams County at 303.637.8100 or email Cassey Anderson at cmanderson@adcogov.org for more information or an application. We look forward to hearing from all who are interested and encourage you to join this fun group of hardworking volunteers. The deadline for submitting your applications is Aug. 1, 2015, so call soon!

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