

Education Hours for Master Gardeners

Master Gardeners in McLean County have numerous opportunities for earning their 10 education hours each year.

Authorized Opportunities

- Master Gardener sponsored seminars or field trips.
- Classes taught by McLean County Master Gardeners such as those offered at Home, Lawn, and Garden Day or second Thursday classes.
- U of I Extension Telenet classes
- Classes taught by Master Gardeners from other counties.
- Classes taught by non-Master Gardeners as part of MG sponsored seminars in other counties.
- Master Gardener sponsored garden walks (1/2 hour per garden unless noted otherwise).
- Up to 2 education hours for research completed while preparing for a Master Gardener presentation on a horticultural topic. (Additional preparatory time will count as volunteer hours.)
- 2 hours of education credit for viewing approved instructional CDs in the Master Gardener library (ISA Pruning, ISA Disease Diagnosis, etc.)
- Master Gardener training core classes taken as an update.
- Advanced Master Gardener training courses (tree identification, disease and pest diagnosis, etc.)
- State or International Master Gardener Conferences, including guided tours.
- International or U. S. garden tours coordinated by the Illinois State Master Gardener Coordinator.
- Horticulture related courses offered by U of I Educators.
- Horticulture classes (credit or non credit) at any Central Illinois university or community college.
- Other non-Master Gardener activities may be endorsed for education hours; for example, locally-sponsored nursery classes and bus trips.

Unauthorized Opportunities

Education credit for unauthorized events or classes requires the approval of the Master Gardener Member Development Committee. Members seeking special authorization should complete an Education Hours Request Form and submit it to the Member Development Committee Chair. Request forms are available in the Master Gardener office and on the McLean County Master Gardener website.

Before final credit is awarded, the individual will need to complete either a short informative article, including horticultural facts, for the Master Gardener newsletter or present an informative report, including horticultural facts, at a Master Gardener quarterly meeting or second Thursday class.

2/20/08

