



**Sunflower Extension
District**

**2026 Master Gardener
training offered by the
K-State Extension Master
Gardener Program**

September 3—December 3, 2026

The training is presented live via Zoom from 1—4 PM (CT)

Sessions are also recorded for later viewing to work with your schedule.

Cost: \$45 (made payable to Sunflower Extension District)

Sign up at your local Sunflower Extension Office by August 24, 2026

Cheyenne County—785.332.3171

Sherman County—785.890.4880

Wallace County—785.852.4285

Extension Master Gardeners are trained in horticulture and related areas.

Master Gardeners:

Share ideas and continue to grow in their knowledge.

Provide horticulture information and answer questions.

Use demonstration gardens to educate community members.

Teach others (adults and children) about horticulture and gardening.

Present school and community programs.

*Participants must have: access to the internet, a computer/device with microphone and camera capabilities (to watch live online), and an actively monitored email account. Attend the Zoom Training session if you are new to Zoom. Contact your local Extension office for a detailed technology participant guide.

Date	Topic & Speaker
Hosted before Sept. 4	Welcome and Orientation
Thursday, September 4	Kansas EMG: Foundations and Expectations <i>Annie Baker and Dr. Cheryl Boyer</i> Connecting People and Plants, <i>Dr. Cynthia Domenghini</i>
Thursday, September 11	Landscape Maintenance, <i>Dr. Cheryl Boyer</i>
Thursday, September 18	Soils, Water and Fertility, <i>Shannon Blocker</i>
Thursday, September 25	Plant Growth and Development, <i>Dr. Sharon Ashworth and Lane Wiens</i>
Thursday, October 2	Pesticide Use and Safety, <i>Frannie Miller</i>
Thursday, October 9	Entomology, <i>Dr. Raymond Cloyd</i>
Thursday, October 16	Vegetable Basics, <i>Dr. Cary Rivard</i>
Thursday, October 23	Complete Wildlife Management module, <i>Dr. Drew Ricketts</i>
Thursday, October 30	Annual and Perennial Flowers, <i>Matthew McKernan</i>
Thursday, November 6	Plant Diseases, <i>Judy O'Mara</i>
Thursday, November 13	Woody Ornamentals, <i>Dr. Jason Griffin</i>
Thursday, November 20	Turfgrass in Kansas, <i>Alex Stanton</i>
Thursday, November 27	<i>No class this week.</i>
Thursday, December 4	Growing Fruit, <i>Rebecca McMahon</i>
Hosted after Dec. 4	Celebration and Recognition

Your Role as an Extension Master Gardener Volunteer

Please indicate the level of your interest in each of the EMG volunteer projects listed below. Indicate **A** (very interested), **B** (somewhat interested), or **C** (minimal interest) by each activity:

- _____ Youth programs/gardens: Teach youth to garden, work at events designed to increase awareness and active interest in gardening among youth.
- _____ Work in a local garden: Help to design, plant, and maintain public demonstration gardens.
- _____ Work at a community garden: Could include administration, teaching and outreach to gardeners.
- _____ Educational outreach: Staff an educational table or booth at a local event.
- _____ Present a gardening topic: For local groups and organizations.
- _____ Serve on a committee: Plan an EMG event like the Garden Tour or Garden Fair.
- _____ Work at an EMG event: Like the Garden Tour or Garden Fair.
- _____ Write newsletter, social media, or newspaper articles about Master Gardeners or gardening.
- _____ Develop educational materials: Plan, design, and construct displays, exhibits, handouts, or brochures to support EMG activities.

Getting to know you!

1. How did you hear about the Master Gardener Program?

2. Gardening Experience and Interests

3. Do you have area(s) of horticultural interests, specialization or Experience you could share with others?
Annual Flowers. Composting, Entomology (Insects), Fruit, Herbs, House Plants. Landscaping, Lawn Care, Perennials, Pollinators, Soils, Trees/Shrubs, Vegetables, Water Gardening, Other (please explain)*

Publicity Release (Check one of the boxes below)

_____ Yes, I authorize K-State Research and Extension or their assignees to record, video, and photograph my image and/or voice for use in research, educational, and promotional programs. I also recognize that these audio, video, and image recordings are the property of K-State Research and Extension.

_____ No, I do not authorize use of my individual image or voice.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Extension Master Gardener (EMG) program is to train and support volunteers willing to provide educational programs developed and supported by extension boards and K-State Research and Extension.

Guidelines for Sunflower District Master Gardener Program Participation

- Be a Sunflower Extension District resident (Cheyenne, Sherman, Wallace) or agree to a commitment of volunteer service in the Sunflower Extension District.
- Support the objectives of the Master Gardener program and the Extension Programs of the Sunflower Extension District Board.
- Be able to read and comprehend an extensive notebook of support materials to be used for future reference.
- Complete the basic Master Gardener Training Course. Online Thursdays from 1-4 PM CT via Zoom between September and December or watch a recorded version following the live presentation.
- Complete the 40 hours of volunteer work with Extension Agent approved projects by December 31st the year following basic course completion.
- Continuation as a Master Gardener in good standing requires completion of 8 hours of continued Master Gardener learning/training and a minimum of 20 volunteer hours annually—reported in the hour reporting system.
- May not participate for personal financial gain.

I would like to be a Sunflower Extension District #6

Master Gardener Volunteer

County: _____

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone (Best # to Contact): _____

Sunflower Extension District EMG Agreement

I wish to become a Sunflower Extension District *Master Gardener Trainee* and will complete the basic training which begins September 3, 2026 and continues each Thursday from 1 - 4 PM (CT) through December 3, 2026. Sessions will be held via Zoom with recordings to watch at a later time to fit your schedule.. We will work with the group to schedule an in person gathering for the first and last session. If you do not have internet services, contact your local extension office to check on possibilities to do the sessions in the office.

I understand as a NEW volunteer that if accepted into the Training Program, I am entering into a contract to return 40 hours of volunteer time in communicating research-based horticultural information to the public by December 31 of the year following the basic training course completion. I further understand that continuation as an active *Master Gardener* in good standing requires completion of both 8 hours of *continuing Master Gardener Training* and a minimum of 20 volunteer hours annually.

Previous Master Gardener volunteers need to take part in the training and consider it a refresher course. You will not be required to do the 40 hours of volunteer time, just the 20 volunteer hours annually.

Master Gardener volunteers may not participate in the Extension *Master Gardener Program* for personal gain or for commercial recommendations or endorsements. *Master Gardeners* are expected to provide recommendations based on research-based information and to provide educational program assistance in support of the general County / District Extension education program.

Master Gardeners operate under the control of a trained Extension professional responsible for monitoring their performance and the progress of their continuing education.

Signed,

Master Gardener Applicant

Date

**RETURN THIS APPLICATION TO YOUR LOCAL OFFICE WITH \$45.
CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO SUNFLOWER EXTENSION DISTRICT.**

**Goodland Office, 813 Broadway, Room 301, Goodland, KS 67735
Sharon Springs Office, 118 N Gardener, PO Box 189, Sharon Springs, KS 67758
St. Francis Office, 212 E. Washington St., PO Box 667, St. Francis, KS 67756**

Extension Participant Demographic Collection Form

K-State Extension programs are open to everyone. To ensure civil rights policy adherence, we are required to report program participant race and gender data to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Only aggregated information (total numbers across all programs) about race and gender are reported to the USDA. Providing the following information is **voluntary** and will be maintained strictly for reporting purposes. These records are kept separately from mailing lists and other participant information.

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with this information.

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, as amended. Kansas State University, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and United States Department of Agriculture cooperating.

Race (check all that apply)

- ____ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ____ Asian
- ____ Black or African American
- ____ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ____ White or Caucasian
- ____ Two or more races
- ____ Choose not to provide

Ethnicity

- ____ Hispanic or Latino
- ____ Not Hispanic or Latino
- ____ Choose not to provide

Gender

- ____ Male
- ____ Female
- ____ Non-Binary
- ____ Choose not to provide

Age

- ____ 18—29 years
- ____ 30—59 years
- ____ 60—75 years
- ____ 76 years or older
- ____ Choose not to provide