

Summer 2020

Dear Gardening Enthusiast,

Thank you for your interest in the **Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program**. Past participants have indicated this was a great experience. We hope it proves a valuable, worthwhile, and fulfilling life experience for you.

Purdue Extension's 2020 Master Gardener Basic Training classes for Noble and Whitley counties will be held Monday evenings, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., beginning Sept. 14 (see enclosed *Preliminary Basic Training Schedule*).

Orientation will be Tuesday, September 8 at the Noble County Extension Office (2090 N SR 9, Albion, IN, 46701).

Classes will be held alternately at the Noble County Purdue Extension office and the Whitley County Ag Museum (Fairgrounds).

The cost of the class for an individual is \$150. Couples in the same household sharing the Master Gardener manual may attend for \$230 (\$115 each). This fee is not tuition; it is for supplies (including a Master Gardener manual of over 600 pages) and classroom expenses. You have the *option* of purchasing a flash drive (electronic) version of the manual for an additional \$25.

Upon completion of the class (including a final exam score of at least 70%), you become a Master Gardener Intern. To become a certified Master Gardener, you must complete 40 volunteer hours. The main focus of volunteer hours is *teaching others*, which is the primary goal of the Master Gardener program.

To enroll:

By August 14:

- Read Purdue Master Gardener Program Policy Guide (<https://extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/mg/mg-5-w.pdf>)
- Fill out and submit an application (part of the above Policy Guide – Form EMG-1, pp. 13-15)
- Verify identification (show us your driver's license in person at the Extension office)
- Note: You will receive instructions to enroll online through "Cvent" once your application is screened and approved

By Aug. 31:

- Officially enroll and pay through the "Cvent" online system
- Arrangements can be made to pay at the Extension office with check, if preferred

COVID-19 precautions: We are making plans to implement social distancing and other safety measures. We will follow all university, state, and local requirements. If you prefer to take an online version of this class, please contact your county coordinator directly.

We welcome your questions!

John Woodmansee

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Ann Kline

Noble County Extension Educator
260-636-2111

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2020 Master Gardener Preliminary Basic Training Schedule

Monday* evenings 6:00 – 9:00 pm
 Alternating between Noble and Whitley County locations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sep. 8 (Tuesday)	Purdue EMG Orientation	MG Program Policy Guide (MG-5-W)	Noble
Sep. 14	Soils and Plant Nutrition	Ch. 2, 6; pp. 62-63	Noble
Sep. 21	Plant Science	Ch. 1,3	Whitley
Sep. 28	Pesticide Safety & Pesticide Alternatives Invasive Species, Native Species	Ch. 23, 24	Noble
Oct. 5	Vegetable Gardening	Ch. 7, 13	Whitley
Oct. 12	Weed Identification & Control Animal Pests, and Animal Friends	Ch. 19, 20	Noble
Oct. 19	Plant Disease Diagnosis	Ch. 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 25 (disease info)	Whitley
Oct. 26	Insect Identification & Control	Ch. 18, 25 (insect info)	Noble
Nov. 2	Lawn Care Composting	Ch. 11	Whitley
Nov. 9	Woody Ornamentals (trees and shrubs)	Ch. 10	Noble
Nov. 16	Herbaceous Ornamentals (annuals, perennials)	Ch. 5, 9, 12	Whitley
Nov. 23	Herbs Garden Math	pp. 151-159, 188-193, 360-361	Noble
Nov. 30	Fruit Gardening (focus on tree fruits; some sm. fruits)	Ch. 14	Whitley
Dec. 7	No class	-	-
Dec. 14	Final Exam		Noble
Dec. 21	Exam Review/Volunteering/Now What? Meet current Master Gardeners in each county		Whitley

*Orientation is on a Tuesday evening

NOBLE COUNTY:

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WHITLEY COUNTY:

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