

WEEKLY NEWS COLUMN  
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## MASTER GARDENER TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR COWLEY COUNTY GARDEN ENTHUSIASTS

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, K-State Research and Extension (KSRE) will offer an online Extension Master Gardener (EMG) basic training this Fall 2020, beginning September 3, 2020, and ending on December 17, 2020. The training will be held in a virtual format utilizing zoom technology as fall travel is limited for KSRE Extension Educators, which includes state specialists and local Extension agents. The entire Fall training will provide between 40 to 50 hours of instruction on 13 topics, delivered in a mix of lecture and engaging activities. Sessions will be held on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. The entire Fall training will provide between 40 to 50 hours of instruction on 13 topics, delivered in a mix of lecture and engaging activities. Sessions will be held on Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

The KSRE EMG program is a volunteer program that provides horticultural training in exchange for help supporting the work of local units. Volunteer expectations vary by local unit and can be adjusted as necessary. Training and volunteer hours are coordinated by local Extension agents. Volunteer activities vary widely, all are educational, Extension horticulture-related, and represent the mission and purpose of KSRE to deliver unbiased, research-based information to stakeholders in Kansas.

Anyone with an interest in horticulture can become a Master Gardener. The Master Gardener program is most appropriate for individuals who want to improve their skills and knowledge in Horticulture and also give back to their community.

Registration is open until August 27, 2020. Interested parties should complete the online application and submit the training fee of \$60 to the Cowley County Extension Office.

To learn more about the Extension Master Gardener Program, contact the Cowley County Extension Office at 620-221-5450 or email Kelsey Nordyke ([klndyke@ksu.edu](mailto:klndyke@ksu.edu)) or Becky Reid ([bkreid@ksu.edu](mailto:bkreid@ksu.edu)).

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