

2026 Guadalupe County Master Gardener Training Class 41

Conducted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Guadalupe County Master Gardeners

Classes run January 20th, 2026 - May 5th, 2026, Tuesdays, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Early Bird Course fee of \$250.00: Now through Oct. 31, 2025 - Free GCMG T-Shirt guaranteed!

Regular Course fee of \$275.00: Nov. 1, 2025 until the class is full - Free GCMG T-Shirt guaranteed!

Discounts for First Responders, Teachers, & Law Officers, or discount on 2 seats with one manual, see rates below.

By making this application you state your pledge to become a Certified Member of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners (GCMGs). Understand that in doing so you make a substantial commitment to further the mission of educating others in sound horticultural practices. Obligations are summarized below.

CONFIDENTIAL

1. Contact Information (print legibly, a “fill-able” application is also at www.gcmgtx.org): The information you provide in this section will be included in a roster given to your Classmates & the Certified GCMG membership. You will receive a copy of this roster. Information is not shared with the general public.

Name: Nickname or Name preferred on name badge:			Preferred phone number: Cell ☐ or Home ☐	
Home Address:			Number:	
City:	State: Texas	Zip:	County:	
Email:	Are you new to this gardening area? Yes _____ No _____			

2. Additional Information. This information is for administrative purposes only and not included in rosters or shared. Please tell us a little more about yourself:

Employed? Yes ☐ No ☐	Where?	Military Affiliation Yes ☐ First Responder (active or retired) Yes ☐ Law Officer (active or retired) Yes ☐ Educator/Teacher (active or retired) Yes ☐
Retired? Yes ☐ No ☐	Profession you retired from?	
Other garden related experience/training/special skill/talents?		
Active in other volunteer organization(s)? Which one(s)?		

3. Requirements for you to become a Master Gardener, please read and initial each item:

Initial below	By initialing each item below, I agree that as a Guadalupe County Master Gardener (GCMG) Student/Intern, I will:
	a. Pay applicable tuition for 1 applicant, or 2 applicants SHARING ONE MANUAL Second person must also complete a separate application and send the 2nd application in a separate email. Payment must accompany the application(s). More info & payment methods on pg 3. T-shirt size: Sm Med Lg XL 2XL 3XL T-shirts are 100% cotton, sizes can be exchanged at first class. ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ Note: If paying for 2 applicants, please have the 2nd person put their t-shirt size on the separate 2nd application.
	b. Undergo a personal background check/required by Texas AgriLife Extension. Instructions will be given during class. (Cost included in tuition)
	c. Attend a minimum of fifty (50 hours) of classroom and field instruction.
	d. Complete open-book, take-home tests, given on specific subjects on class days.
	e. Give a minimum of fifty (50) hours of volunteer service at GCMG approved projects within one year of completing the training program; and record the volunteer hours worked in a timely manner, using the Volunteer Management System (VMS).

4. Requirements to maintain Master Garden Certification status in the future:

Initial Below	Once I become a certified Master Gardener, I further commit to:
	a. Use the knowledge I gain to educate the public on sound horticulture practices and do my best to accomplish the GCMG mission and goals.
	b. Continue as an active member of the GCMGs by: 1. Performing a minimum of twenty (20) hours of volunteer service annually; 2. Attending at least ten (10) hours of approved continuing education annually; 3. Reporting volunteer hours in a timely manner (at least once a month before the end of each month); 4. Paying annual local dues, currently \$25.00, prorated (\$12.50) if certification occurs for a partial year; 5. Applying for and completing the Extension Volunteer Standards Course (EVS) and your personal background check every three years, or as required by the Texas AgriLife Extension.

5. Master Gardeners' commitments to you. Now, and in the future, Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc. and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will:

- **Welcome you** as part of the GCMG family;
- **Provide you with quality training** and associated materials;
- **Keep you informed** of upcoming GCMG events, volunteer, and continuing education opportunities.

6. Master Gardeners will maintain accurate records of the volunteer and continuing education hours you report;

- **Create opportunities for Master Gardeners to:**
SHOW WHAT WE GROW! AND SHARE WHAT WE KNOW!
- **Facilitate your continued learning** through regular meetings, activities and monthly newsletters;
- **Provide opportunities for you to take Advance Training** in an array of horticulture specialties;
- **Provide opportunities for volunteer services** at GCMG approved projects;
- **Welcome your full participation in the business affairs** of this 501(c)(3) non-profit organization;

Understand that you are signing up for more than gardening classes. This is a welcoming, active, non-profit organization that provides education programs in conjunction with the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service & that we are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status. Texas Master Gardener Assoc. & Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc. are volunteer service organizations under guidelines established by Texas A&M University and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

More details? Visit our Texas AgriLife site at: www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org to see the **GCMG Mission Statement, Bylaws, and Operating Guidelines**. You will also find current and archived issues of our **Guadalupe County Master Gardener Newsletters**. The latest newsletter lists all upcoming events, lecture topics and presenters.

We truly want you to feel a part of our gardening family! Our monthly membership meetings are on the 3rd Thursday evening of each month with social time starting at 5:45 pm, and the Lunch & Learn Lectures are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month 12-1 pm. These meetings and lectures are all free and open to the public. Please come!

Finish this application by signing below and following the instructions on the next page.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If applicable, print name of joint applicant: _____ A separate application must be filled out by the joint applicant and, if emailed, must be emailed separately.

Survey, how did you find out about this course? Newspaper ☐ County Fair ☐ Friend ☐ Event ☐ Other ☐

AgriLife Extension Building
210 E. Live Oak Street
Seguin, TX 78155
Website: www.gcmgtx.org
Email: gcmgtx@gmail.com

How to Apply

Carefully consider the requirements of the Master Gardener Program.

Fill out this application in legible print, answering each question as thoroughly as possible.

Mail, hand deliver, or email your completed application(s) with payment or proof of online payment:

Now through Oct. 31, 2025, early bird rate of \$250 (10% discount if applicable=\$225) or \$420 for two applicants.

Nov. 1 - until the class is full, regular rate of \$275 (10% discount if applicable=\$247) or \$480 for two applicants.

1. Mail your application(s) with enclosed check, money order, or printout of your online payment* to:

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners/Attn: Class 41
210 E. Live Oak St.
Seguin, TX 78155

2. **Or:** Hand deliver your application(s) with check, money order, cash, printed proof of on-line payment*, or pay by credit card at our monthly membership meeting on the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 5:45 pm, or at our monthly Lunch & Learn Lecture on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 12-1 pm, both are at the address above.

3. **Or:** If you wish to receive an **Invoice to pay by credit card or to set up installment payments**, send us your email with your request, or call one of the class coordinators listed below. Please specify if you are paying for 1 person only, the 2 seats for one handbook offer, or if you are eligible for one of the listed discounts.

4. **Or** email, using subject line: Class 41 application. Attach your application(s) with proof of your online payment* to: gcmgtx@gmail.com If you are doing the two for one deal (the class with a classmate & share a manual), please mail the applications in **separate emails** and **include the name of the joint applicant** in each email.

*To pay online, go to: www.gcmgtx.org You will also find a “fill-able” class application at this secure site.

More Questions? Please contact one of the GCMG Class 41 Coordinators:

Paul Carter
greenthumbcarter@gmail.com
Cell: (830) 481-0817

or

April Rippel
adrappel@gmail.com
Cell (830) 433-2218

or

David Fisher
gcmgdavidfisher@gmail.com
(361) 920-0368

Please leave a message if we are unable to answer your call.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University system, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts Cooperating.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodation for effective participation in the program should contact the County Extension Office at least one week prior to the program or event to request mobility, hearing, visual, or other assistance, and are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office at (830) 303-3889 to determine how reasonable accommodation(s) can be made.

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc. is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.