

NMSU Master Gardener Course Information

The **NMSU Extension Master Gardener Program** provides research-based horticulture training for volunteers to serve in their community.

Course Topics

- Soil Health
- Basic Botany
- Tree Care
- Fruit & Nut Production
- Vegetable Gardening
- Ornamentals
- Irrigation
- Plant Identification
- Weed Management
- Plant Pathology
- Entomology
- Turf Care

Course Format

- 15-week online course begins each January
- Approximately **5–6 hours per week**
- Weekly modules include pre-quiz, learning materials (videos/handouts) and post-quiz
- Live Zoom Q&A sessions every Thursday (recorded for later viewing)

Cost

- **\$200** for volunteer-track participants (payable to Los Alamos Master Gardeners)
- **\$300** for non-volunteer students (payable to Los Alamos Master Gardeners)

Eligibility

- Must be **18 or older**
- Must reside in **Los Alamos County**
- Reliable internet access and basic computer skills required

Volunteer Commitment

Graduates seeking Master Gardener certification must complete **30 volunteer hours** by November 15 of their first year. Volunteer opportunities include demonstration gardens, plant sales, educational presentations, community outreach, county fair support, and other Extension programs. To maintain membership, certified Master Gardeners complete **15 volunteer hours** and **10 continuing education hours annually**.

Additional Information

- Registration opens **November 15th**
- Scholarships are available based on financial need.
- Refunds may be granted during the first week of the course for extenuating circumstances.
- Accommodation requests should be made to Los Alamos Cooperative Extension Office.

Register [here](#) for the 2026 Master Gardener Class.