Dear Master Gardener Volunteer Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Douglas County University of Wisconsin-Extension’s Master Gardener Volunteer Training program. We are currently accepting applications for the fall, 2018 program.

Since its inception in Wisconsin, the Master Gardener Volunteer program has continued to be a premier community service-learning program connecting America’s foremost past time – gardening -- with volunteer opportunities in the areas we live. In a combination of informal lectures and service-learning activities, participants in the Master Gardener Volunteer program have the opportunity to expand their horticultural background, network with like-minded people, and return something to the community.

Douglas County UW-Extension’s program consists of 13 weeks of training, balancing on-line lessons with in classroom learning with guest speakers, demonstrations, hands on activities and field trips. The series will end with an open book quiz and a cap stone project completed during the growing season of 2019. We will be meeting on Monday evening, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, September 17- December 10. You will be introduced to the foundations of horticultural sciences and taught how to find answers to commonly asked gardening questions using the appropriate resources.

To successfully earn your Master Gardener Volunteer status, participants must complete a minimum of 36-hours of the initial training, pass the final exam, and complete a minimum of 24-hours volunteer service by October 1, 2019.

Registration for the program is $75.00 (total) and covers all resource materials and costs associated with the program.

Along with this letter, you will find an application form, volunteer service agreement, and background check form. Please complete and return all forms to the above stated address along with check or money order. Payment will be held until acceptance into the program. You will receive notification of acceptance into the program sometime in August. No refunds will be given after the program begins in September. You will receive a refund minus the background check service charge ($5) if not accepted into the program. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Our goal is to create for you an awarding, educational, and enjoyable experience. We look forward to your participation in the Master Gardener Training program!

Sincerely,

Jane Anklam, Horticulture and Agriculture Educator, Douglas County