

Three Ways to Cultivate A Greener Community

Whether you just want to cultivate your love of gardening or start a career in horticulture, we have options for you.



Master Gardener Volunteer Program

Master Gardeners go the extra mile by not only learning along with the online Green School classes, but also having weekly in-person lab classes, working in a hands on plant clinic also volunteering 50 hours a year in education and outreach. A wonderful way to establish connections, give to your community and get to know your local horticultural resources.



extension.wsu.edu/spokane/mg/



Washington Green School Gardening Certificate

Green School offers flexible online modules and live Zoom sessions covering 28 essential gardening topics. A perfect first step to a career working in agriculture, or cultivating a greener thumb.



greenschool.extension.wsu.edu/



The Master Gardener Foundation of Spokane County

The foundation supports the Master Gardener Volunteer Program through fundraisers. A \$25.00 Friend of the Foundation membership will allow you premium access to our plant sales and discounts at local garden-related businesses. Support your community without the time commitment.



spokane.mastergardenerfoundation.org/

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Becoming a Spokane County Master Gardener

- Applications may be submitted through **August 30, 2025**.
- Only complete applications will be approved to move forward in the evaluation process.
- The cost for Master Gardener Training is **\$275**.
- Two “meet and greet” sessions (one during the day and one in the evening) will be scheduled in September so applicants may learn more about the program and meet with Master Gardeners to review expectations, questions and concerns. Qualified applicants will be notified of their selection shortly thereafter.



- Classes will include both online training and local county in-person training. The in-person programs will be held on Thursdays beginning in October 2025 and concluding in April 2026.

· In-person classes and labs are scheduled to begin in October of this year and are tailored to enhance online Green School presentations and focus on Eastern Washington gardening scenarios.



· Online Statewide Training Component: Green School Platform

· The Spokane County Master Gardener program requires *first year trainees* to perform **20 hours of volunteer service** in the WSU Plant Clinic, 15 hours at approved events, workshops or youth education programs and 5 hours of work in our Demonstration Garden.



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Washington Gardeners Certificate

Why earn a Washington Gardening Certificate?

Advance your career - Showcase your ability to apply science-backed techniques that reduce environmental impact, conserve resources, and create resilient ecosystems—essential skills for today's green industry.



Unlock the secrets to thriving landscapes - Immerse yourself in the art of sustainable gardening with expert guidance! Learn about science-backed techniques in soil health, water conservation, pollinator protection, and climate-conscious gardening—helping you create lush, resilient landscapes that support biodiversity.



Grow your business - Stay ahead in the green industry by integrating sustainable practices that benefit both the environment and your business. Learn about strategies to enhance expertise, refine sustainability approaches, and implement eco-conscious solutions that drive success.

Learn at your own pace

Through the Green School Program, earning a certificate has never been easier. This online course is completely flexible for your schedule. A great way to study while keeping up with a busy lifestyle.



Requirements

- Applications may be submitted through **August 30, 2025**.
- Registration begins on **August 15** and will remain open until **September 30**. Online classes begin October 5.
- The cost for the course is **\$550**

Workload:

120+ hours over 20 weeks:

- 20 hours of direct instruction
- 100+ hours of personal study to complete online training.
- Reading chapters, watching videos completing interactive activities.
- Passing quizzes with an average of 80%
- Passing final with at least an 80%
- Be prepared to spend about 4-5 hours per week studying.

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