

NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program

Program Commitment Agreement

I understand that when I complete training, I am expected to extend research-based information to the public on behalf of NDSU Extension as my internship.

In exchange for 40 hours of Extension Master Gardener Intern training provided by NDSU Extension, I will complete my internship by:

- Committing to a minimum of 48 hours of volunteer service over two years to NDSU Extension horticultural programming efforts
- Providing an annual record of my volunteer service to the NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program using forms and guidelines provided online

While acting as an Extension Master Gardener, I agree to:

- Act professionally toward other Master Gardener volunteers, interns and clients
- Refer all commercial horticulture inquires to the Master Gardener Coordinator or other NDSU Extension staff
- Recommend and use only NDSU approved information for any public pesticide, herbicide, fungicide, insecticide or fertilizer.
- Avoid conflict of interest
 - Master Gardener status will not be used to promote commercial activity or private business
 - Volunteer's efforts for their place of employment during working hours will not be considered as volunteer service to NDSU Extension Master Gardener unless pre-approved by the Master Gardener Coordinator
 - Volunteer's efforts on behalf of family members will not be considered as volunteer service to NDSU Extension Master Gardener
- Act in accordance with the highest standard of ethics:
 - Not physically, verbally, or sexually harass/abuse anyone
 - Refrain from illegal or unsafe behavior
 - Not discriminate against anyone with regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, or disability

Photo Release

The program will record the Fargo classroom session and the webinar to be broadcast to other classrooms across the state. This means you may be captured on video/audio.

The program often photographs group trips, meetings, and volunteer activities for documentation and marketing. Photographs may be used on websites and our private Facebook group, or in newspaper, newsletter, or other MG materials.

Further, photos you take at events are always welcome! If you send photos via email you are giving consent to NDSU Extension Master Gardener to modify and/or use the photo(s), naming you as creator on websites and our private Facebook group, or in newspaper, newsletter, or other MG materials.

Registration with NDSU Extension Master Gardener by submission of this form includes permission to photograph you and use your image, or images you take and submit, in publicity materials *unless you inform the photographer or event coordinator that you wish to not have your photo taken.*

Criminal Background Check and Course Fees

Acceptance into the program is contingent upon purchasing (\$35) and passing the background check. To complete program acceptance you will be sent an email with instructions from Sterling Talent Solutions. This email can look like spam, so be sure to look for the email address noreply@sterlingts.com. If results of the background check are adverse, the course fee only will be refunded to your payment card.

In remitting the Core Course fee (\$225) I confirm I will meet the NDSU Extension Master Gardener Program requirements for course completion and volunteerism as defined above.