2027 MASTER GARDENER APPLICATION PACKET

The Hardeman County Master Gardener program is a volunteer service organization offered by The University of Tennessee Extension. The purpose of the Master Gardener program is to train citizens as horticulture educators for their communities.

The title **Master Gardener** is conditional upon complying with the following:

- Successfully completing the Master Gardener training program,
- Performing and reporting 40 service hours within the calendar year of training program completion,
- Sharing only University of Tennessee-approved recommendations (not home remedies but researched-based information),
- The Master Gardener name badge and title may not be used for commercial gain or to promote commercial products or businesses; and
- Certification is renewable annually, upon completion of volunteer and educational requirements.

Included in this application packet are the following forms:

- **Extension Volunteer Form**
- **Training Class Schedule**

To complete the training, you must attend all in-person sessions unless otherwise noted. Please ensure you are available to do so before applying for the program. To participate, you will need to have access to internet for virtual lectures and Zoom or other device. If you do not have the ability to access the online classes on your own device, please contact Rachel Howell.

Please fill out all forms in this packet completely.
Incomplete application packets will not be considered.

Applications are due no later than December 18, 2026 and should be sent to:
Hardeman County Extension, Attn: Rachel Howell, 210 Vildo Road, Bolivar, TN 38008
OR emailed to rparker1@utk.edu

Master Gardeners frequently interact with children. A check against the Sexual Offenders registry is required by the University of Tennessee for all volunteers working with children. Please note that the Background Disclosure section of this application must be completed before acceptance to the Master Gardener program.

Please send payment with this application. Payment of $175 per person or $200 per couple. The fee includes all educational materials. Checks made out to University of Tennessee.

Programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development.
University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating.
UT Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.