

**Course Title:** 2020 UVM Extension Master Gardener Course

**Semester/Year/Credit:** Spring Semester, 2020 \*Non-Credit, Extension Course

**Location:** Online extension Moodle Website. Optional, live Q&A sessions with instructors are broadcast on Zoom, each Thursday from 6:00-7:00 pm

**Course Description:**

Home Gardeners in Vermont who take this course will learn a wide range of subject matter including backyard vegetable gardening, perennials and annuals, soil fertility, and tree care. Learn from UVM Extension faculty and industry experts about botany basics, pest and plant disease control, and sustainable landscape practices. All topics are geared to help you become a more informed gardener.

**State Program & Course Coordinator:** Beret Halverson, (Jeffords Hall 206, UVM). Students, please contact me via the extension course website (Go to “participants” click on my name, then “message”) or 802-656-1777.

**Contact Me About:** Questions related to the Master Gardener or Composter courses (content or format), course scholarships, advanced Master Gardener or Composter trainings, the annual state master gardener conference, annual reports, partnerships, promotion, advertising and marketing. Please do not contact me with general volunteer questions or with website or tech issues. Please do not email me directly. Use the website app as noted above.

**Office & Helpline Assistant:** Lisa Chouinard, (Jeffords 206, UVM)  
[master.gardener@uvm.edu](mailto:master.gardener@uvm.edu), 802-656-9562

**Contact Me About:** Questions related to the Helpline, as well as the general course format, course registration process or issues, how to find something on the website, mailings, brochures, course certificates, and badges, or other office related functions. Please do not contact me with specific questions about courses (if you are a student), advanced trainings, or volunteering.

**Local Volunteer Coordinator:** Cindy Heath, (Remote, part-time)  
[cindy.heath@uvm.edu](mailto:cindy.heath@uvm.edu), 603-675-9123

**Contact Me About:** Volunteering in your local region, volunteer projects, how to record volunteers' hours, report hours and get certification, how to renew annual certification, local Master Gardener Chapters, local events and educational opportunities in your region. Please do not contact me about course registration, office related functions or with specific questions about the courses (if you are a student).

### **Course Schedule:**

**Registration Ends:** January 15, 2020 @4:30pm

**Course open:** Friday January 17, 2020 @5:00 pm

**First, live Q&A:** Thursday January 30, 2020 @6:00-7:00pm

**Course Introduction Assignments due:** Friday January 24 @11:59 pm.

No exceptions. (Pre-Course Survey, Introduction Post & Photo, Student Orientation Discussion)

**Course Content Modules Start:** Friday January 24@5:00pm

**Final Date to Switch Tracks or Drop Course:** March 13 @4:30pm (Office closed at this time).

**Course Modules End:** Friday May 15 @11:59pm

**Course Final Assignments due:** Friday May 22 @11:59pm. No exceptions. (Post-Course Survey, Final Exam, (Track 1 & 2), and

Volunteer Application (Track1 only). Application must be physically present in my office.

**Learning Objectives:**

**After completing this course, all students will be able to:**

- Understand the general Vermont growing conditions for major plant types including vegetables, trees and shrubs, perennials, annuals, turf grass and container plants.
- Use UVM Extension, Master Gardener, eXtension, Zoom and other online resources for learning.
- Perform research on garden topics using University resources including *Sustainable Gardening*, *Landscape Plants* and other sources of research-based information to diagnose plant problems and provide management recommendations.
- Articulate the meaning of science-based horticulture and integrated pest management, and the importance of relaying that to the general public and community-based gardening projects.
- Understand the principles and decision-making process of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for guiding pest management recommendations to the public.
- Communicate the relative benefits and risks of no action, cultural/physical, biological, and chemical management strategies, and effective pest management strategies that pose the lowest risks to human health, non-target organisms, habitats and water quality.

**After completing the course Track 1 students will be able to:**

- Create gardening learning environments in the community with other Master Gardener volunteers.
- Articulate the mission of the UVM Extension Master Gardener Program, including the roles and responsibilities of EMG volunteers, program staff and local Chapters.

## **Volunteering:**

Track 1 students should carefully assess their capacity to complete the 40-hour hands-on internship in order to become a certified master gardener volunteer. Please read carefully below about what is required during your internship, and of EMG volunteers more broadly.

## **What does it mean to be a Master Gardener Volunteer?**

UVM Extension Master Gardener volunteers are considered representatives of the university and they share research-based horticulture knowledge with the public through the helpline, talks and displays at fairs, farmers' markets and other outlets, or assist with UVM Extension Master Gardener approved community projects.

Upon successful completion of the course, students in Track 1 go on to become certified Vermont Master Gardener volunteers by completing a hands-on internship of forty hours working on approved Master Gardener projects under the guidance of already certified Master Gardeners.

## **A few things to read carefully:**

- Track 1 students must complete the 40-hour internship during the 2 years after taking the course. If you do not complete your 40 hours in the 2-yr. time period, then you will need to apply to “re-activate” your status in order to re-join the program at a later date and re-try for your volunteer certification.
- The purpose of the 40-hour internship is to get hands-on experience after the course working under the mentorship of experienced master gardener volunteers. We're sorry but interns cannot start new projects unless there is an extenuating circumstance, such as limited internship opportunities near where you live. Only certified Master Gardener volunteers can start new on-going (year to year) projects.

- All volunteer hours for certified volunteers must be done at approved on-going projects. (Please review the list on our website) or on one-time requests that come from partner organizations through the state office.
- The Master Gardener Program is a self-funded membership organization. We track member certifications and provide continuing education opportunities for our volunteers. In return certified volunteers pay an annual certification renewal fee. This fee is \$25 year for active volunteers who are contributing 25 or more volunteer hours per year. These funds are used to help pay for volunteer project materials and advanced trainings.
- Active volunteers who are unable to complete the 25 volunteer hours in one year due to an extenuating circumstance (health or family issue) can then choose to go “on hold”, for up to two years’ time. After two years you must start volunteering or you will be moved to alumni status. During this period, you should still be reporting your status and any hours you have completed to the program and paying the annual renewal fee. If you were able to volunteer between 1 and 25 hours, please be sure to still report those to the program using the volunteer hours form.
- Alumni Status. At some point in time, many certified master gardeners are no longer able to volunteer on a year to year basis. These folks are moved over to our alumni list and removed from our active volunteer listserv communications. Alumni still receive the bi-monthly program newsletter updates via mail chimp, and can apply to re-activate at any time.

### **Switching Tracks:**

Should you find that you **are no longer able to complete the volunteer internship (Track 1) requirements** then you should notify the course coordinator as soon as possible. **The final deadline for switching tracks is March 13.** Please note, when you switch tracks you will be **required to pay the difference in course fee (\$50)**. When you switch to Track 2

you are no longer eligible to become a Master Gardener Volunteer, but if you complete the course requirements for Track 2, you do receive a recognition of course completion. At the end of the course you will be eligible to download and print the *Certificate of Home Horticulture* from the website. If the \$50 fee is not received by our office within two weeks of date of notification, or if you do not notify us that you wish to switch tracks then you will be put on suspension. This means your login account will no longer be active until your check is received. If this happens at the end of the course with no notification, you will be suspended from further access to course materials and receive a bill for \$50. Please be honest with us about your intentions and do not let this happen. Course fees make up the majority of funding for the Master Gardener program. This program does not receive financial support from UVM or Extension, so a loss of revenue means that the program may not exist going forward. We choose to offer a cheaper fee to those individuals who honestly and sincerely commit to doing 40 hours of volunteering to the community. Thank you for being honest about your volunteer commitment and for honoring the commitment others have made by paying the fee difference should you no longer be able to fulfill the volunteer commitment.

As a condition of award, scholarship recipients agree to enrolling in Track 1 and volunteering 40 hours. Students in this category must fulfill their volunteer commitment or pay back the full award amount. If you are a scholarship recipient and an unforeseen circumstance arises preventing you from completing the course, or volunteering after the course please be honest and contact the coordinator as soon as possible to discuss your options going forward. Medical issues do require a note from your doctor. If you do not contact the coordinator right away and miss too many assignments to pass the course then you will be suspended from the course and billed the award amount in addition to the \$50 difference in course fees.

## **Dropping the course/Refunds:**

The final date to drop the course is March 13. If you find you are unable to continue in the course at any point before March 13, please notify the course coordinator as soon as possible. This includes illness, family issues, moving, job issues, other life crisis's etc. Medical issues do require a note from your doctor. Unfortunately, we cannot provide refunds for the course modules that you have already been given access to on the website, but we may be able to provide a partial refund for modules the you have not yet accessed if you notify us before March 13. If you would like to get a partial refund and then re-enroll in the course next year, you may do so on your own. We cannot track your enrollment year to year.

If you have an unforeseen circumstance, that occurs after March 13 than you have two options (see below).

1. You may continue in the course as a self-paced student (see section below), but no refunds will be given to you and you will not receive a certificate of completion, or be eligible to go on to volunteer and become a Master Gardener. Please contact the coordinator on the phone to explain your unforeseen circumstance and be moved to the self-paced option. Medical issues do require a note from your doctor.
2. You can drop out of the course and be given a code to re-take it again next year if you have an unforeseen circumstance (illness, or death in the family). No refund will be given. If you would like to do this please notify the coordinator via phone as soon as possible to explain your unforeseen circumstance. Please do not contact the coordinator via the website regarding this matter. This should be done in-person or over the phone. Please note you cannot drop the course after you have been given access to all of the

modules, or after the course has concluded, so please contact the coordinator as soon as possible and before all the modules have opened. Medical issues do require a note from your doctor before a code will be provided. Re-enrollment is done on your own using the special code we provide. We do not track enrollment year to year.

Again, please carefully consider the workload and scheduling commitments prior to signing up for the course. Sorry, but we cannot make exceptions to this policy, so please do not ask.

**Self-paced option:** If you prefer learning at your own pace, or in the event that you sign up for Track 1 or 2 but realize you are unable to keep up with the course schedule, but you would still like to have access to the course materials for your own learning then you can choose this option. Please notify the coordinator as soon as possible, but no later than **March 13** that you would like to access the course at your own pace. What this means is you will still have access to the course website, reading, lectures and other materials, but you will not receive grades, a certificate of completion, and you cannot go on to volunteer. **Access to the course materials will be available to all students until July 31, 2020.**

### **Required Course Materials:**

***Computer/Internet:*** All of the content for this course is provided online. You will need basic computer skills, such as knowing how to download files and search websites to access the materials successfully. If you have reliable, high-speed internet access and can hear sound through your computer's speakers, you should be able to participate regardless of the type of computer or operating system you use. However, if you have an older, slower computer, or out of date software you may face some challenges with things downloading slowly, or newer versions of software such as PowerPoint that do not work for you. Prior to signing

up for the course please assess your equipment, and be aware that having an up- to-date computer will impact the ease with which you are able to navigate the course and access the materials. Please note that the course coordinator is unavailable to help with your personal computer issues.

**Internet speed:** Zoom conferencing works best when you have a 1.5 mgs download speed and a 1.5 mgs upload speed. If you are unsure of your speed, **PLEASE check with your internet provider** prior to the course so you are able to have the best experience possible. Slow download/upload speeds can result in sound issues and this is not something our staff can resolve for you.

**PowerPoint:** Several lectures are provided in PowerPoint. If you do not have version 2010 or later you might experience difficulty downloading the content.

## **Course Reading**

- ***Sustainable Gardening Manual*** - This is where you will find your weekly chapter reading assignments, which are indicated in the student syllabus. Some readings will be available via the web, and the web link is provided in the online syllabus. This gardening manual was developed by the University of Rhode Island Extension but was intended for use by Master Gardener Programs throughout New England. Although we would love to have a manual specific to Vermont the current grant funding and staffing capacity does not compensate for a large project like this at this time.
- ***Landscape Plants for Vermont*** - Although it is not a course requirement to purchase this book, it is an excellent resource to help Vermont residents select trees, shrubs, vines or woody ground cover plants that are native to Vermont. Students receive a special discount. The order form is located in the Module 1: COURSE INTRODUCTION.

## **Attendance Expectations:**

There are no attendance expectations for the live online Q&A sessions. If you miss a live online Q&A session you should plan to watch the recording. Each session will be recorded and archived under each module, (barring any technical difficulty). Students are expected to watch any missed Q&A sessions, and complete missed assignments before the appropriate deadlines. Please note that Q&A video lecture postings **cannot be guaranteed due to tech issues that sometimes occur** with the Zoom software that runs our webinars, (this is not in our control) so whenever possible, **it is recommended to attend live.**

## **Course Website & Your Personal Email:**

All course materials will be located on this website: ***campus.extension.org***. A website account (username and password) is

necessary for access. You will need to login to the website each time to return to the course in your web browser, (see instructions below). Please be sure to carefully read the entire course website and scroll all the way down it for the full course and assignment schedule. **Please plan to access this website weekly and your personal email daily** to keep up with the course. Please read all emails sent to you by the course coordinator. These emails contain important updates that you will need to keep up with weekly.

### **Course Communication:**

All messages to the course coordinator should be directed through the website, by clicking on the “**participants**” link on the left side of the screen, then finding the coordinator’s name/photo and direct messaging her by clicking on **her name**, and then clicking on, “**message**” (This is a private one-on-one communication). Please do not email the coordinator directly. Questions and conversations are all tracked on the website in one location. If you have questions for other students you may post those on the **Student Forum**. Questions posted to the student forum will be emailed out to every student in the course. If you do not wish to receive forum emails, you can unsubscribe anytime by clicking “**unsubscribe**” at the bottom of the email. You can also set the emails to **digest mode**, so you receive just one email daily. If you unsubscribe please be sure to check the Forum on the website regularly to keep up with the student conversations and questions that might apply to you.

### **How to Login**

1. *Login to the course portal. The course is housed at eXtension’s Online campus at: [campus.extension.org](http://campus.extension.org). If you have not yet been to this site, you will need to create an account. To do so, go to “Login” and click on “Create new account.” You will need to complete some basic information and confirm your account via email.*

2. Enroll in the course. On the home page of the eXtension Online Campus, you can find the course by searching in the course catalog.

for “Vermont Master Gardener.” Or go to:

<https://catalog.extension.org/product?catalog=VT-MasterGardener>

for “Vermont Certificate of Home Horticulture”. Or go to:

<https://catalog.extension.org/product?catalog=VT-MasterGardenerNC>

### **Grading Criteria/Policies:**

To pass the course, you must receive at least **129** out of 162 possible points for Track 2 and **138** out of 173 possible points for Track 1. You must also receive 4 out of 5 points (80%) on each of the quizzes, and 14.7 out of 21 points on the final exam, (70%). You can take the quizzes and exam 2 times if necessary. You must also fill out both the pre-course, and post course surveys. Missing these survey assignments means you do not pass the course regardless of the amount of points you have earned. In addition to the above, Track 1 students must also complete the following assignments in order to pass: \*Module 15 Discussion Question, and the \*Volunteer Application.

Missing these assignments means you do not pass the course regardless of the amount of points you have earned. Track 2 students can participate in the Module 15 assignments (except for the volunteer application) if they are interested in learning more about the volunteer program and want the extra credit, and/or are thinking about switching to Track 1.

Please see the number of points associated with each assignment below, and assignments marked with an \* require completion in order to pass the course.

Introduction Assignments:

1. \*Pre-Course Survey (required to pass) = **2 points**
2. \*Course introduction & Profile Information = **1 point**
3. \*Track Survey = **1 point**

**Course Introduction Total = 4 points**

Module Assignments:

1. Discussion Questions (5 points each x 13 questions) = **65 points**  
(+5 points for Module 15)
2. \*Module Quizzes (5 points each x 14) = **70 points**
3. Module 15 Discussion question = **(+5 points)**
4. Module 15 Quiz = (+5 points) (Track 1 only)

**Module Assignments Total = 135 points**

- (+5) for Module 15 Discussion Question (Track 1 only)
- (+5) for Module 15 Quiz (Track 1 only)

Final Assignments

1. \*Post-Course Survey (required to pass) = **2 points**  
(+1 point for \*Volunteer Application (Track 1 only))

2. \*Final Exam (14.7 points or 70% or better required to pass) = **21 points**
3. \*Volunteer application= (+1 point) (Track 1 Only)

**Course Final Assignments Total=23 points**

(+1 point) for Module 15 Volunteer Application (Track 1 only)

**Track 2 Total points possible= 162 points**

**Total points required for 80%= 129 points**

**Track 1 Total points possible= 173 points (Track 1) (+11 points for Module 15 assignments)**

**Total points required for 80% = 138 points**

**Late Work:** Due to the large volume of students enrolled in this course at one time (85 + students), late assignments **are not** accepted. We completely understand that extenuating circumstances occur often which is why we only require an 80% to pass the course, 80% on quizzes, and 70% to pass the final exam, allowing you to miss a few assignments should something happen during the course.

Unfortunately, due to the large class size (95+ students) the coordinator does not have time to re-grade missed assignments. Please carefully assess your ability to meet the requirements of the course and keep up with the weekly assignments before you enroll. If you do not want to keep up with the schedule, or assignment due dates please choose the self-paced option by **March 13**. This is a firm policy, please do not ask for late credit.

**Weekly Format & Assessments:** Each week students are required to watch a lecture, do readings, post one discussion question prior to the live Q&A session, and complete the 5-question quiz.

### **Weekly Discussion Questions:**

Please note that all discussion questions must reference the lecture or the reading. Questions should be based on a topic already covered in the material that you would like to learn more about. Tangential discussion questions that do not specifically refer to the required reading in the sustainable gardening handbook or pre-recorded lecture (ppt slides), are unrelated to the topics covered, or ask for personal gardening advice will not receive full credit, (3-4 points out of 5). Please note that when you submit discussion questions you should write the page # or slide number before the question in parenthesis. **For example: (Slide #1) or (Pg. #4).** Please do not format the reference in any other format than the one noted above.

**Weekly Feedback:** Students are welcome to post feedback for each module under the link entitled, “**Optional Feedback.**” This is not a required assignment, but your feedback is helpful and does get sent to each of the course instructors. Please be sure to refrain from commenting on tech or format, and keep feedback focused on the content of the materials provided by the instructors. The instructors do not control the tech or format of the course. If you have tech or format feedback you may either message the coordinator or submit your comments in the post course survey at the end of the course.

### **Weekly Quizzes:**

Each week there is a 5-question multiple choice/true/false quiz. The quizzes are auto graded. You may take each of the quizzes 2 times if necessary, and are required to receive a 4 out of 5 points (80%) to pass the course.

### **Final Exam:**

There is a 21-question final exam at the end of the course. The 21-question exam is open-book and multiple choice, and you may take it two times if necessary.

### **Module Access:**

The course is set up so that each module will become available on a weekly basis every Friday at 5pm. This allows the coordinator time to work with the instructors, as well as set up the online technology platforms that run each module and each lecture. Should you wish to do work in advance you can do the reading listed in the

course schedule below. The lectures will not be available ahead of the module opening.

**Each module opens:** Every Friday at 5:00pm

**Discussion Questions due:** Every Tuesday by 11:59pm

**Lecture and Readings due:** Every Tuesday by 11:59 pm

**OPTIONAL Live Q&A Sessions:** Every Thursday from 6:00-7:00 pm

**All quizzes Due:** By the end of the course. Please note: If you miss a quiz and are Track 2, you will not be able to print your certificate of completion as the quizzes are required to be passed at 80% in order to complete the class.

**\*\*\*Please be sure to scroll down the entire course website to see the specific due dates for each module's assignments.** These are located at the top of every module.

### **Track Survey:**

Please take this survey during the introductory module. This lets the course coordinator know which track you wish to sign up for. Your options are as follows:

**Track 1 (Volunteer Certification)**-Going on to become a certified Master Gardener volunteer after completing 40 intern volunteer hours.

**Track 2 (Course Only)**-Receiving a certification of completion that you print at the end of the course if you keep up with the assignments.

**Track 2 (Self-Paced)**-You wish to take the course at your own pace, and will not go on to volunteer, nor will you receive a certificate of completion.

### **Post Introduction & Profile Information:**

This should also be done during the introduction module. Post an introduction of yourself in the Student Open Forum. Please also post a photo and description of yourself in your profile. See upper right of the screen and click on your name, and then "edit profile" to add your information. Please use a photo of your face, not an object. This helps us to get to know each other.

### **Course Pre-Survey & Post-Evaluation:**

All students are expected to complete a survey at the beginning of the course as well as an evaluation at its conclusion. The surveys will be kept confidential, and the information gained, including constructive criticisms, will be used to improve

the course. Please note, if you miss these assignments then you will not pass the course.

### **Student Learning Accommodations:**

In keeping with university policy, any student with a documented disability interested in utilizing accommodations should contact SAS, the office of Disability Services on UVM's campus. SAS works with students and faculty in an interactive process to explore reasonable and appropriate accommodations, which are communicated to faculty in an accommodation letter. All students are strongly encouraged to meet with the course coordinator to discuss the accommodations they plan to use in the course. A student's accommodation letter lists those accommodations that will not be implemented until the student meets with the coordinator to create a plan.

### **Contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS):**

A170 Living/Learning Center

802-656-7753

[access@uvm.edu](mailto:access@uvm.edu)

<http://www.uvm.edu/access>

### **Weekly Schedule: (Subject to change)**

#### **January 17-24**

##### **Module#1: Self-Paced Week, Course Introduction, Beret Halverson**

- Friday January 17: Module opens at 5pm. All of this week's assignments are on the course website. Please do them at your own pace this week. There is no live Q&A session this week.
- Thursday January 23: All assignments due at 11:59pm (Pre-course survey, Post Introduction, Track Survey)

#### **January 24-January 31**

##### **Module #2: Botany, Amy Ivy**

- Friday January 24: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday January 28: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm

- Thursday January 30: Live Q&A with Amy Ivy, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday January 31: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 1 or Penn State MG Manual: Chapter 2

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

## **January 31-February 7**

### **Module#3: Soil Health, Wendy Sue Harper**

- Friday January 31: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday February 4: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59 pm
- Thursday February 6: Live Q&A with Wendy Sue Harper, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday February 7: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapters 2 & 3 or Penn State MG Manual: Chapter 4

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

## **February 7-14**

### **Module #4: Annuals & Perennials, Amy Ivy**

- Friday February 7: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday February 11: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday February 13: Live Q&A, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday February 14: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 11 or Penn State Manual: Chapter 17

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

## **February 14-21**

### **Module #5: Entomology, Vic Izzo**

- Friday February 15: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday February 18: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday February 20: Live Q&A 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday February 21: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 4 or Penn State MG Manual: Chapter 7

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

**February 21-February 28: Vacation Week! No Q&A or reading this week.**

## **February 28-March 6**

### **Module #6: Small Fruits, Vern Grubinger**

- Friday February 28: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday March 3: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday March 5: Live Q&A with Vern Grubinger, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday March 6: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 14 Small Fruit (14-15- 14-27) or Penn State MG Manual: Chapter 14

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

## **March 6-13**

### **Module #7: Veggie Gardening, Rebecca (Becky) Maden**

- Friday March 6: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday March 10: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday March 12: Live Q&A with Becky Maden, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday March 13: Module Feedback due, 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 15 or Penn State Manual Chapter: 10

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

### **March 13-20**

#### **Module #8: Plant Pathology, Ann Hazelrigg**

- Friday March 13: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday March 17: Module lecture, reading and discussion questions due at 11:59pm
- Thursday March 19: Live Q&A, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday March 20: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening: Chapter 5, 6, 17 or Penn State MG Manual: Chapters 6&8

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

### **March 20-27**

#### **#9: Healthy Lawn Care, Sid Bosworth**

- Friday March 20: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday March 24: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday March 26: Live Q&A, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday March 27: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 9 & 10 or Penn State MG Manual: Chapters 11 & 19

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

### **March 27-April 3**

#### **Module #10: Fruit Trees & Pruning, Terry Bradshaw**

- Friday March 27: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday March 31: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm

- Thursday April 2: Live Q&A with Terry Bradshaw, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday April 3: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapters 14 Tree Fruit (14-1-14-9) & General Orchard Management (14-30) & 21 (Pruning) or Penn State MG Manual: Chapters 12 & 13

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

### **April 3-10**

#### **Module #11: Invasive Plants, Elizabeth Spinney**

- Friday April 3: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday April 7: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday April 9: Live Q&A with Elizabeth Spinney, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday April 10: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

#### **Reading:**

1. Sustainable Gardening: Chapter 23 (skip the first page 23-1) or Penn State MG Manual: Chapter 20 (skip pgs. 665-669).

2. What Makes a Plant Invasive?

<https://vtinvasives.org/sites/default/files/What%20Makes%20a%20Plant%20Invasive%20and%20FAQs.pdf>

3. Vermont Quarantine Rule: <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/public-health-agricultural-resource-management-division/plant-health-and-pest-management/plant-2>

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

## April 10-17

### Module #12: Garden Pollinator Habitat, Jane Sorensen

- Friday April 10: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday April 14: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday April 16: Live Q&A with Jane Sorensen, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday April 17: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

#### Reading:

1. US Forest Service page below on pollinators:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/index.shtml>

Read these sections (click on each to open or go to website and click from there if you are reading this in print)

[What is Pollination?](#)

[Animal Pollination](#)

[Plant Strategies](#)

[Why is Pollination Important?](#)

[Pollinator Friendly Practices](#)

[Gardening for Pollinators](#)

[Pollinator-Friendly BMPs for Federal Lands](#)

[Pollinator of the Month](#)

[The Monarch Butterfly](#)

The following three short readings are located in "Module 12: Additional Readings (required)" folder in the Module 12 section of the home page.

1. Vermont Pollinator Palette (pdf)
2. Resources for Pollinator Habitat Enhancement (pdf)
3. Homestead Pollinator Habitat Enhancement Planning (pdf)

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

**April 17-24: Vacation Week! No Q&A or reading this week.**

### **April 24-May 1**

#### **Module #13: Sustainable Landscape Design & Garden Wildlife, Judith Irven**

- Friday April 17: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday April 21: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday April 23: Live Q&A with Judith Irven, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday April 24: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

2. Reading: Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapters 20 & 25 or Penn State MG Manual: Chapters 15 & 21

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

### **May 1-May 8**

#### **Module #14: Woody Trees & Shrubs, Elise Schadler**

- Friday April 24: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday April 28: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm
- Thursday April 30: Live Q&A with Elise Schadler, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday May 1: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm

**Reading:** Sustainable Gardening Manual: Chapter 12 or Penn State Manual Chapter 16

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

### **May 8-15**

#### **Module#15: Volunteering & Outreach (Required for Track 1 only), Beret Halverson & Cindy Heath**

- Friday May 1: Module opens at 5pm
- Tuesday May 5: Module lecture, reading and discussion question due at 11:59pm

- Thursday May 7: Live Q&A with Beret Halverson & Cindy Heath, 6-7pm on Zoom (or watch the recording after)
- Friday May 8: Module Feedback due at 11:59pm
- Friday May 8: Volunteer Application due (Track 1 only). Hard copy must be physically in our mailbox by 4:30pm.

**Reading:** Read the UVM Extension volunteer code (pg.1 of volunteer application) & fill out the volunteer application (by hand) and mail directly to the program office (instructions are on the form). A hard copy with your original signature must be on file, (no scanning please).

1. Volunteer Handbook (Please carefully review all dropdowns)  
<https://www.uvm.edu/extension/mastergardener/volunteer-handbook>
2. Volunteer Projects (Please carefully review all dropdowns)  
<https://www.uvm.edu/extension/mastergardener/volunteer-projects>

\*Lecture & Discussion Question post, & Feedback post (on website)

## May 15-22

**Module#16: Final Assignments Due:** May 22 (No exceptions)

- Friday May 15: Module opens at 5pm. This is a self-paced module. Finish these assignments at your own pace this week.
- Friday May 22: Final assignments due at 11:59pm (Final Exam & Post Course Survey (Tracks 1 & 2) & Volunteer Application (Track 1 only) due at program office.
- Friday May 29: Final Grades Posted, Graduates announced, and Certificate of Completion (Track 2 only) available to print on website.