



**University of California
Agriculture & Natural Resources**

Cooperative Extension • Calaveras County

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October 15, 2008

2009 Calaveras County Master Gardener Training

The 2009 training class for new Master Gardeners is scheduled to begin January 21, 2009 in Tuolumne County. Training classes will be held each Wednesday afternoon from 1 – 5 pm at the Tuolumne County Senior Center at 540 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA. This tri-county training is open to residents of Amador, Calaveras and Tuolumne counties. Gardeners should apply through the UC Extension Office in their home county.

The course will be taught by University of California professors, U.C. Cooperative Extension specialists and regional experts, and will cover environmentally sound horticultural practices, plant propagation, irrigation, home orchard management, garden pest identification and management, and more. A \$150.00 fee will be charged to cover the cost of textbooks, handouts, publications and class materials. Additionally, each applicant will be required to be fingerprinted by the Calaveras County Sheriff's department at a cost of \$16.00. Each student must pass a final exam and then contribute 50 hours in volunteer activities during the first 12 month period after training. After completing the course Master Gardeners work on approved projects, at informational clinics, in the Demonstration Garden or responding to home gardening questions. To remain certified, 25 hours in volunteer activities and 12 hours of continuing education are required each year.

People who wish to take the classes without participating in volunteer activities must pay \$325 in tuition and will not be certified as University of California Master Gardeners.

Applications can be obtained at the Calaveras County Cooperative Extension office, 576 E Saint Charles Street, San Andreas, 95249, by calling (209) 754-6477 or by visiting our website; <http://ucanr.org/mgtraining>. Completed applications must be returned with a check made payable to 'U.C. Regents' by Thursday, November 13, 2008. Applicant orientation/interviews will be held the first week of December. Interviews provide applicants with a clear picture of the benefits and responsibilities entailed in the Master Gardener program and give UC staff a chance to match new gardeners with mentors.

For questions please call Gretchen Sullivan at UC Cooperative Extension, Calaveras County – (209) 754-6477. Amador County residents call (209) 223-6482. Tuolumne County residents call (209) 533-5695.

Sincerely,

Karen Riley,
Master Gardener
Program Coordinator