

## ***Becoming a Montgomery County Master Gardener***

The next class will be in January 2010. The course is offered only once a year. The 2010 course will begin the last full week in January and continue into the first week of March. Classes are conducted on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Agricultural Farm Park, 18410 Muncaster Rd., Derwood, MD.

Gardening background/experience is preferred but *not* necessary. What is more important to us is a willingness to *volunteer* hours to the Master Gardener program. To successfully complete the program, it is necessary to pass an open-book exam, which is basically an exercise on how to use your reference materials that are given in the class. To actually become a Master Gardener, it is necessary to *volunteer* 45 hours of *approved service* activities by December 31st of that year.

The 2010 class is still being developed. You can visit our website and see an example of a previous course schedule by searching under: "Master Gardener, Montgomery County."

The cost for this year's class was \$275, which included a Master Gardener training Manual, computerized memory stick with downloadable university fact sheets, and other materials.

If you send us your name and address, we will place you on the application mailing list for the upcoming class. Applications will be mailed out in early November '09.

**Please be advised that the class fills rapidly and participants are admitted on a "first check, first-served" basis.** In the meantime, we will send you some general background information regarding the class.

Steve Dubik  
Montgomery County –  
Master Gardener Coordinator  
18410 Muncaster Road  
Derwood, MD 20855  
301-590-2838  
[sdubik@umd.edu](mailto:sdubik@umd.edu)