

Date: July 14, 2005

For Immediate Release

From: Kim Carlen
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Master Gardener Training to be Held

Penn State Cooperative Extension in Lackawanna County is now accepting applications for the Penn State Master Gardener Program. This program consists of a volunteer training course designed to provide those with an interest in horticulture, information and skills necessary to share their knowledge and experience with others. The training will be held on Saturdays, September 10 through October 8, 2005, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Penn State Wilkes-Barre Campus, Lehman, PA. This training is open to all interested individuals in the Northeast Region with the location offering indoor and outdoor learning experiences.

The Master Gardener training will include an orientation to Penn State Cooperative Extension and the Master Gardener program, plant science, soil science, turfgrass and lawn care, woody ornamentals, plant pathology, communication skills, entomology and integrated pest management, plant propagation, and pesticides and pesticide safety. In exchange for the 30 hours of instruction, candidates must agree to donate 50 hours of volunteer service to Penn State Cooperative Extension within the first year. Volunteer activities include staffing our Gardening Helpline, providing school enrichment, giving gardening related demonstrations and talks to various groups and diagnosing plant problems at plant clinics.

There will be a program fee of \$60.00 per person or \$90.00 per couple to cover the cost of the training manual, soil test kit, numerous Penn State publications, and other materials. For an application and/or further information, please call Kim Carlen at 963-6842. Application deadline is August 22, 2005.

**Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal
opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.**
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