

2014-2015
APPLICATION FOR
TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ADVOCACY BOARD
Due April 30, 2015

The Advocacy Board is a state Extension program committee created to include representation by all facets of the Tennessee Master Gardener Program. It is composed of three county Extension agents (who are local Master Gardener Program coordinators representing each region), nine certified Master Gardeners (three from each region) who have served as volunteers and been active in their local MG programs, one state Extension specialist who has worked with the MG Program and the state Master Gardener coordinator who serves as a facilitator of this committee.

The Master Gardener Program Advocacy Board is charged with the following tasks:

- Establish program policies.
- Define relationships between University of Tennessee Extension and Master Gardener volunteers.
- Work with the state MG Program coordinator to identify and develop new program information and materials, and revise existing program information as needed.
- Set goals, objectives and action plans for obtaining goals for the Tennessee Master Gardener Program.
- Evaluate and give oversight to the growth and development of the Tennessee Master Gardener Program as we seek to accomplish its mission and purpose relative to University of Tennessee Extension, Master Gardener volunteers, communities and individual Tennesseans.
- Provides leadership for the TMG Alliance, a united state organization organized by region.

We recruit members who are interested and committed to doing the work required of this committee and who can attend the necessary meetings. Positions require a two-year term of service, with members rotating off in alternate years. If you are interested in serving, please review and complete the criteria and commitment on the application for Tennessee Master Gardener State Advocacy Board. Only one candidate is allowed for each qualifying member (Master Gardener group), see TMG Alliance Bylaws.

The Advocacy Board communicates monthly by conference call and meets twice a year; the state coordinator and the TMGAB will determine the necessity of additional meetings.

Position Description

- Represents both county and region at board meetings (minimum of two per year) for a minimum of two-year term with an option to rate off after the first year.
- Maintains positive attitude in identifying deficiencies in the state program and recommending constructive changes if appropriate.
- Conveys qualities of dependability and initiative.

- Maintains contact by keeping information lines open (checking email and responding as soon as possible). Email is mandatory.
- Possesses good communication skills (verbal and/or writing).
- Volunteers to work on appropriate state committees; willing to chair committees as needed.
- Hosting, planning, and participating in the annual TMG Winter School with other board members.

TMGAB year continues from January to following January when applications are reviewed, unless there is an immediate vacancy. Meetings are usually conducted as monthly conference calls at least two person-to-person meeting per year. Advocates are expected to conduct at least one regional Alliance meeting with other advocates and regional county leadership. Ad Hoc meeting may be called to discuss state issues. Meeting will be spread across the state to be the most convenient for the group.

Tennessee Regional Map: Please notice the counties in the region you are applying to represent.



Please complete the information attached and return to the State Coordinator with signatures.

2014-2015
APPLICATION FOR
TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ADVOCACY BOARD

Name:

Address:

Daytime Phone:

Evening Phone:

Email Address:

County:

Master Gardener Group Name:

Use a separate attached sheet of paper to answer the following questions.

1. What year did you become a Master Gardener in Tennessee? How many years have you been active?
2. What year(s) did you attend TMG Leadership Training?
3. Which TMG Alliance meeting did you attend?
4. How many ACT/ACE hours have you donated in each of the past three years?
5. List all of your leadership experiences in general and with the Master Gardener program (including committees, committees chaired, offices, Extension office work, etc.)
6. Please list areas you have enjoyed and/or worked within the Master Gardener Program and given reasons why:
7. What other areas of expertise do you feel you can bring to the Tennessee Master Gardener Advocacy Board? (i.e. speaking, organizational, teaching, people and computer skills)
8. What are your reasons for wanting to commit for at least a two-year term?

I agree to have my name considered for membership on the Tennessee Master Gardener Advocacy Board. I have read the job description information, and I feel I have the time and ability to contribute as an active board member.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of recommending Extension agent

Please return to the Tennessee Master Gardener Program Office
Chris Cooper
7777 Walnut Grove Rd
Suite B, Box 21
Memphis, TN 38120-1207
Fax: 901-752-6240
cmcooper@utk.edu