



Urban Gardener Certification Program Application & Agreement 2020

Thank you for your interest in the Hunter Park GardenHouse Urban Gardener Certification Program! Here you will find a description of the program, registration details, and payment options. If you would like to register you can apply online or mail or drop off a completed and signed copy of the attached application and agreement to Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E. Kalamazoo Street Lansing, MI 48912 (Attn: Urban Gardener). If you have any questions, contact Kai Kepski at 517-999-3913 or gardeningeducator@allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

About the Urban Gardener Certification Program

This program, intended for beginner-intermediate gardeners, features 11 sessions of instruction in basic yard & greenhouse gardening skills appropriate for high density, small lot neighborhoods such as those on Lansing's Eastside. **Participants will have hands-on instruction as we plant and care for a garden together over the length of the program.** Registrants attend Saturday workshops with special guest lecturers, Thursday evening labs on focused, hands-on topics, and field experience hours completed alongside GardenHouse staff to provide practical, in the dirt experience!

Topics Covered Include:

- Gardening in a community
- When to plant what crops
- Selecting your garden site
- Making your own compost
- Planning your garden layout
- Weeds and weeding
- Pests and Diseases
- Evaluating your soil and amending it
- Easy-to-grow vegetables and flowers for mid-Michigan
- Harvesting different kinds of crops
- Seed starting
- Structures in the garden
- Preparing the soil to plant
- Fall cleanup and other fall tasks
- Sowing seeds directly into the garden
- Planting transplants
- Tools and tool care
- Taking care of the gardener

Location: Hunter Park GardenHouse, 1400 block E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48912. Just off the Clifford Street parking lot, one block south of Kalamazoo.

Program Fee is \$100, which includes coursepack, entrance to 5 GardenHouse workshops, 6 group lab sessions, and 20 hours of GardenHouse field experience.

- Registrants must complete an ANC volunteer application, Background Check waiver, and orientation. Field experience hours must be completed within one year of program start date (by Jan 30, 2020), during regular GardenHouse volunteer shifts. Certificates of completion will be issued upon attendance to at least 8 of 11 sessions and completion of the required 20 hours of field experience.

Urban Gardener Certification Program Schedule 2020

1. **Thursday, Jan 30th, 12:00-2:00pm:** LAB: Intro to Urban Gardener Program; Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park GardenHouse Director
2. **Saturday, February 1st, 10:00am-12:00pm:** Seed Starting and Transplanting; Ben Crocker, Gardens Greenhouse Coordinator, Greater Lansing Food Bank Garden Project and owner of Bendy Stem Farm
3. **Thursday, February 27th, 6:00-7:00pm:** LAB: Compost 101; Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park GardenHouse Director
4. **Saturday, March 21, 10:00am-12:00pm:** Vermicomposting; Brooke and Donny Comer, Doctoral Candidate, MSU Horticulture Department and Program & Education Coordinator, Greater Lansing Food Bank Garden Project.
5. **Thursday, March 26th, 6:00-7:00pm:** LAB: Tools & Season Extension; Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park GardenHouse Director
6. **Saturday, April 4th, 10:00am-12:00pm:** Soil Care; Chris Robbins, Owner of Nature's Harvest Honey & Produce
7. **Thursday, April 23th, 5:00-6:00pm:** LAB: Bed Prep, Transplanting, & Direct Seeding; Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park GardenHouse Director
8. **Saturday, May 2nd, 10:00am-12:00pm:** Organic Pest Management; Matt Grieshop, Michigan State University Professor
9. **Thursday, May 28, 6:00-7:00pm:** LAB: Soil Sampling, Trellises, and Garden Structures; Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park GardenHouse Director
10. **Thursday, June 25, 6:00-7:00pm:** LAB: Routine Maintenance, Harvesting, and Self Care; Egypt Krohn, Hunter Park GardenHouse Director
11. One Elective Saturday GardenHouse Workshop included with registration. Additional workshops are \$12 each (Free entry for self-identified low income). For full 2020 GardenHouse Workshop Series, go to: <http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/gardenhouse/workshops/>

Hunter Park GardenHouse Volunteer Shift Schedule: We have volunteer shifts available during Hunter Park GardenHouse open hours. During volunteer orientation, you select a shift (we ask for a minimum of 2 hours per week) that works with your schedule. The required 20 field hours can be completed in 8 full gardenhouse shifts.

October-May: Monday-Friday, 9:30am-12pm.

June-September: Monday-Friday, 9:30am-12pm & Monday-Thursday 5:30-7:30pm.

Payment: Full Payment is due no later than the first session (Thursday, January 30th) via check (preferred), cash, or credit (Visa or MasterCard). Checks made payable to: Allen Neighborhood Center (Urban Gardener in the memo line). Drop off at or mail to: 1611 E. Kalamazoo Street Lansing, MI 48912

What Past Urban Gardeners Are Saying About the Program

"The volunteer hours are the perfect opportunity for hands-on, putting in practice and seeing first-hand what you learned in class."

"I liked the fact that we started from the beginning, with starts; planted veggies over several classes and followed the spring planting schedule."

"I've integrated so much of what I learned into my garden planning. I used my space much more effectively and improved my composting...I have used a lot!"

Thank You for Supporting the Hunter Park GardenHouse!

If you have any questions, contact Kai Kepski at 517-999-3913 or gardeningeducator@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Urban Gardener Certification Program Application

Contact Information

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Agreement

Cost

\$100 program fee includes: Course packet, Attendance to 5 GardenHouse Workshops, 6 Lab sessions, and 20 hours field experience at the GardenHouse. Registrants must complete the Allen Neighborhood Center Volunteer Application (provided with coursepack) and complete a volunteer orientation at ANC. (If cost is a barrier, please inquire about a scholarship!)

Hunter Park GardenHouse Volunteer Shift Schedule:

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I wish to join the Urban Gardener Certification Program. I have read and understand the conditions above.

- I understand this course is intended for beginner-intermediate gardeners.
- I understand the Hunter Park GardenHouse volunteer shift schedule.
- I agree to check in on the sign-in sheet at each session.
- I agree to attend 8 of the 11 sessions.
- I agree to complete 20 field hours during regularly scheduled GardenHouse work shifts

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please fill out the registration and agreement forms and mail in or drop off to our office with your payment. Please keep a copy for your records.

Allen Neighborhood Center
Attn: Urban Gardener Certification Program
1611 E. Kalamazoo Street
Lansing, MI 48912

If you have any questions, please contact Kai Kepski at (517) 999-3913 or email gardeningeducator@allenneighborhoodcenter.org