

NORTHEAST TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Mentoring Program

Reviewed 6/10/2019

Position Overview

Mentors are an important asset for the Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Association (NETMGA). Their role is to familiarize the new interns with the Master Gardener Program and to help them feel comfortable as they attend training and begin their volunteer service. The experience an intern has early in the program impacts their continued participation. Mentors should provide a welcoming atmosphere for the new interns. A positive and friendly mentor will make the new intern feel welcomed into the program. The role of a mentor is also to guide and help the intern achieve certification.

Requirements/Skills and Abilities

Active membership in NETMGA

Commitment to the mentoring process, and the ability to encourage and motivate

Knowledge of the Tennessee Master Gardener and NETMGA Bylaws

Knowledge of the NETMGA Projects and the local continuing education opportunities

Responsibilities

Contact the assigned intern(s) as soon as possible. Ask about the preferred method of communication (email, text, phone, etc.) and share positive experiences with Master Gardener

Attend one of the first Master Gardener classes to meet the intern(s) face-to-face.

Meet with intern(s) regularly to ensure they will fulfill their requirements to become a Master Gardener

Assist with any problems or concerns the intern(s) may have, especially with logging project and/or continuing education hours.

Time Commitments

2-4 hours per month during initial training process. Variable thereafter.