



# Green School Course Syllabus

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## Course Information

Curriculum is created by a statewide team and coordinated locally to be offered in communities across Colorado. Course content is developed using research- and evidenced-based horticultural information approved by Colorado State University. All students will take online classes as part of their curriculum, utilizing Colorado State University Online's platform called Canvas, and utilize Zoom for live courses and weekly reviews.

## Course Instruction

Your best point of contact for questions and information is the State Green Team [GreenSchool@colostate.edu](mailto:GreenSchool@colostate.edu) and any class instructors listed in Canvas. This is a team of CSU Horticulture faculty and staff that are ready to support you.

## Course Objective

The purpose of Green School training is to teach interested participants in relevant, evidenced- and science-based horticultural information specific to our regions in Colorado.

## Course Schedule

The schedule is included in this syllabus and posted online at <http://ColoradoMasterGardener.org> > Green School > GardenNotes. This schedule is subject to change but as much advanced notice as possible will be given and all courses will be recorded and posted online in Canvas.

## Course Materials

*GardenNotes* is your online reference 'textbook' and curriculum for this course. *There is no hardcopy version available.* Access *GardenNotes* online at <http://ColoradoMasterGardener.org> > Green School > *GardenNotes*.

- **READINGS:** The *GardenNotes* readings are not required. Rather, these serve as reference material and a supplement to your online and webinar courses. Most of the online courses include this text in the curriculum. You are welcome to print *GardenNotes* as needed for your own learning.
- **HOMEWORK:** The homework and worksheets are **optional** but are there to enhance your learning. Some of these worksheets/homework will be used for activities in the weekly live reviews, but not all. If you have questions on the material in these worksheets – please contact the instructor for that subject.
- **RESOURCES TO STAY ORGANIZED:** See the *Reading, Homework and Worksheet List* for more detailed information for each class. The *Student Training Guide* is a printable week-by-week optional guide that may be useful for taking notes and staying organized.
- **TECHNOLOGY:** You will need access to a laptop or desktop computer, **updated internet browser software** (multiple browsers work well with Canvas, EXCEPT Internet Explorer), and reliable internet access.

## Instructional Methods

This course utilizes self-paced online courses, live & recorded sessions and weekly reviews for multi-



modal adult learning and flexibility to meet your scheduling needs.

- **ONLINE COURSES:** All students will have access to online classes offered through CSU Online's **Canvas** platform. When you register for Green School, you will be emailed credentials to login to Canvas. Course access opens November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and allows time for you to orient yourself to the platform during week one.
- **WEEKLY LIVE REVIEWS:** Each week of class, we offer a weekly "Live Review" webinar session. These reviews are subject-matter specific (based on the topic you studied online) and will be facilitated by a CSU faculty or staff specialist. These serve as your best chance to get live questions answered, hear the latest on the topic and enhance your learning by interacting with CSU Horticulture experts. Typically, you only need to attend ONE live review as the content is the same on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. *These will be recorded and posted in Canvas along with a comprehensive Q&A guide. You are encouraged but not required to attend - we do not take attendance.*

## Course Policies

Follow your course schedule for class dates and online class deadlines. **The final exam opens on 3/1/2025. To earn a printed and mail certificate, you must complete all course requirements by 3/31/2025.** If you complete after this date, you'll need to notify us at [GreenSchool@colostate.edu](mailto:GreenSchool@colostate.edu) and we'll email you a certificate.

## Earning Your Certificate

Earning a certificate is optional. You can attend Green School without earning your certificate. To obtain certification, trainees must:

- Complete 8 online classes (indicated by completing the online quiz after each class)
- Pass the comprehensive final (open-book, research encouraged) with a 70% or better by the due date posted in the schedule
- Note: *Your score for the quizzes does not affect your grade, only your final exam score and online class completion determines passing.*

Upon completion of the certificate requirements, you'll receive a **Colorado Gardener Certificate**. The Colorado Gardener Certificate may be displayed in a place of business and used in business marketing.

## Can you Become a Master Gardener after Green School?

Certificate students will take courses alongside Colorado State Extension Master Gardener Apprentices. These are individuals who have applied and completed program requirements to serve as authorized CSU volunteers locally following Green School training. However, because there is no subsequent volunteer commitment, *participants do not become Colorado State Extension Master Gardeners*. The title of 'Colorado State Extension Master Gardener' is a federally registered trademark of Colorado State University and only to be used for CSU Extension events and purposes. If you choose to apply and are accepted locally to a Colorado Master Gardener program, your Green School training will count towards your Master Gardener training as long as its within 3 years from completion.

## Course Evaluation

You will be sent a course evaluation in April to get your feedback.



# Readings, Homework & Worksheets

>> GARDENNOTES IS YOUR ONLINE REFERENCE MATERIAL FOR THIS COURSE.

Go to <http://ColoradoMasterGardener.org> > Green School > GardenNotes

Topic	GardenNotes Readings – not required, for reference	Homework Optional	Worksheets Optional, in-class
<b>Soils, Fertilizers &amp; Amendments</b>	#211-215; #218-219; #221-224; #231-234; #241-246; #251		#252
<b>Botany: How Plants Grow</b>	#121, #122, #131-137, #141-145	#155	#151 #152
<b>Tree Identification &amp; Planting</b>	#171-173; #177 #631-636	Tree Planting Crossword Puzzle	
<b>Tree Care</b>	#651- 659	Tree Care Crossword Puzzle	
<b>Lawn Care/ Turf Management</b>	#551-554; #561-566	Turf Management Crossword Puzzle	#571
<b>IPM &amp; Diagnostics</b>	#101, #102, #112-113	#105 IPM Crossword Puzzle	#103
<b>Weed Management</b>	#351, #352, #353		#356
<b>Entomology</b>	#311-315	#318	
<b>Plant Pathology</b>	#331	#332	
<b>Colorado Gardening Challenges</b>	Supplemental readings posted online.		



<b>Topic</b>	<b>GardenNotes Readings – not required, for reference</b>	<b>Homework Optional</b>	<b>Worksheets Optional, in-class</b>
<b>Vegetables</b>	#711-724; #731		
<b>Small Fruits</b>	#761-764		
<b>Irrigation</b>	#261-268		
<b>Pruning</b>	#611-617	#618	
<b>Fruit Trees</b>	#771		



# 2024/25 Green School Full Course Schedule

<b>Week</b>	<b>Course / Format</b>	<b>Live Review</b> Pick One   Hosted on Zoom
November 4-8	<b>Training Introduction Course</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Nov. 6 at 6-7:30PM Nov. 7 at 9-10:30AM
November 11-15	<b>Soils, Fertilizers &amp; Amendments</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Nov. 13 at 6-7:30PM Nov. 14 at 9-10:30AM
November 18-22	<b>Botany: How Plants Grow</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Nov. 20 at 6-7:30PM Nov. 21 at 9-10:30AM
<b>November 25-29</b>	<b>Catch-up / Off week</b> Complete past work or work ahead	<i>No Live Review Class</i>
December 2-6	<b>Tree Identification &amp; Planting</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Dec. 4 at 6-7:30PM Dec. 5 at 9-10:30AM
December 9-13	<b>Tree Care</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Dec. 11 at 6-7:30PM Dec. 12 at 9-10:30AM
December 16-20	<b>Lawn Care / Turfgrass Management</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Dec. 18 at 6-7:30PM Dec. 19 at 9-10:30AM
<b>December 23 – January 3, 2025</b>	<b>Catch-up / Off weeks</b> Complete past work or work ahead	<i>No Live Review Class</i>
January 6-10	<b>IPM &amp; Diagnostics</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Jan. 8 at 6-7:30PM Jan. 9 at 9-10:30AM



<b>Week</b>	<b>Course / Format</b>	<b>Live Review</b> Pick One   Hosted on Zoom
January 13-17	<b>Weed Management</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Jan. 15 at 6-7:30PM Jan. 16 at 9-10:30AM
January 20-24	<b>Entomology Part I</b> Online Class + Optional Recorded Lectures	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Jan. 22 at 6-7:30PM Jan. 23 at 9-10:30AM
<b>January 27-31</b>	<b>Catch-up / Off week</b> Complete past work or work ahead	<i>No Live Review Class</i>
February 3-7	<b>Entomology Part II</b> Online Class + Optional Recorded Lectures	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Feb. 5 at 6-7:30PM Feb. 6 at 9-10:30AM
February 10-14	<b>Plant Pathology</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Feb. 12 at 6-7:30PM Feb. 13 at 9-10:30AM
February 17-21	<b>Colorado Gardening Challenges</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Feb. 19 at 6-7:30PM Feb. 20 at 9-10:30AM
February 24-28	<b>Vegetables</b> Online Class	<b>Q&amp;A:</b> Feb. 26 at 6-7:30PM Feb. 27 at 9-10:30AM
<b>March 3-7</b>	<b>Catch-up / Off week</b> Complete past work or work ahead	<i>No Live Review Class</i>
March 10-21	<b>Additional Modules</b> [Optional] Small Fruits, Irrigation, Pruning, Fruit Trees	<b>Q&amp;A by Topic:</b> Wednesdays 6-7:30PM Thursdays 9-10:30AM Small Fruits: 3/12 Irrigation: 3/13 Pruning: 3/19 Fruit Trees: 3/20
<b>Due By March 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Final Exam</b> Online; opens March 1 <sup>st</sup> 2025 50 questions   70% to pass Open-book, open-note, research encouraged. Does not include material from optional courses.	<b>NOTES</b> Paper certificates are mailed to those who complete course requirements by the deadline. Participants have access to all courses and recordings for <b>one</b> full year.