



Green School Full Course Syllabus

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 weekly reviews.

Course Instruction

Your best point of contact for questions and information is the State Green School Team 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 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 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, 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 sessions on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings. These reviews are subject-matter specific (based on the topic you studied online) and will be facilitated by a CSU Extension subject matter expert. 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 3/1/25. To earn a printed and mail certificate, you must complete all course requirements by 3/31/25.** If you complete after this date, you'll need to notify us at 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. Master Gardener Apprentices 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 for all Green School participants, *not all Green School participants 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
Soils, Fertilizers & Amendments	#211-215; #218-219; #221-224; #231-234; #241-246; #251		#252
Botany: How Plants Grow	#121, 122, 131-137, #141-145	#155	#151 #152
Tree Identification & Planting	#631-636		
Tree Care	#651- 659	Tree Crossword Puzzles	
IPM & Diagnostics	#101, #102	#105 IPM Crossword Puzzle	#103
Lawn Care/ Turf Management	#551-554; #561-566	Turf Management Crossword Puzzle	#571
Weed Management	#351, #352, #353		#356
Entomology	#311-315	#318	
Plant Pathology	#331	#332	
Colorado Gardening Challenges	Supplemental readings posted online.		



Topic	GardenNotes Readings – not required, for reference	Homework Optional	Worksheets Optional, in-class
Vegetables	#711-724; #731		
Pruning	#611-617		
Tree Fruit	#771		
Small Fruit	#761-764		
Irrigation Management	#261-267		#268



Certified Colorado Gardener

2024/25 Green School Full Course Schedule

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

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