

## Why should I become a Native Plant Master?

Have you always wanted to learn more about the beautiful plants that grow in nature? Would you like to learn how to use them in your landscape? Consider becoming a Native Plant Master! This is a fun way to spend three or more mornings in the field this summer, getting to know the plants of Colorado.

You can take one or more courses in this program, but to become a Native Plant Master (and the envy of all your co-workers and friends), you will need to take three courses, and give back some time educating others.

## What is a Native Plant Master?

A Native Plant Master is a person who receives special training about Colorado plants and certification from Colorado State University Extension and then uses that training to educate the public. The mission of the Native Plant Master Program is to educate the public about the biological and human values of Colorado plants in order to foster stewardship and sustainable use of plant resources. A course certificate is also available for those who would like to take one or more courses, but who do not wish to make educational contacts with the public.



*Kit Carson, Morgan, Logan, Phillips,  
Washington, Sedgwick, and Yuma Counties*

**Colorado  
State**  
University

**Extension**

For more information, call

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The mission of Extension is to provide practical, research-based information and relevant educational programs to enhance the quality of life for Colorado citizens.

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and *Kit Carson, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, and Yuma Counties* Cooperating. Colorado State University Extension is dedicated to serve all people on an equal and nondiscriminatory basis.

**Native Plant Master**

BECOME  
A

**NATIVE  
PLANT  
MASTER™**



[www.extension.colostate.edu/Morgan](http://www.extension.colostate.edu/Morgan)  
[goldenplains@colostate.edu](mailto:goldenplains@colostate.edu)  
[coloradoplants.jeffco.us](http://coloradoplants.jeffco.us)

## What training is provided?

Award-winning Native Plant Master courses are offered at various open space parks and public lands during spring and summer. If accepted to the program, participants may apply to take one or more courses. No course is a required prerequisite for another course. Class size is limited and course fees are \$90 per course. Courses are offered at a reduced price of \$50 per course for participants who report public contacts.

The course is taught on three Saturday's in May.

## Course Dates and Locations

May 9, 23, 30, 2009

Meet at the Sterling Welcome Center

## What does each course cover?

Courses are taught in the field using living examples of Colorado flora. All courses will include the use of a botanical key *Colorado Flora, Eastern Slope*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, by Weber and Wittman. For each course, students learn:

- Session 1:** identification, including scientific names, key botanical characteristics and family features;
- Session 2:** ecological relationships, including non-native plants;
- Session 3:** landscape, food, medicinal and other human uses.

Instructors for the courses have extensive field experience and are Native Plant Masters and/or have advanced degrees.

## Can anyone take courses?

Through the Course Certificate program, you can take courses even if you don't plan on becoming a Native Plant Master. The certificate program was designed for those who do not wish to make public educational contacts or report contacts made. In order to receive a course certificate, participants must pass an exam.

## How do you become a Native Plant Master?

To become a Native Plant Master, participants must pass three courses in three different months. If participants can't take all three courses in one year, they may apply to take courses offered in future years. To be awarded Native Plant Master status, participants must also teach at least 10 people about Colorado plants per course taken.

After successfully completing three courses, including course exams and the public contact requirement, participants will be awarded the Native Plant Master certification and a special patch. Certification may be maintained by teaching at least 30 people per year about native plants in public programs, and reporting quarterly on those contacts.

*Geranium viscosissimum*  
Sticky Geranium, Geraniaceae



## Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants for the Native Plant Master Program must be at least 21 years old. In addition, Native Plant Master candidates must:

- Successfully complete three courses;
- Teach at least 10 people about Colorado plants by December 31, for each course taken;
- Complete quarterly reports on the number of educational contacts made.

**NOTE: Courses can be moderately strenuous** and may require walking on steep inclines for up to two miles on wet, rough, and/or slippery footing during windy, cold, hot or rainy days.

## How do you apply?

For questions or to request an application, Contact *Joanne Jones* 970-542-3542 or *Linda Langelo* 970-854-3616

*Application process required; registration is limited. Applications are due March 15.*

## Why native plants?

Colorado has a wealth of native plants, colorful wildflowers, grasses, shrubs and trees, which are well adapted to our variable climate, soils, temperatures and elevations. The Colorado Native Plant Society recommends the use of native plants in landscaping, both because of their adaptability and because Colorado has a unique regional horticulture worth promoting and protecting.