

October 5, 2009

TO: Bonner County Master Gardeners

FROM: Mike Bauer, Extension Educator

RE: UI Recertification Agreement for 2010
BCMGA Membership Form

Greetings Master Gardeners!

Now that the 2009 volunteer year is over, it is already time to start thinking about 2010.

Please consider recertifying as a Master Gardener in 2010. Recertifying MGs will be able to attend a limited number of basic MG training classes *free of charge* in 2010. Look for a letter in the mail for more detailed information. The classes begin February 2, 2010. Beginning in March, 2010, advanced MG classes will be available *free* to all MGs who committed to recertification in 2010.

I would like to offer all past MGs to agree to recertify in 2010 by October 31, 2009. After that date, you will have needed to recertify either in 2008 or 2009 in order to maintain your status as a Certified Master Gardener. It is a state requirement that Master Gardeners need to recertify at least one year out of the last three to maintain their status. We are committed to working with CMGs to maintain their status. Recertification needs to be completed one year in three to avoid having to take the basic training course again.

BCMGA Membership

If you do not wish to commit to the volunteer service in 2010, you may 'stay in touch' as an Associate Master Gardener. Associate Master Gardeners may still attend Master Gardener social events but may not dispense advice on behalf of the University of Idaho or attend basic or advanced Master Gardener classes. ***You may maintain Associate Master Gardener status without recertifying for up to two years. After that time, you will need to recertify or you will need to take the entire basic training again.***

I encourage all past MGs to maintain their membership in the Bonner County Master Gardener Association. This organization provides valuable networking experiences and friendships. For a mere \$10 you can maintain your membership.

Thanks for your continued support!