

Bexar County Master Gardeners

SUBJECT: M-3 – Membership Categories – Bexar County Master Gardeners

POLICY:

Members of the Corporation are graduates of the Texas Master Gardener Training Program administered by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas A&M System. There are four classes of members. The recruitment and selection of candidates for the Texas Master Gardener Program shall be made without discrimination based on sex, color, race, religion, income, marital status, sexual preference, age, or national origin.

Active members shall perform and report a minimum of 30 volunteer hours, six hours of continuing education units (CEUs), and attend two meetings. The minimum numbers of hours and units shall be determined by the Board of Directors and approved by the Extension Advisor. In no case shall the minimum hours be less than prescribed by the State organization. The Board of Directors will review requirements biannually. Requirements will be published annually in the corporation's official newsletter, the Scion, in the January issue. Active members may vote, hold elected office, and chair committees for the Corporation. Should an active member desire to become an Emeritus/a Member, they may apply to the Board of Directors and be considered under the State Master Gardener requirements for Emeritus/a status.

Inactive members are those who have not met the requirements for active membership. They shall be placed on an inactive roster. Inactive and former members may request reinstatement to active membership by signing a Reinstatement Agreement and completing the stated requirements. Inactive members may not vote, hold elected office, or serve as chair of a committee. Hours volunteering will not count until they have applied for reinstatement.

Honorary members are individuals The Board of Directors may, from time to time, recognize as persons who have made significant contributions to the organization. Said recognition shall be based on a set of standards established by the Board without prior approval of the members of the Corporation. A recipient of Honorary status who is not a certified Texas Master Gardener shall not be required to perform any volunteer hours or Continuing Education units, nor shall they be entitled to vote, hold office, be provided any privileges, or accept any duties or responsibilities of other members nor may they in any way represent that they are a Texas Master Gardener or Bexar County Master Gardener. 1Honorary members who are and choose to remain active Bexar County Master Gardeners shall meet the same requirements for volunteer hours and for continuing education as other active members and will thereby retain all rights and privileges of active membership.

Intern members are individuals who are attending or have completed the Master Gardener training classes but who have not yet completed their required volunteer hours. They may volunteer, but may not vote or hold elected office.

RATIONALE:

This policy is designed to ensure consistency in membership categories, the privileges accruing to each category of membership, and provide written documentation of the requirements for recertification..

DATE APPROVED: 15 November 2018

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