December 11, 2018

From: Alan Durden

 County Extension Director

 Macon County

To Potential Master Gardeners,

 We are sending you this letter and application because you have expressed an interest in the 2019 Master Gardener Program. The following information will give you a better understanding of the program.

The **tentative** starting date for classes is February 8, 2019. There are thirteen classes, each held on Friday morning from 8:30 until 12 pm at the Macon County Environmental Resource Center. The cost will be determined at a later date, for the course which includes a Master Gardener Handbook and other various extension publications.

Topics that will be covered include: Basic Botany (How a Plant Works); Soils and Fertilizers; Insects; Plant Diseases; Home Lawns; Vegetable Gardens; Tree Fruits; Small Fruits (berries); Pruning; and Landscape Plants.

The Master Gardener Program is designed to train volunteers in horticulture to assist the Cooperative Extension Program in Macon County. **Volunteers are expected to donate one hour of service for each hour of training received.** Volunteer work will consist mainly of the maintenance and development of the Macon County Environmental Center gardens and office work at the Extension Center. The times that volunteers are needed are weekdays from 8am to 5pm. The volunteer component of the program should be completed within one year.