



The Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Master Gardeners Offer Scholarships to Graduating Seniors

SHENANDOAH VALLEY, VA (January 22, 2016) - The Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association will award \$200 scholarships to 2016 graduating seniors in the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, and Warren in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Students can receive an application packet at their high schools or by visiting <http://nsvmga.org/nsvmga-scholarships>.

The goal of the scholarships is to acknowledge the superior efforts of students who have participated in community service and in the study areas of science, horticulture, or agriculture. Scholarship eligibility is based on academic achievement and student volunteerism. The student must have volunteered time and service during high school years to an organization such as the Virginia Cooperative Extension, 4-H, FFA, or a community-service organization. The student must also demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in agriculture, horticulture, or other related sciences. The \$200 scholarships are awarded to seniors who have been accepted to an accredited two-year or four-year college or university in Virginia. Letters of recommendation and a letter outlining the student's goals and reasons he or she deserves the scholarship are also required.

Application packets are available at all Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, and Warren high schools, as well as on the Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association website, <http://nsvmga.org/nsvmga-scholarships>, and must be submitted by March 31, 2016.

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association (www.nsvmga.org) serves the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, and Warren. Extension Master Gardeners are volunteer educators who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management, education, and training. As an educational program of Virginia Cooperative Extension, Extension Master Gardeners bring the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth.

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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Mark Sutphin, Frederick County Extension, at (540) 665-5699/TDD (800) 828-1120 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to discuss accommodations five days prior to the event. Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; Jewel E Hairston, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State, Petersburg.