



**For Immediate Release:** Mon., Dec. 7, 2015

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### **Applications Now Open for Phipps Master Gardener Program**

**Pittsburgh, Pa.** — [Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](#) is now accepting applications for the Master Gardener Program for green thumbs who want to become experts on all things gardening. Through two semesters of classes, participants in this program will learn the answer to every gardener's questions – from “Why are my pine trees losing their needles?” to “When and how do I plant flower bulbs?” to “What is wrong with my tomatoes?” As Master Gardeners, they will then share their knowledge and experience as volunteers for Phipps.

Candidates participate in an intensive training program that covers a wide variety of gardening subjects. Classes take place over two semesters: 10 weeks in the spring (Tues., March 8 — Sat., May 14) and six weeks in the fall (Thurs., Sept. 8 – Thurs., Oct. 27) with volunteer events throughout the year. Classes occur once a week, plus one Saturday morning per month.

In 2016, the class will meet on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Phipps Garden Center in Mellon Park. The course fee is \$230, and includes the cost of a textbook. The deadline to submit applications has been extended to Thurs., Jan. 7.

To learn more information or request a program application, applicants can call **412/442-4442, ext. 3925**, email [edu@phipps.conservatory.org](mailto:edu@phipps.conservatory.org) or visit [phipps.conservatory.org/volunteer](http://phipps.conservatory.org/volunteer).

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**About Phipps:** Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Learn more: [phipps.conservatory.org](http://phipps.conservatory.org).

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