If you have ever considered becoming a Master Gardener, now is the time! Master Gardeners are dedicated individuals who train under extension faculty and then serve as volunteers in the community educating residents on Florida-friendly landscaping and horticulture. Projects include assisting residents with their landscape problems, giving presentations to groups, maintaining demonstration gardens and increasing environmental awareness through the operation of the Panhandle Butterfly House. Benefits of being a Master Gardener include exclusive continuing educational opportunities, comradery with like-minded individuals and satisfaction in making our community a better place.

Applications are due November 1. The selection process includes interviews and
takes place in November. The training course is scheduled to begin January 2017. Classes meet every Thursday for 15 weeks from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at UF/IFAS Extension Santa Rosa County located at 6263 Dogwood Drive in Milton. Applications and further information are available online.

For more information, contact Mary Derrick at (850) 623-3868 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays or via email at maryd@santarosa.fl.gov.

All programs and related activities sponsored for, or assisted by, the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences are open to all persons with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions, or affiliation(s).

For persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact the Santa Rosa County Extension Office at 850-623-3868 at least five working days prior to the program so that proper consideration may be given to the request.

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Photo of 2015 Master Gardener class learning hands on to prune muscadine grapes. Labeled for personal and commercial reuse.

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