Master gardeners classes to include flower arranging, composting.

The Sussex County Master Gardeners announce their workshop schedule for the last half of 2008.

The workshops are being held at the Elbert N. and Ann V. Carvel County Research and Education Center and in the Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden. The workshops are free except where noted.

In addition to the presentation style workshops, the Master Gardeners invite the public to work or visit with them in their garden on July 22 and Aug. 19 from 9 to 11 a.m. Visitors are welcome to bring their gloves and favorite hand tools.

The Carvel Research and Education Center is located at 16483 County Seat Highway, west of Georgetown. The garden is just behind the Carvel Building.

To register for the workshops, call Karen Adams at 856-2585, ext. 540. People who have any special needs can give that information to Adams when they register.

**Classes held in the garden**

- **Flower arranging** - Wednesday, Aug. 13, 10 a.m. Learn about flower arranging and design from an expert trained in England and the U.S. Bring a small, round bowl, floral shears or scissors and some greenery cut the previous evening, if available. Three-hour workshop, limited to 25 people. $5 fee for materials.

- **Bulbs in containers** - Tuesday, Sept. 9, 10 a.m. For unusual spring color in your bare winter containers, learn to plant layers of bulbs for ongoing distinctive displays. This is a "hands-on" demonstration.

- **Composting** - Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2 p.m. Composting organic material found in and around your home is a great way to recycle nature. Learn "how-to" and then utilize the results to aid in soil conditioning.

**Classes held in the building**

- **Making stepping stones** - Tuesday, Sept. 16, 7 p.m. Learn to create stepping stones that will be jewelry for your garden.

- **Pests in your home** - Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m. This workshop will cover indoor pests, how to identify them, what a homeowner should do and when a homeowner should call a professional.

- **Creating fresh wreaths** - Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m. Gather some tips on trimming trees and then learn how to use your trimmings to make your own Thanksgiving or Christmas wreath or holiday centerpiece. Learn techniques on making an evergreen keepsake and keeping your wreath fresh for weeks. Share ideas on decorations and bow-making.