



## **Organic Master Gardener Program**

(Sept) GLHO2631, (Jan) GLHO2632, (Mar) GLHO2633

Finally, a comprehensive organic gardening course for urban garden enthusiasts. No previous experience is required. The Organic Master Gardener program follows in the footsteps of the highly successful Master Gardener programs in North America. The difference is organic gardening practices are based on the understanding that we are but stewards of the land, and can at best hope to work with nature, never to dominate it. This is a practical, experienced-based course, consisting of lectures and hands-on exercises. To receive a Certificate of Completion, students must attend all sessions and complete and present a satisfactory assignment. Students must have: Internet access and an e-mail account, basic gardening tools (including bypass pruners), transportation to offsite events.

### **Who Should Attend?**

- Urban garden enthusiasts

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Learn to create fabulous gardens without pesticides and other harmful chemicals
- Become an Organic Master Gardener and share your knowledge with others through mentorship programs, workshops, talks and other creative ways
- Gain essential organic gardening skills to start or enhance your own business in the rapidly growing organic land care industry
- Earn generous Continuing Education Credits to maintain your industry certifications (ISA, CNLA, BCSLA, SOUL, and BC Provincial Pesticide Applicator).

Offered in partnership with SOUL (Society For Organic Urban Land Care) and Gaia College. For more information on the SOUL Organic Master Gardener Program please visit [www.organiclandcare.org](http://www.organiclandcare.org). For more information about the course please contact Gaia College at [info@gaiacollege.ca](mailto:info@gaiacollege.ca).

The fee includes all textbooks, handouts and supplies; one year access to the Gaia College on-line text *Organic Land Care - Working With Nature'*; one year membership to the Society for Organic Urban Land Care.

### **Topics:**

- Botany/adaptations within ecosystems
- The soil ecosystem
- Soil testing
- Fertilizers
- Teas and brews
- Composting
- Water-wise gardening
- Landscape Health 1 - principles
- Lawns
- Landscape Health 2 - problem solving
- Permaculture design
- Garden bed installation
- Pruning 1 + 2
- Garden design & construction
- Student presentations

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Develop a thorough understanding of the ecological processes and interdependencies that are the foundation for landscape health
- Gain the knowledge and confidence to practice organic gardening on a home and commercial basis

**Facilitator: Heide Hermary** has a Diploma in Horticulture, and a Master's Degree in Sustainable Agriculture. She integrates her extensive experience and knowledge from many disciplines to present truly revolutionary educational programs in organic horticulture. Heide is President of Gaia College and co-founder of the Society for Organic Urban Land Care. In 2007 she published the first comprehensive text book in organic horticulture, *Working With Nature – Shifting Paradigms*. In recognition of her efforts she received the B.C. Landscape & Nursery Association's Educator of the Year award in 2007.

**Length:** 8 wks

**Date:** Tues, Thurs & Sat, Sep 27 through to Nov 17, 2011 or Jan 17 through to Mar 8, 2012 or Mar 27, through to May 17, 2012

**Times:** Tues & Thurs eve 6:30pm – 9:30pm, Sat 9am – 12pm

**Cost:** \$695 (tax exempt)

**Best to Register By:** Tues, Sep 13, 2011 or Tues, Jan 3, 2012 or Tues, Mar 13, 2012

**To Register:**

Register online at <http://www.royalroads.ca/continuing-studies> using Visa or MasterCard; or by telephone, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at **250-391-2600, ext. 4801**; or **Toll Free at 1-866-890-0220**. Or, come by in person to the Continuing Studies reception area in the **Grant Building, 2005 Sooke Road**, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 5Y2.

