

JCMGA ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of this organization shall be Jackson County Master Gardener Association (JCMGA).
2. The organization mission is to learn, practice and teach the art and science of gardening in the Rogue Valley. This Association is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The purposes shall be to:

- a. enhance and supplement the Oregon State University (OSU) Home Horticulture Program (Master Gardener Program) in cooperation with the Jackson County Extension Center;
 - b. assume responsibility for performing special tasks and engaging in activities related to the Program;
 - c. promote a wide dissemination to citizens of information available as a result of university study and experimentation (such information shall be in accordance with OSU standards);
 - d. work with other organizations to enhance and promote gardening in the community; and
 - e. provide scholarships and grants for all levels of education.
3. This Association is a nonprofit organization subject to the general supervision and control of the Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA). It is governed by a Board of Directors.
 4. The members of the Board of Directors shall be listed in the current Chapter Directory and in the Document Archives.

5. There shall be four classes of membership, as follows:

Active membership: Anyone successfully completing the Master Gardener™ training of the OSU Extension Service is qualified to be an active member upon payment of dues.

Honorary membership: Extension Service staff engaged in the Home Horticulture Master Gardener Program are automatically honorary members who are exempt from payment of dues.

Associate membership: Persons who enrich the objectives of the Master Gardener Program; such membership carries no voting right; Associate members are ineligible to hold office and do not pay dues.

Life membership: On recommendation of the Awards Committee and confirmation by the Board, Life Membership in JCMGA may be given to a JCMGA member. The Life member shall not pay annual dues. Payment of OMGA dues for a Life member shall be made from chapter funds.

6. Termination of Membership: Membership may be terminated by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors after giving the member 15 days of written notice by first class or certified mail of the termination, and an opportunity for the member to be heard by the Board, orally or in writing, not less than 5 days before the effective date of termination. The decision of the Board shall be final and not be reviewable by any court.

7. The principle place of business of this Association is:
Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center
569 Hanley Road
Central Point, Oregon 97502
8. No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, or officers. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise trying to influence legislation, and the Association shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by any organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
9. This Association shall not conduct gaming, issue bonds, use professional fundraisers or be involved in low-income, elderly, or handicapped housing.
10. In the event of dissolution of the Association, assets shall be distributed to the endowment scholarship fund established with the Oregon State University Foundation, a tax exempt organization, or for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to another tax exempt organization working in the home horticulture field or to the federal government, state government, or local government for public purposes.

11. The personal liability of each member of the Board of Directors and each officer of the Association or of its members, for monetary or other damages, for conduct as a director or officer or member shall be eliminated to the full extent of the law.
12. The agent for the Association is the Oregon State University Jackson County Master Gardener Program Coordinator (OSU JCMG Program Coordinator)
13. The Articles of Association shall be supplemented by bylaws, policies and procedures, and decisions via motions by the Board of Directors to further describe the activities of the JCMGA.

Reviewed and Amended January 2024