

**Guidelines for
Frederick County Extension
Master Gardener Articles
Updated 11/1707**

1. Traditionally we have done a question & answer - you compose a question and then give the answer. Lately we've moved into a more open format whereby you write an essay on the topic of your choice. Either method is fine but please keep the subject matter to Master Gardener areas of expertise. For instance when writing about vegetables don't stray too far into cooking methods or recipes.
2. Word count is generally between 500 & 1000 (or so), including both question & answer when using that format.
3. Newspaper style. This means you start with the most important information and continue to least important. The editors of the newspaper will cut the article to the length they need, so get your most important information up front.
4. Photos are important and encouraged but not absolutely necessary. Particularly of yourself, but also the subject matter. You may take your own or find ones that can be published without violating copy write laws. If they are a large size, please zip or resize them for easy e-mailing handling. Or you can take photos or a CD with photos to the Extension Office and we will take care of scanning them or otherwise sending them to the paper
5. Deadline is Monday of the week before the article is due to be published. **Please honor your commitment by meeting the deadline.** Articles submitted past deadline may or may not be published. Articles gladly accepted before deadline.
6. Master Gardener Coordinator has final approval over all materials.