

January 28, 2015



**Master Food Preservers: Looking for Volunteers!**  
By Monique Wilber  
UCCE Master Food Preservers of El Dorado County

Are you interested in joining UCCE Master Food Preservers of El Dorado County? We are hosting a pre-orientation meeting Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2015 at 10 a.m. at the Bethell–Delfino Agriculture Building, 311 Fair Lane, Placerville, California 95667. We will discuss in depth what you would do as a certified MFP, what the classes consist of, and what your volunteer responsibilities may entail. Class size is limited to 12 students, so if you are interested, this is a meeting you should attend. This is an informational meeting where you can find out about the organization and ask questions. This is not a commitment to joining MFP.

The deadline for applications is February 12, 2015. Interviews are on Tuesday, February 17. Training classes for accepted volunteers begin Tuesday, March 3 from 9 a.m. until approximately 2 p.m. and meet consecutively for 12 weeks with graduation in May. Classes consist of approximately one hour of lecture and three to four hours of hands-on lab. Next year the training classes will be on Saturdays.

The training fee is \$95; payment is due before classes begin. Once training is completed, the new volunteers will be certified Master Food Preservers and agents of the UCCE. Our mission is to teach our local communities how to safely preserve food at home. As agents of the UCCE, MFPs of El Dorado County are required to volunteer at least 50 hours during your first year and 25 hours each subsequent year in our community. Highest priority for applicants is given to residents of El Dorado County. Residents from neighboring counties who are willing to volunteer in El Dorado County may also apply.

For more information, contact Robin Cleveland at 530-621-5528 or [rkleveland@ucanr.edu](mailto:rkleveland@ucanr.edu).

While MFP public classes have ended for the season in El Dorado County, monthly classes continue in Amador and Calaveras counties. Check out their schedule at <http://ucanr.edu/mfpcs>.

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Free public classes in El Dorado County will resume at the end of June – and be sure to come visit us at the El Dorado County Fair in mid-June, as well!

UCCE Master Food Preservers are also available to answer home food preservation questions; leave a message at (530) 621-5506. For more information about the public education classes and activities, go to the UCCE Master Food Preserver website at [http://ceeldorado.ucdavis.edu/Master\\_Food\\_Preservers/](http://ceeldorado.ucdavis.edu/Master_Food_Preservers/). Sign up to receive our international E-Newsletter at <http://ucanr.org/mfpenews/>. Find us on Facebook too (UCCE Master Food Preservers of El Dorado County).