

Guidelines for the Sale of Plant Material by Master Gardeners

Below are the IDA regulations for the sale of plant material by Master Gardener volunteers.

Definitions of plant material:

Nursery stock includes but is not limited to: woody plants such as trees and shrubs, including Christmas trees; herbaceous perennials; sod and perennial herbs such as sage and tarragon.

Plants such as vegetables, houseplants and annual bedding plants, such as petunias, geraniums, etc. are not considered nursery stock.

Guidelines for sale of plant material

For Master Gardeners engaged in Extension sponsored activities:

1. **Plants sold one time per year as a fundraiser for U of I Extension:** For U of I Master Gardeners who are digging plants out of their yards and donating them to a U of I fundraiser – NO license is required. This includes any type of plant material- nursery stock or vegetables, houseplants or annuals. If Master Gardeners are selling plants donated by a licensed greenhouse or nursery- NO license is required.
2. **Plants sold more than one time per year as a fundraiser for U of I Extension:** This is for Master Gardeners who are having a plant sale more than 1 time per year or have a booth at a Farmer's Market, Garden Walk or other event that occurs more than 1 time per year. The Master Gardeners may not sell any materials listed as nursery stock (see above) but may sell vegetables, houseplants and annual bedding plants.

For Master Gardeners selling plants on their own- ie outside of Extension activities:

1. Master Gardeners who advertise and sell their own plants on *Ebay* or *Craig's List* on an ongoing basis must have a Nursery license (see below).
2. If a Master Gardener is running a landscape design business (separate from Extension) and as part of their business they provide plants to the customer they would be considered a Nursery Dealer and are required to have a license.

How to obtain a Nursery or Nursery Dealer license from IDA:

1. Nursery license- This license would be needed if you grow the plants you sell. An application for a Nursery license may be downloaded from the IDA website at: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/pdf/nurserymencertification.pdf>
This license will include a nursery inspection fee based on acreage.

2. Nursery Dealer license- This license is needed if you sell plants grown by others. An application for a Nursery Dealer license may be downloaded from the IDA website at: www.agr.state.il.us/pdf/nurserydealerregistration.pdf
The license costs \$50, per each location where plant material will be sold. Please note that the address of each location must be listed on the form. On the form be sure to check Retail Outlet or Landscaping in the center of the page, sign the form, date and return with the fee to IDA.

To find out if a nursery is licensed check the IDA site:

<http://www.agr.state.ili.us/Environment/nursery/>

“For information concerning the policies and procedures associated with fund-raising activities, please consult with your local County Director.”



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