



## Ashley Kush

Horticulture Agent

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### **Educational Program Focus:**

My goal is to do educational programs on 1) Best Management Practices (BMPs) to promote sustainability and conservation of resources in support of commercial and residential vegetable, fruit, citrus, nut, ornamental nursery, and sod production systems; and 2) promotion and implementation of Florida Friendly Landscapes.

I will develop and work with a volunteer group of Master Gardeners to expand the current program. I would like to cooperate interdisciplinary projects, provide service to schools, develop creative works (presentations, posters, social media, etc.), write horticulture publications, and participate in professional groups throughout Jackson County and Florida.

### **Work Experience:**

- 2021-Present Environmental and Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent in Jackson County, FL
- 2017-2021 Garden Supervisor, Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales FL
- 2016-2017 Parks and Recreation: Public Service Worker, City of Winter Garden, FL
- 2016 Area Gardener, Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL
- 2014-2015 Horticulture Coordinator, Denver Zoological Foundation in Denver, CO
- 2013-2014 Community Garden Coordinator, Peace Corps in Pedasi, Panama
- 2010-2013 Agricultural Extension Specialist, Peace Corps in Rincon, Paraguay
- 2007-2010 Account Manager, Austin Outdoor in Port Saint Lucie & Jacksonville FL

### **Education:**

2006 University of Florida, Warrington College of Business Administration  
Master of Science: Management; Master of Arts: International Business

2004 University of Florida, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Bachelor of Science: Environmental Horticulture specializing in Public Garden Management  
Double Minor: Zoology and Landscape Architecture