

**Bois D'Arc Chapter Master Naturalist
Project Request Form
And Requirements**

Project Name:

Project Objective:

Project Description:

**How does this
project align with
Master Naturalist
objectives:**

**Supporting
Organization:**

Begin Date:

End Date:

Resources Needed to Support Project:

Organization Contact Person and Phone and E-mail:

Approval Signatures:

Chapter President: _____

Sponsor: _____

Approval Date: _____

Volunteer Service Projects/Events Requirements/Guidelines

From the Chapter Operating Handbook of Texas Master Naturalists

In order to attain certification, a TMN trainee must complete a minimum of 40 volunteer service hours on pre-approved projects within one year of the initial training series.

Volunteer service project opportunities can be presented by various different identities ranging from the state program sponsors, the chapter, local chapter partners, an individual volunteer, other agencies such as city, county, state and federal agencies and even nature centers and schools.

All volunteer service projects must be pre-approved. The pre-approval of volunteer service projects and opportunities is important to:

Ensure that volunteers are covered by the program insurance available

Provide a list of service projects for volunteers of the chapter

Ensure the goals of the organization and the partners are met

Avoid assumption

Points to consider in pre-approving individual service projects are:

- A. Is the proposed service project representative of the goals, practices & teachings of the TMN program?
- B. How does the project address a pressing naturalist, natural resource management, chapter and/or partner need for meaningful service or resources?
- C. What is the scope of the project in terms of when it would need to be conducted, where, estimated time needed to complete or maintain per month, how many volunteers would be needed, etc.?
- D. Is the project within the Chapter's service area and ecological training?
- E. How does the project allow the chapter to focus and/or create visibility, identity and/or recruitment for the chapter?
- F. How can the project's impact on the community and our natural resources be measured?

Advanced Training Requirements

From the Chapter Operating Handbook of Texas Master Naturalists

The purpose of advanced training is to provide Texas Master Naturalists an opportunity to focus their interests on one, or a few, specific topics that interest them. Also, advanced training on an annual basis promotes continued learning and development. Advanced training is a benefit in itself, providing the experienced Master Naturalist with tools to work in more advanced volunteer efforts.

Although the State Texas Master Naturalist program may occasionally provide statewide or regional advanced training opportunities, it is generally the responsibility of the chapter to insure that there are sufficient advanced training opportunities offered so that members can attain their 8-hour minimum requirement. In addition, the local chapter should be a clearinghouse for

notifying members of approved advanced training opportunities that exist outside the chapter boundaries.

Advanced training courses may be made available directly through Texas AgriLife Extension, TPWD, or any number of short-courses provided by universities or nature centers. The chapter's Local Coordinating Committee, Advanced Training Committee or equivalent must Pre-Approve all advanced training opportunities before the volunteer attends.

Educational television shows are NOT a form of advanced training.

Advanced training hours are also counted one hour for each hour of advanced training, however, travel time is NOT included for advanced training hours.

The Approval committee should use the following criteria or ask the following questions before approving Advanced Training Opportunities:

Does the Advanced Training Opportunity:

- 1. Promote continued learning and development of naturalist skills?**
- 2. Provide Master Naturalists with knowledge & skills to work in volunteer efforts?**
3. Direct trained volunteers toward specific programs in need of their services?
4. Provide practical information and training for application in volunteer efforts?
5. Take advantage of local partnerships?
- 6. Provide Master Naturalists an opportunity to focus their interests in one or a few specific topics?**
- 7. Build on the core curriculum initially provided by the local chapter?**
- 8. Provide natural resource management issues and information applicable to Texas?**

Advanced Training Opportunities **MUST** meet the following criteria: **1,2,6,7, and 8.**