



**Texas Master Naturalist Brazos Valley Chapter
Meeting Agenda for June 14, 2012
Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History**

I. Welcome

II. Officer and Committee Reports

A. President - Lisa Davenport – 2012 State Conference (See V2a, b and c below)

1. Name: Jim Branch

Email: Tarpon52@gmail.com

Comments: Brazos Valley TMN Chapter

SAVE THE DATE: Master Naturalists in the southeastern part of Texas are invited to a regional meeting on July 14, 2012. Meet at the Spring Creek Greenway Nature Center in Spring, Texas for a day of food, fellowship and advanced training. The topic for this year's event will be landscaping with native plants to create habitat gardens. At least 7 hours of advanced training will be provided. A registration form will be available shortly. Contact Teri MacArthur of the Heartwood Chapter to request an agenda and registration form as soon as they are released. Fee of \$15 per person to attend will cover breakfast, break snacks, and lunch. Watch for updates on the Heartwood website as well.

To contact Teri: teri.macarthur@mctx.org or to visit the Heartwood website: www.heartwoodtmn.org

Jim Branch

Heartwood TMN Chapter Vice President

B. Vice President – Janet Quiram -

C. Secretary – Amanda Schwede

- 1. Sign in**
- 2. Approval of May 2012 meeting minutes**

D. Treasurer – Charlene Lusk

E. Outreach – Cheryl Lewis, Chair –

F. Training – Bruce Neville, Chair - Membership –

G. Betty Vermeire, Chair -

H. Advanced Training –Jim Anding, Chair -

I. Volunteer Service Project – Jay Pritchard, Chair -

J. Host/Social – Olivia Ash and Kara Rosch, Co-chairs -

K. Historian – Terry Junek, Chair –

L. Web – Amanda Chau, Chair - Would like to propose adding a paragraph to Article IX (under Gifts and Donations) of our bylaws, <http://txmn.org/brazos/members-area/membership/bylaws/#9> Purchasing and Giving gifts. The Chapter will purchase the gift item instead of giving out cash for someone else to make the purchase.

1. We have six committee pages up and running so far and are working on the remaining three. We would appreciate our members to check them out and give us feedback and comments. Our goal is to have all the committee pages up and running before the 2012 Class starts this September.

M. Program – Janet Quiram, Chair -

III. Old Business

- A. L. Davenport - Brazos County Road Department NOT to mow the county byways while the wild flowers are still in bloom and therefore seeds not developed. Two benefits are to be enjoyed ... first is more wildflowers in more abundance over time and a cost saving in the expense of mowing, a major consideration in these "troubled financial" times.
- B. L. Davenport - We will be passing out the certificates for those who submitted background check forms. We will also be requesting that members whose certifications were done over 3 years ago will need to resubmit their applications (I will have a list).
- C. L. Davenport – tax exempt status
- D. L. Davenport - having a Jr. Naturalist event or two

IV. New Business

A.

V. Announcements

A. Upcoming Programs Dates/Calendar Items

1. **TMN Spring Meeting Schedule:** (Second Thursdays at 6:30 PM, BVMNH)
July 12, August 9, September
13, October 11
2. **2012 TMN State Conference** - October 26-28th, 2012, Camp Allen, Navasota – see last three pages of agenda for details
3. **Monthly Meeting speakers (each monthly meeting counts for one hour of AT credit):**
 - A. June 14— Robert Taylor "And the number one environmental contaminant is... Mercury!!!"
 - B. July 12— John Herron, Director of Texas Conservation and Science, will speak about The Nature Conservancy
 - C. August 9—Lucy Coward "The Horned Lizard: Where Are They?"
4. **2012 Wildlife for Lunch Webinar Series (count as Advanced Training credit)**
<https://texas-wildlife.webex.com> to log on to the live webinars. For more information contact Courtney Brittain, Texas Wildlife Association, Education Program Coordinator
2800 NE Loop 410, Ste. 105; San Antonio, TX 78218

(210) 826-2904 ext. 122, (210) 826-4933 – fax, (210) 393-3467 - mobile

www.texas-wildlife.org, cbrittain@texas-wildlife.org

June 21 * Ranch Photography for Fun and Profit, John Martin

July 19 * West Texas Wildlife Management, Louis Harveson

August 16 * Rainwater Harvesting, Billy Kniffen

September 20 * Deer Nutritional Requirements & Implications for Management, Dave Hewitt

October 18 * Native Prairie Restoration, Forrest Smith

November 15 * Endangered Species Management, Brian Hays

December 20 * Forestry Management for Wildlife, Chris Comer

5. Fun Opportunities! Some WILD some not...don't miss out! (As TPWD is a sponsor of TMN, these activities automatically qualify for Advanced Training credit.)

Groundwater to Gulf

June 19th, 20th, and 21st

6. Saturday, June 23, at 7:00 am is the next bird survey at Cedar Hill Ranch.

Background: Cedar Hill Ranch is an approximately 700-acre heavily wooded tract currently managed under a Wildlife Management Plan in post oak savannah. Pin Oak Creek and Alligator Creek cut through the property. Owners are in the process of thinning the yaupon understory, creating winding trails honeycombed with open plots, removing exotic plant and animal species, and seeding with native grasses to encourage a diversity of plant and animal life. Quarterly bird surveys are currently being conducted to determine the current seasonal bird population and to see how it changes over time due to owners' habitat improvement efforts.

To protect the fragile, disturbed soils, almost all of the survey will be conducted on foot.

Participants will divide into groups led by an experienced birder. Water, binoculars, hats, long pants, and closed toed shoes recommended.

Locate the property on Google Maps at: [12374 FM 2095, Gause, TX](http://www.google.com/maps/place/12374+FM+2095,+Gause,+TX). The gate is approximately 2.2 miles from the intersection of FM 2095 and Hwy 79 in Gause, TX, and will be open for participants. Follow the interior road to the ranch house.

TMNers can accumulate volunteer hours for the time spent surveying plus travel time to and from Cedar Hill Ranch.

RSVP and Contact Numbers:

Joyce Conner

Cedar Hill Ranch

12374 FM 2095

P.O. Box 8

Gause, TX 77857

512-368-3618 ranch

512-659-0308 cell

joyce@conner.net

7. What's all the buzz about bees, birds and butterflies? June 23, 2012 10:00 - 1:00

Conroe, Texas (AT credit approved) Celebrate Pollinator Week with the Heartwood Chapter.

You can attend as a guest or volunteer alongside of us. NatureLIVE at the Jones State Forest

Volunteers info: <http://heartwoodtmn.org/groups/naturelive-volunteers>

Guests info: <http://heartwoodtmn.org/whats-happening/calendar/naturelive-community-day>

8. Regional Meeting for TMN's in Southeastern Texas--July 14th

Contact for more info: teri.macarthur@mctx.org

SAVE THE DATE: Master Naturalists in the southeastern part of Texas are invited to a regional meeting on July 14, 2012. Meet at the Spring Creek Greenway Nature Center in Spring, Texas for a day of food, fellowship and advanced training. The topic for this year's event will be landscaping with native plants to create habitat gardens. At least 7 hours of advanced training will be provided. A registration form will be available shortly. Contact Teri MacArthur of the

Heartwood Chapter to request an agenda and registration form as soon as they are released. Fee of \$15 per person to attend will cover breakfast, break snacks, and lunch. Watch for updates on the Heartwood website as well.

To contact Teri: teri.macarthur@mctx.org or to visit the Heartwood website: www.heartwoodtmn.org

Teri MacArthur, Manager

Spring Creek Greenway Nature Center

Commissioner's Office, Montgomery County Precinct 3

1300 Riley Fuzzel Rd

Spring TX 77386

281.364.4225

teri.macarthur@mctx.org

www.springcreekgreenway.org

9. Texas Bat Symposium-- August 11, 2012 (in North Texas)

You may register at BWS <https://www.batworld.org/shop/brit-sign-up/> or BRIT <http://www.brit.org/>.

Contact Carrie McLaughlin, Texas Master Naturalist for more information:

carrie.mclaughlin58@gmail.com; 682-459-1684

THE BAT WORLD SANCTUARY (BWS) AND THE BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS (BRIT) HAVE TEAMED UP TO OFFER A ONE-DAY BAT SYMPOSIUM ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2012 AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR US ALL. THE REGISTRATION AND AGENDA DETAILS ARE ATTACHED TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

Dottie Hyatt and Kate Rugroden will be your trainers from **Bat World Sanctuary**. **Bat World** and its mission has been featured on *David Letterman*, *20/20*, *Animal Planet*, *The Disney Channel*, the *CBS Morning Show*, *Nickolodeon* and many other TV programs, news shows, radio shows and in feature articles. The volunteer staff members at **BWS** are serious bat care specialists. They routinely train veterinarians, zoologists and wildlife rescuers in one-week and two-week seminars. But they have condensed some of it into this manageable one-day offering that will enable a broad spectrum of folks to take part in a way that will **not** require hundreds of dollars in costs for a rabies pre-exposure vaccine (*live, rescued bats will be an integral part of the instruction throughout the day, but participants will not be handling them for the purposes of this symposium*). There will be a certificate of completion awarded, as well as a DVD, a book, a magazine, bat information cards and a membership to Bat World Sanctuary.

The Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) is the proud host and partner for this workshop in their brand new, award-winning "green" facility on the very edge of the *Fort Worth Cultural Arts District's Botanical Garden*. **BRIT** knows the value of bats as pollinators and as keystone species for our plants world-wide- plants that provide us with medicine, food, clothing, and quality of life. **BRIT's** researchers, scientists and botanists are daily at the forefront in educating themselves, other professionals and the public about the world's flora and the ecosystems that support it. **The Institute's** beautiful facility is conveniently located near the museums, the Coliseum and downtown's Sundance Square for those who wisely choose to attend the symposium and to make a weekend of it in Fort Worth.

*****THE COST OF THE SYMPOSIUM WILL BE USED TO FUND A NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART SANCTUARY FACILITY FOR THE SUCCESSFUL RESCUE, BREEDING, MAINTENANCE AND EVENTUAL RELEASE OF BATS AFFECTED BY WNS.*****

10. Invaders of Texas workshop with the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center- Houston Arboretum, on September 15

11. List of Plant Walks and Fieldtrips across north Texas

My name is Jeff Quayle and I member with the Cross Timbers chapter of TMN since 1998. I lead plant walks, fieldtrips, and conduct botanical surveys across much of north Texas, particularly areas in the Cross Timbers and Prairies region.

Please e-mail for a list of walks and fieldtrips, or visit my Yahoo Groups Field Trips

Announcement Page at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/CTMN_Fieldtrip_List/

You will need a Yahoo ID to join my page. But joining allows you to receive automated announcements up to 2 weeks before one of my walks. It also allows you access to plant lists, photos and some plant data.

Jeff Quayle s-quaylei@att.net

Yahoo Groups Fieldtrip Announcement List

http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/CTMN_Fieldtrip_List/

12. Public input sought on coastal and marine efforts

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — The Texas Sea Grant College Program is asking Texans to help it chart its course in the areas of coastal and marine research, outreach and education by participating in an online survey. As a “thank you,” five people who complete the survey will be chosen at random to win \$100 gift cards.

The program that bills itself as “Science at Work for Texans” is currently developing its strategic plan for 2014-2017. Texas Sea Grant’s mission is to improve the understanding, wise use and stewardship of Texas coastal and marine resources. To achieve this mission, Texas Sea Grant develops and supports research, education and outreach programs and partnerships, and relies on the public for knowledge, advice and guidance.

The survey takes just a few minutes to complete and gauges participants’ interest in issues concerning coastal community growth and development, jobs and the economy, coastal and marine education, and coastal health, safety and beauty. Individuals interested in voicing their opinions can find a link to the survey on Texas Sea Grant’s homepage, www://texas-sea-grant.tamu.edu. All responses are anonymous.

Based on the Land Grant concept, Texas Sea Grant is a unique partnership that unites the resources of the federal government, the State of Texas, universities across the state and marine-related industries to create knowledge, tools, products and services that benefit the economy, the environment and the citizens of Texas. Based at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas Sea Grant is a non-academic research center in the College of Geosciences. It is also one of 32 university-based Sea Grant Programs around the country that are part of the National Sea Grant Network. The National Sea Grant Program is administered through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

follow our link <http://texas-sea-grant.tamu.edu/>

and click on the blue post-it note that says "Take the 2012 Texas Sea Grant Strategic Planning Survey"

Rhonda D. Cummins '08 Coastal & Marine Resource Advisor Texas Sea Grant College Program

186 County Road 101, Ste. 1 Port Lavaca, TX 77979 office: 361-552-9747 fax: 361-552-6727

<http://kyakradio.tamu.edu>

13. Status of the Monarch and Plan milkweed!

Shared by Kip Kiphart

The current status of the monarch butterfly.

And what we can do to help: Plant milkweed.

<http://monarchwatch.org/blog/2012/03/monarch-population-status-14/>

http://www1.umn.edu/news/features/2012/UR_CONTENT_378473.html

14. Year of the Bat Resources for 2012

The Year of the Bat group in collaboration with Bat Conservation International has compiled a plethora of resources to use for any YOTB event (found at <http://www.batcon.org/index.php/get-involved/year-of-the-bat/subcategory/596.html>).

Feel free to download any and everything you find useful for your own batty events!

15. TPWD Seeks Volunteers to Seek Reptiles and Amphibians

Spring in Texas means... wildflowers blooming, frogs croaking, lizards emerging, and turtles basking. As wildlife in Texas responds to abundant spring rains and early warmth this year, Texas Parks and Wildlife is looking for volunteers to help document the response of amphibian and reptile species around the state.

"Reptiles and amphibians are especially sensitive to climate changes," according to Lee Ann Linam, biologist in TPWD's Wildlife Diversity Program. Frogs and toads require adequate rainfall to breed, and reptiles often spend more time underground or in burrows during long dry periods." Linam says 2012 is shaping up to be a good year for herps, as reptiles and amphibians are often called, due to abundant rainfall and warm temperatures.

A good year is welcome news for these species, many of which are declining or little-known, according to Linam. Texas Parks and Wildlife has several monitoring programs for herps that allow citizen scientists to enjoy some springtime weather while gathering data on reptiles and amphibians.

Texas Amphibian Watch seeks information on frogs, toads, and salamanders in the state, usually by encouraging a volunteer to adopt a wetland site and listening for the calls of frogs and toads at night. "People are always fascinated to learn what animal is making that click, trill, or chuckle that they hear at ponds," says Linam, "and that fascination can help us determine whether amphibian species are declining in Texas or not." Texas Amphibian Watch provides a free monitoring packet with instructions. Audio CDs of frog and toad calls and training workshops are also available.

Texas Horned Lizard Watch seeks information on horned lizards, including the official state reptile, often called the horny toad. "Many Texans are familiar with horny toads, but wonder why they don't see them anymore," says Linam. "Texas Horned Lizard Watch is an attempt to help us understand why horned lizards have disappeared from some areas and remain in others—hopefully that information will help us help the species to recover." Interested participants can download a free monitoring packet that provides information about all three horned lizard species in Texas, guidelines for managing for horned lizards, and instructions and data forms for the monitoring program.

Texas Box Turtle Survey seeks information on the two box turtle species in the state—the eastern box turtle and the ornate box turtle. Common in the pet trade, these land-based turtles seem to be declining in some areas. "We would be especially concerned about decreases in box turtle numbers because they are long-lived and don't produce many young," according to Linam. TPWD provides a sighting report form that can be downloaded and links to a webpage where sightings can be reported online.

Texas Amphibian Watch, Texas Horned Lizard Watch, and Texas Box Turtle Survey are just a few of the citizen science programs offered as a part of Texas Nature Trackers. Texas Nature Trackers is also collaborating with other partners to promote volunteer survey efforts for freshwater turtles and the spot-tailed earless lizards. To download monitoring packets, check workshop schedules, order CDs, or just learn more about these and other programs, interested individuals can visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us/trackers/

16. The Wildlife Conservation Professional Development Grants

Contact: Email: CEnrigh@neefusa.org

Greetings, Texas Master Naturalist!

We wanted to send over information about a professional development grant opportunity for middle and high school teachers. We would love to know if it was possible to reach your base with the opportunity, in order to reach as many educators as possible.

The Wildlife Conservation Professional Development Grants are offered by our Classroom Earth program, the K-12 environmental education program of the National Environmental Education Foundation. Classroom Earth's 2012 Professional Development Grants will enable applicants to take one six-week online course offered by the Wildlife Conservation Society to create a strong foundation in wildlife conservation. Participating teachers will be better equipped to bring wildlife conservation into the classroom, facilitate scientific learning and to connect students with their natural surroundings. This Classroom Earth grant opportunity will also support teachers to earn graduate level credit.

I have included our promotional language at the end of this message. If you are able to respond via email, I can attach our promotional graphic, in case you were able to spread the message through your networks, on social media or the Texas Master Naturalist site.

To learn more, please visit the grant web page, located here:

<http://classroomearth.org/2012wcgrants>. The application deadline is April 30, 2012.

Let me know if you would like any more information or have any questions.

Thanks, and have a good weekend!

PROMOTIONAL LANGUAGE: Classroom Earth's 2012 Professional Development Grants Interested in enhancing your understanding of the living world and learning to teach about wildlife conservation in your subject area?

Classroom Earth is supporting middle and high school teachers around the country who are eager to make wildlife conservation part of their curriculum. Classroom Earth's 2012 Professional Development Grants will enable applicants to take one six-week online course offered by the Wildlife Conservation Society to create a strong foundation in wildlife conservation.

Participating teachers will be better equipped to bring wildlife conservation into the classroom, facilitate scientific learning and to connect students with their natural surroundings. This Classroom Earth grant opportunity will also support teachers to earn graduate level credit.

Classroom Earth received very positive feedback about last year's courses. According to one teacher, "I really enjoyed my course, Conservation Biology for Educators. I found everything relevant to what I teach, and can use it in many different classes."

The application deadline is April 30, 2012.

Apply for a Classroom Earth Professional Development Grant today!

Visit www.classroomearth.org/2012wcgrants

17. USDA population genetics project

April 9, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

In 2011 the USDA-ARS began the North American Mosquito Project (NAMP); a continental scale population genetics project to quantify the genetic relationships between populations of *Aedes vexans* and *Culex tarsalis*. Vector control and public health districts contributed mosquitoes throughout North America. Over 450 samples from 38 states and 5 countries were received and the sequencing of the initial populations has commenced. Many contributors expressed a willingness to send samples in 2012.

The North American Mosquito Project has two major priorities for 2012:

- To cover areas that were missed in 2011 either due to weather conditions or simply because locations were contacted too late in the season.

- To repeat coverage in areas which were sampled in 2011. This year the project will also look to understanding the temporal genetic variation within populations.

You are receiving this email because your location is a high priority and your contribution to NAMP will be greatly appreciated.

Project needs: At least 50 adult female *Aedes vexans* and/or *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes trapped on a single night from as many unique locations (separated by at least 5 km) as possible. The sampling protocol and data sheet are attached. Prepaid UPS labels and other supplies are available on request. Samples can be shipped at any point this summer or fall but **if you are intending to participate please let me know ASAP by sending an e-mail to elin.maki@ars.usda.gov.**

As always, any contributions, past or future, are greatly appreciated. Feel free to share this e-mail with anyone you think may be interested.

Sincerely, Elin Maki and Lee Cohnstaedt, Arthropod-Borne Animal Diseases Research Unit, Center for Grain and Animal Health Research, 1515 College Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502.
Elin.Maki@ars.usda.gov Off: (785) 537-5589 Lee.Cohnstaedt@ars.usda.gov Off: (785) 410-9148

18. We would like to get interesting photos of native plants and stories within the North Central Texas area. The March-April issue of the Reverchon Naturalist newsletter is now available on the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Service home page and can be found at this link:

<http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/bio/reverchon.html>

Please forward to anyone you believe would be interested. We would like to get interesting photos of native plants and stories within the North Central Texas area. Submit articles of 350-700 words. Longer articles are also accepted. Please take the time to submit your items and share with other plant geeks.

Ricky Linex, Wildlife Biologist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, 532 Santa Fe Dr., Weatherford, TX 76086, 817-596-2865 Ext. 105 (O), 817-304-5266 (C)

19. Youth Range Workshop accepting applications for youth & volunteers

Please help spread the word.. the Texas Section of the Society for Range Management is accepting participant applications for its Youth Range Workshop.

They are also looking for volunteers to assist with this event.

To learn more, visit: www.rangelands.org/texas/youtheducation.htm

Feel free to share this opportunity with youth and other volunteers you may know.



Call for Training Workshops & Session Presentations
13th Annual Statewide Texas Master Naturalist Meeting & Advanced Training
October 26 -28, 2012
Camp Allen, Navasota, Texas
(Proposal Abstracts are due by June 30, 2012)

Meeting Overview

The TMN Statewide Annual Meeting and Advanced Training is geared toward Texas Master Naturalist Volunteers, their Chapters, Agency Advisors, partner organizations and supporters of the Statewide TMN Program. The meeting provides an opportunity for our volunteers and affiliates to receive all of their Advanced Training requirements for the year within one weekend. It's also an opportunity for program participants and supporters to network, share new ideas and projects and to learn from one another. As a workshop presenter, you would have the opportunity to inform and train TMN members from across the state on various natural resource topics providing more in-depth information than their initial core training and curriculum. You are also encouraged to make this an opportunity to enlist and train our program volunteers to assist you, your program, and your work as part of their annual volunteer service commitment.

Annual Meeting & Advanced Training Workshop and Themes

Proposals for workshops are being requested for the 13th Annual Statewide Texas Master Naturalist Meeting & Advanced Training. All training workshops relevant to the Texas Master Naturalist mission will be considered. Special consideration will be given to proposals that address one or more of the following themes:

- **Special topics for 2012 include** – *Nongame diversity, the importance and implementation of the Texas Conservation Action Plan, the value of nongame regulation and the importance of diversified nongame funding for wildlife.*
- **Traditional disciplines of a naturalist**-- *botanists, entomologists, ornithologists, mammalogists, herpetologists, paleontologists, and geologists*
- **Ecological concepts and/or Eco-regions of Texas**
- **Management of natural systems and systems management tools**-- *including forest, rangeland, wetland, aquatic and urban ecology & management and hunting and prescribed fire as management tools.*
- **Interpretation and communication**-- *including working with diverse audiences, techniques and developing interpretive programs for all ages.*
- **Historical perspectives of naturalists in Texas**
- **Citizen Science programs**—*hands-on train the trainer type workshops encouraged.*
- **Program and Chapter Management topics**-- *including marketing, branding, local program evaluation and assessment, building and maintaining effective partnerships, leadership skills, volunteer management techniques and educational technology relevant to natural resource conservation, education and outreach.*

TMN Advanced Training (AT) Workshops:

Advanced Training workshops provide training on a specific skill, technique, or process and may involve one or more instructors. Workshops are intended to emphasize learning through participation, discussion, and “hands-on” and field activities where possible. AT Workshops should also aim to provide participants with

new skills to apply in their area of service or better prepare them to provide service in the topic area you are teaching. Training workshops typically are scheduled to run concurrently with other conference sessions. Training workshops may range from just 2 hours in length to a total of 12 hours in length spanning the course of the weekend. Typical workshop attendance ranges from 15 to 50 while the conference attendance ranges between 225 and 300 total registrants.

TMN Advanced Training Short Sessions (1 hour):

Short Sessions may include presentations introducing a natural resource topic or program to solicit the interest of TMN volunteers or to present resources and partnerships that may assist Master Naturalist chapters in their communities. They may also be very short, hands-on and interactive presentations on natural resource topics that model good interpretive methods. Short sessions are scheduled to run concurrently with other conference events and topics and are open to all meeting registrants on a walk-in basis. Typical attendance at short sessions can range from 10 to 50 registrants.

Additional Characteristics of TMN Advanced Training Workshops & Short Sessions may include:

- Promotes continued learning and development of naturalist skills
- Provides Master Naturalists with knowledge and skills to work in volunteer efforts
- Directs trained volunteers toward specific programs in need of their services
- Provides practical information and training for application in volunteer efforts
- Takes advantage of state and local partnerships
- Provides Texas Master Naturalists with an opportunity to focus their interests in one or a few specific topics
- Builds on the core curriculum initially provided by the program and the local chapter
- Provides natural resource management issues and information applicable to Texas
- and for the statewide annual meeting—applies to and addresses a broad range of TMN volunteers (geographically, etc.) across the state.

Examples of Past TMN Annual Meeting Advanced Training Workshop Titles

- Developing TPWD Biological Assessment Teams
- Monitoring Habitat for Quail and other Upland Birds, Monitoring Invasive Organisms
- Become a part of the TPWD Dove Banding Program
- Riparian Area Assessment & Management
- Leopold Education Project, Project WILD, Project Learning Tree and Flying WILD Facilitator Trainings
- Brush Busters: Tactical Brush Management Technology for the Landowner
- Marketing & Identity for Master Naturalist Chapters, Becoming an Effective Messenger
- Providing Interactive & Experiential Programs and Junior Master Naturalist Activities
- Wind Development, Transmission and Texas Natural Resources
- Introduction to Wildlife Tracking
- Introduction to Climate Change in TX, Project BudBurst, & the National Phenology Network
- The Texas Master Naturalists role in implementing the Texas Conservation Action Plan
- How to Establish a Land Management Assistance Program in your chapter
- Wildfire Preparedness: History, Property Evaluation & Guidelines
- Natural Resource Laws, Regulations and Ethics for Every Master Naturalist
- Texas Oak Wilt Suppression Project
- Planning and facilitating effective meetings for your chapter
- Partnering with Youth & Schools through Service Learning
- Prescribed Fire Training, Geospatial Technologies Training, Land Photodocumentation
- Teaching Successful Habitat Restoration

Submission Requirements

The Texas Master Naturalist Program welcomes your training workshop contributions to our agenda!

Individuals wishing to present are invited to email a proposal abstract with the following information **by June 30, 2012** to mhaggerty@ag.tamu.edu or michelle.haggerty@tpwd.state.tx.us. A notice of receipt will be sent by e-mail. If you do not receive notification of receipt within 10 days or have any questions about proposal submission, please contact Michelle Haggerty. Proposals received after the deadline and before registration opening may be considered if space is available. Trainers will need to bring their own presentation equipment (laptop, projector, etc.). However, screens will be provided in each meeting room.

Please include the following in your proposal abstract:

- Session Type: (either AT Workshop or 1 hour Short Session)
- Session Length (in hours)
- Session Title
- Will an enclosed classroom be required? (or can the session be held entirely outdoors?)
- Contact of primary presenter/training team lead (mailing address, phone, cell phone, email)
- Trainer(s)/Presenter(s) names, titles and organization(s)
- Your preferred class size:
- A short description of the session--3-5 sentence paragraph (~100 words) describing the session, what volunteers will learn, what they will need to wear and/or bring with them, etc. (This information will be used to describe the session in our registration materials)

Proposal Evaluation and Notice of Decision

All training proposals will be considered and evaluated on timeliness of the subject, importance of the training to a broad range of TMN volunteers and their further contribution to our program mission. Applicants will be notified whether their proposals have been accepted or not.

About the Texas Master Naturalist Program

The Texas Master Naturalist Volunteer program is sponsored statewide by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. The mission of the program is *to train volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas*. The program currently supports 7,300 volunteers in 44 local chapters across the state. Last year, TMN volunteers provided over 283,000 hours of service. Many communities and organizations rely on these citizen volunteers for implementing youth education programs; for operating parks, nature centers, and natural areas; and for providing leadership in local natural resource conservation efforts. Texas Master Naturalist volunteers are required to receive 40 hours of basic training, obtain a minimum of 8 hours of advanced training and perform 40 hours of volunteer service prior to being certified as a Texas Master Naturalist volunteer. To keep their certification current each year, TMN's are required to obtain an additional 40 hours of service and 8 hours of advanced training. For more information visit our statewide website at: <http://txmn.org>