

**ATTACHMENT 1 TO SEPTEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER  
ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES  
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2006**

The TMN-COT Advanced Training Committee has reviewed AT opportunities listed on nearby TMN Chapter websites and has approved the advanced training opportunities listed below. If you find other opportunities not listed that you would like to attend, please submit an *Approval Form for Advanced Training*. This form can be downloaded from the FORMS page of the COT website.

DATE/TIME	CHAPTER	CONTACT	AT HOURS
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**Galveston Bay Chapter**

<b>September 13</b> 9AM until 11:30 AM at the GCEC	Meet at Texas Coastal Watershed Program Office and carpool to GCEC  Wetland Plant Identification Class 2. Sedges, Rushes and associated plants.	John Thayer for more info/possible carpooling	2.5 hrs
<b>September 20</b> 9AM until 11:30 AM at the GCEC	Meet at Texas Coastal Watershed Program Office and carpool to GCEC  Wetland Plant Identification Class 3. Wetland grasses and associated plants.	John Thayer for more info/possible carpooling	2.5 hrs

**Mid Coast Chapter - Aransas Pass**

No listings for September or October			
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**Coastal Bend Chapter - Fort Bend County**

No listings for September/October AT listed in Members Only section			
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**Armand Bayou Nature Center**

September 9, 2006 - 8 - 11 am  October 28, 2006 - 8 - 11 am  November 11, 2006 - 8 - 11 am	<u>Guided Canoe Tours</u> - A morning of education and adventure paddling canoes on a guided tour down the backwaters of Armand Bayou. Meet at Bay Area Park for a leisurely morning of wildlife watching, wetland education, relaxation and fun. Observe numerous birds, reptiles, deer and other residents at the water's edge. Beginning and experienced canoers welcome. Life jackets provided. Cost: \$20 members; \$25 non-members	281-474-2551 8500 Bay Area Blvd., Pasadena, TX	
September 9, 7 - 9 pm  October 7, 6:30 - 8:30 pm  November 4, 5 - 7 pm	<u>Owl Prowl</u> - Enjoy a moonlit walk through the woods as we look for owls and listen for fascinating night sounds. Bring a flashlight. Cost: Members - \$2 adults, \$1 children & seniors; Non-members - \$5 adults, \$3 children & seniors	281-474-2551 8500 Bay Area Blvd., Pasadena, TX	

DATE/TIME	CHAPTER	CONTACT	AT HOURS
<b>Gulf Coast Chapter</b>			
<b>First Monday of the month</b> 10am-Noon <a href="#">Carbide Park</a>	<b>Historical Perspectives of Naturalists Study Group</b> By popular request the group will finish 'The Book of Texas Bays' by Jim Blackburn. The author describes and comments on every major bay on the Texas Coast from Lake Sabine to the Rio Grande Earlier this year the study group only read the first nine chapters which describe the geographical area of Southeast Texas. Because so many people are familiar with the entire coastline and because the book is so interesting, it was decided to use the rest of 2006 to finish it.  The meeting schedule and reading assignments are: <b>September 18 Chapters 10-16</b> <b>October 2 Chapters 17-22</b> November 6 Chapters 23-26	Stew Coffman <a href="#">e-mail</a> or 281-412-6450	2 hours
Friday, September 8, 2006 - 7:30 - 9 pm	<b>Waugh Bridge Bat Colony Tour Pontoon Boat Tour</b> sponsored by the Buffalo Bayou Partnership. Visit Houston's newly discovered Mexican Free-tailed Bat Colony. Enjoy an amazing view of the bats' dusk emergence from the boats on the bayou's waters. Spend an evening viewing and learning more about these magnificent flying mammals. Cost: \$15 per person. Group limited to 18. For more information and reservations, contact Trudi Smith at <a href="mailto:tsmith@buffalobayou.org">tsmith@buffalobayou.org</a> or call 713-752-0314 ext. 3.		
Saturday, September 9, 2006 - 9 am - 3 pm	<b>Wildscapes Workshop and Native Plant Sale</b> sponsored by NPSOT. Topics include "Watersmart Landscaping" by Chris LaChance, "Great Plants for a Wildscapes Landscape" by Diane Cabiness, "Butterflies as Botanists" by Gloria and John Tveten, and "Invasive Plants" by Lisa Gonzalez. Location: University of Houston, Central Campus. Cost: \$30 per person (\$25 for NPSOT Members). Box lunch included with registration. Registration deadline is September 1. For more information and registration visit, <a href="#">Wildscapes Registration Flyer</a>		
Saturday, September 9, 2006 - 9 am - 3pm	<b>Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza</b> at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Lake Jackson. Cost: \$2 per adult, youth free. Programs on hummingbirds and nature at 10:30 am and 1 pm; Hummingbird banding 9 am to 11 am. For more information or to volunteer, call 979-480-0999 or email <a href="mailto:criley@gcbo.org">criley@gcbo.org</a> .		
Saturday, September 9, 2006 - 6:30 - 8 pm	<b>Texas Amphibian Watch Monitoring Workshop</b> at Sheldon Lake State Park, sponsored by the TPWD. Learn how to identify local amphibians, receive a Texas frog and toad call CD and get hands-on experience. SBEC and TEEAC credit available for teachers. Cost: \$5 for materials. Registration required. For more information and registration, contact Scott Kiester at <a href="mailto:skiester@houston.rr.com">skiester@houston.rr.com</a> or 281-456-9350.		

DATE/TIME	CHAPTER	CONTACT	AT HOURS
<b>Gulf Coast Chapter (continued)</b>			
Saturday, September 16, 2006 - 9 am - 1 pm	<b>Katy Prairie Conservancy Volunteer Orientation Day</b> at the KPC Field Office, Waller. Learn more about the Katy Prairie and ways to contribute to preserving our coastal prairies.	write <a href="mailto:info@katyprairie.org">info@katyprairie.org</a> or call 713-523-6135.	
Saturday - Sunday, September 16 - 17, 2006 - 10 am - 4 pm	<b>Magnificent Migrations: Raptor Study at the Smith Point Hawk Watch.</b> Join official hawk counters and other experts at the Smith Point Hawk Watch Tower at Candy Abshier Wildlife Management Area for a full day of talks, discussions, exhibits and displays on raptor migration. Cost: \$100.	call 979-480-0999 or email <a href="mailto:criley@gcbo.org">criley@gcbo.org</a> .	
Sunday, September 17, 2006 - 2 pm	<b>Wildflower Planting</b> at Jesse Jones Park. Join Park Director, Darlene Conley for tips on turning an empty patch of land into a colorful spring wildflower garden. FREE.		
Thursday, September 28, 2006 - noon to 3 pm	<b>Winterizing for Birds</b> by Mark Klym at Mercer Arboretum. Mark will discuss how to make our gardens a host to a variety of birds this winter. Topics will include "Cavity Nesters: The Birdhouse Serves as More Than a Nestbox, The Winter Pantry: Feeders, Flowers, and Fruit, and What About the Tiniest Birds? Winter Hummingbird Habitats." Reservations required. For more information and reservations, call 281-443-8731. Bring a sack lunch.		
Friday - Monday, September 29 - October 2, 2006	<b>Fall Nature Quest.</b> Experience tours and seminars interpreting the Autumnal native plants, wildflowers, butterflies, dragonflies, and birds of the River Region in addition to seminars on native bees and native plant gardening. FREE!!! For more information, registration, and schedules, visit <a href="http://www.thcrr.com/static/index.cfm?contentID=29">http://www.thcrr.com/static/index.cfm?contentID=29</a> .		
Saturday, September 30, 2006 - 9 am	<b>Butterfly Gardening</b> at the Museum of Natural Science. Join Cockrell Butterfly Center Staff for a hands-on butterfly gardening workshop. Learn the best host plants for caterpillars and nectar plants for butterflies, as well as other techniques to make your garden welcoming to butterflies in the Houston area. Cost: \$27 HMNS members; \$30 non-members. Purchase tickets at <a href="http://www.hmns.org">www.hmns.org</a> Event code BGW.		

DATE/TIME	CHAPTER	CONTACT	AT HOURS
<b>Gulf Coast Chapter (continued)</b>			
Saturday, September 30, 2006 - 2 - 7 pm	<b>Introduction to Ecology, Earth Sciences</b> sponsored by the Buffalo Bayou Partnership. With Don A. Greene as your guide, this canoe trip addresses the dynamic river and riparian ecology and geology as well as the history of attempts of flood control and erosion along the bayou. Canoeists will study various preservation and conservation efforts on the bayou corridor. Cost: \$52 per person. Group limited to 18. All trips include canoe rental, paddles, shuttles, personal floatation devices and snacks. Trips leave from 5000 Memorial Drive. Reservations and payment must be made in advance. For more information and registration, contact Trudi Smith at <a href="mailto:tsmith@buffalobayou.org">tsmith@buffalobayou.org</a> or call 713-752-0314 ext. 3.		
Sunday, October 1, 2006 - 2 pm	<b>Butterfly Gardening</b> at Jesse Jones Park. Get acquainted with the many beautiful butterflies that flit about the area. Join Farrar Stockton from the Cockrell Butterfly Center as he shares his knowledge and slides of these flying flowers. FREE.		
Saturday, October 7, 2006 - 8 am - 1 pm	<b>Fall Feather Festival</b> at Jesse Jones Park. This mini birding festival includes a guided bird walk, a bird banding program, a program on fall bird migration, and "The Big Sit" bird watch and lunch experience. FREE but reservations are required beginning September 27.	call 281-446-8588.	
Saturday, October 14, 2006 - 10 am	<b>Wildflower Walk</b> at Jesse Jones Park. Join Paul Roling on a walking tour of the park's blooming plant diversity. FREE.		
Saturday, October 28, 2006 - 10 am	<b>Carnivorous Plants</b> at Jesse Jones Park. Visit the Park's carnivorous plant bog in full splendor and learn about the world of beautiful and bizarre plants and how they attract and capture prey. FREE.		
Sunday, October 29, 2006 - 2 pm	<b>Bats and Boxes</b> at Jesse Jones Park. Join park naturalist James McNatt and TPWD biologist Meg Goodman for an educational experience about the mysterious bats of Texas. Distinguish between fact and fiction, and why these flying mammals are beneficial to the environment. FREE but reservations are required.	call 281-446-8588.	