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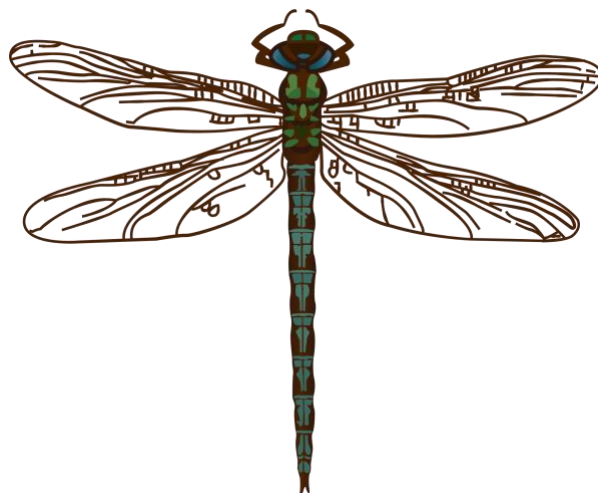


Texas Master Naturalist Program

Cross Timbers Master Naturalist Chapter

Handbook

2025





Cross Timbers Master Naturalist Chapter Handbook 2025

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Mission of Texas Master Naturalists

To develop a corps of well-informed **volunteers to provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas** within the communities for the State of Texas.

Many communities and organizations rely on 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. **A short supply of dedicated and well-informed volunteers is often cited as a limiting factor for community-based conservation efforts.**

Sponsors of the Cross Timbers Chapter

The Texas Master Naturalist Program is proudly sponsored Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. The local sponsor for CTMN is the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge.

- Rachel Richter, Urban Biologist, TPWD,
Rachel.Richter@tpwd.texas.gov
- Jacklyn Jones Doyle, Texas AgriLife, County Extension Agent-Agriculture/Natural Resources
jacklyn.jones@ag.tamu.edu
- Jared Wood, Ph.D., Manager, Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge
jared.wood@fortworthtexas.gov

Sponsors provide **guidance, resources and education** to the chapter. CTMN members provide volunteer hours to assist TPWD, Texas AgriLife and the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge in their efforts to preserve the local ecosystem.

About the Cross Timbers Chapter

Serving Tarrant and Parker counties, the Cross Timbers Chapter is one of **49** Master Naturalist chapters in the state of Texas serving 23 counties. Established in 1998, the Cross Timbers Chapter currently has about **200** active members. Active members volunteer in various projects such as local pollinator gardens, the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, the Botanic Research Institute of Texas, the City of Fort Worth Citizen Forester Program, bluebird box monitoring, water quality and testing of the Trinity River and its tributaries, and more.

Training classes are held once a year from August through October. The **CTMN website** can be reached through two URLs: <https://txmn.org/crosstimbers/> and <http://ctmn.org/>

The chapter **Facebook** group is named “Cross Timbers Master Naturalists,” located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/116630178372184>

Cross Timbers Master Naturalists



ROAD MAP



Complete **Training** of 10 Classes and 4 Field Trips
in the **First Year**



The **First Year** is from Aug to Dec
The **Second Year** is from Jan to Dec



Become **Certified** as a Master Naturalist.
Members who earn **certification** are recognized at the
yearly Award Ceremony at the March Chapter Meeting



Volunteer 40 Hours at approved CTMN Projects***
AND
Earn **8 Hours of Advanced Training**



Pay yearly **Dues** of \$25
Training Fee includes dues for **First Year** and
Second Year



When to become **Certified**?



Option 1 - Deadline is Dec 31 of **Second Year**



Option 2 - For "eager dragonflies"
earn hours by Dec 31 of **First Year**

*** approved CTMN Projects are located in Tarrant and Parker counties

Code of Ethics

Each member, in striving to meet the mission, goals and objectives of the Texas Master Naturalist Program, pledges to:

1. Subscribe to the highest standards of integrity and conduct.
2. Promote and support the statewide and local Texas Master Naturalist (TMN) Program.
3. Respect the state sponsors, (Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service), their roles and expectations.
4. Disseminate information to promote understanding of and appreciation for the values of our natural resources.
5. Strive to increase knowledge and skills to advance as a TMN volunteer.
6. Promote competence as a TMN volunteer by supporting high standards of education, service and performance.
7. Encourage the use of sound biological information in education and outreach and in management decisions.
8. Support fair and uniform standards of service and treatment of those engaged in the TMN Program.
9. Know and follow established TMN Program protocols and policies.
10. Abide by the local Chapter Bylaws.
11. Not use the TMN title, logos and trademarks for personal endeavors and/or profit.
12. Act as trustworthy and ethical stewards of the environment.
13. Never inappropriately disturb or harass wildlife. Never inappropriately remove anything from its natural state or area.

Chapter Meetings

Chapter meetings are held on the third Monday of the month in the Rose Room of the Botanic Garden of Fort Worth. Naturalists-in-Training are encouraged to attend chapter meetings. Guests are welcome at chapter meetings. The chapter meeting begins with a social time from 6:30 pm-7:00 pm and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Light refreshments are served. At each meeting, a guest speaker or chapter member presents a topic about local nature and local ecosystems. A meeting may be rescheduled when there is a holiday on that date.

Meetings are in-person and hybrid via zoom. An email is sent to the membership a minimum of ten (10) days prior to the meeting that includes the zoom link registration information. Please keep your email updated in the Volunteer Management System (VMS) database to stay informed of chapter meeting information.

Members earn **1 Advanced Training (AT) hour for attending a chapter meeting**. See “How to Use VMS to Record Hours” below to review the procedure for documenting your hours.

The March meeting is the chapter’s annual award ceremony where members are recognized for their volunteer activity. In December, the chapter hosts a holiday party and the date is determined each year.

Note: No Advanced Training (AT) hours are earned for attending the March (award ceremony) or December (holiday party) meeting.

2025 Training Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Topic	Location
8/19/2025	Tue	6p-9p	How to be a Master Naturalist	FWBG Rose Room
8/26/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Intro to Ecology	FWBG Rose Room
9/2/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Volunteer Opportunities	FWBG Rose Room
9/9/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Geology and Archeology	FWBG Rose Room
9/16/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Aquatic Systems	FWBG Rose Room
9/20/2025	Sat	9a-3p	Field Trip: Aquatic	FWNC&R
9/23/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Reptiles and Amphibians (Herps)	FWBG Rose Room
9/30/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Forest Systems	FWBG Rose Room
10/7/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Birds/Mammals	FWBG Rose Room
10/11/2025	Sat	9a-3p	Field Trip: Forest/Birding	FWNC&R
10/14/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Prairie Systems	FWBG Rose Room
10/21/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Invertebrates (Mothing)	FWBG Rose Room
10/25/2025	Sat	9a-3p	Field Trip: Prairie Systems	TBD
10/28/2025	Tue	6p-9p	Urban Systems	FWBG Rose Room
11/1/2025	Sat	8a-3p	Field Trip: Urban Systems	Tierra Verde, Molly Hollar, River Legacy
11/9/2025	Sun	9a-3p	Field Trip: Land Management	Tandy Hills, Sherri Capehart

FWBG – Fort Worth Botanic Garden, 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd, Fort Worth 76107

FWNC&R – Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, 9601 Fossil Ridge Road, Fort Worth 76135

If you are unable to complete the required 10 classes (out of 11 classes scheduled) and 4 field trips (out of 5 field trips scheduled), you must make up the hours by attending the appropriate class or classes within 12 months as part of the requirements to become a Certified Texas Master Naturalist. Class members are welcome to attend all 11 classes and all 5 field trips.

Mentors: Each class member will be assigned a mentor who is a Certified Master Naturalist and member of CTMN. Your mentor welcomes your questions and comments. Please add their contact information to your phone and communicate with them as often as needed.

How to Become a Certified Texas Master Naturalist

PRIOR TO CLASS:

Prior to the first class, trainees must create a profile through the online Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) **Volunteer Management System (VMS)**.

See the “**How to Use VMS to Record Hours**” section below to use your given login and temporary password to access VMS. These items will be emailed to you directly.

Upon receiving your log-in information, complete the following during your initial registration:

- 1) agree to submit to a background check and supply the necessary information.
- 2) change your password using the “Login Information” section.

Type in a new password and verify, save your password

- 3) agree to a Media Waiver
- 4) agree to the Confidentiality Waiver
- 5) agree to the Alternate Workforce Waiver (liability release)

Prior to class, trainees will pay a **training fee** of \$175. Some partial scholarships are available and fee plans are available upon request. Please contact training@ctmn.org for information about applying for a scholarship. The training class fee includes \$50 for the purchase of the textbook, *Texas Master Naturalist Statewide Curriculum*, \$25 for current year dues and \$25 for the next year.

The training fee includes your CTMN membership dues for both 2025 and 2026.

DURING CLASS:

During training, if you are unable to complete the required hours during the scheduled sessions, you must make up the hours by attending the appropriate class or classes within 12 months as part of the requirements to become a Certified Texas Master Naturalist.

In the online Volunteer Management System (VMS), record the time you spend during training class and field trip instruction as **“CTMN initial training: TMN Initial Training Hours”**. It is recommended that you record these hours after each class and field trip.

You may start volunteering after the first class session. You can record Volunteer Hours (VH) and Advanced Training hours (AT) in VMS after the first class session. The volunteer opportunities are listed in this handbook. You may also ask your Mentor, training class committee members, and other chapter members about volunteer opportunities.

All training and field trip hours **must** be recorded in VMS within 45 days of the service as **“CTMN initial training: TMN Initial Training Hours”**. Volunteer Hours must also be recorded within 45 days of service.

Member statuses include the following:

- **Texas Master Naturalist-in-Training** – a member enrolled in a chapter’s Initial Training course
- **Texas Master Naturalist** – an active member who has completed Initial Training course requirements
- **Certified Texas Master Naturalist** – an active member who has met all the requirements of initial certification and thereafter, attains annual recertification

During class your membership status will be reflected in VMS as **TMN – In Training**.

To become a **Certified Texas Master Naturalist**, you must complete all of the following by **December 2026**:

- **Earn at least 40 Volunteer Hours (VH)** by working on CTMN pre-approved volunteer opportunities. Note: Initial Training hours (training classes/fieldtrips) do not count toward your 40 volunteer hours.
- **Earn at least 8 hours of Advanced Training (AT)** by attending CTMN pre-approved advanced training opportunities.

Texas Master Naturalists can become fully certified early, if they complete these requirements by December 31, 2025. Because CTMN training takes place in the fall, it is recommended that you begin your volunteer service during training.

Elect a Training Class Representative

Each class shall elect a representative with the following duties:

- Represent the current training class as a member of the board, attending board and chapter meetings.
- Participate as a member of the training committee to plan for the subsequent class.
- Participate as a member of the annual financial examination committee.
- Report back to the current training class to provide trainees with information about chapter business. This may include a social media account for the current class.
- Talk to the subsequent training class about selecting a training class representative.

AFTER CLASS – Once Initial Training is Completed:

Review your VMS entries to ensure that you have entered all time for classroom and field trip opportunities within the previous 45 days. If you need help, contact your mentor or the Membership Director at membership@ctmn.org.

You will begin paying membership dues in **January 2027**. Your membership will become TMN-Inactive if both of the following conditions are met:

- Failure to pay membership dues for current year
- Failure to report volunteer service hours or advanced training hours within the calendar year

How to Use VMS to Record Hours

The state's **Volunteer Management System (VMS)** is used to record all hours earned by Texas Master Naturalists. VMS is a Samaritan Technologies product that has been customized for the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and Texas Master Naturalists.

The TMN Volunteer Management System is here
[Volunteer Management System Portal](#)

The CTMN webpage has a cheat sheet ([Cheat Sheet](#)) and the State Master Naturalist webpage has a helpdesk ([State VMS helpdesk](#)) to assist volunteers with operation of the VMS.

Specific questions about your entries into VMS should be directed to the Membership Director at membership@ctmn.org.

How to Login to VMS for the First Time

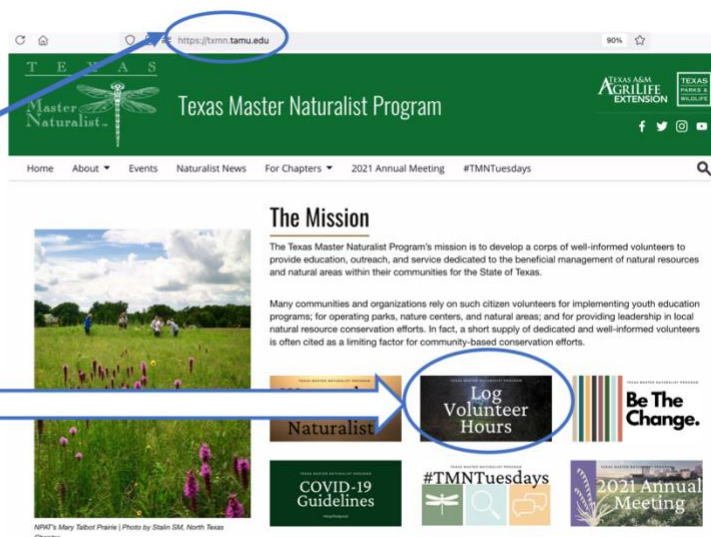
For a tutorial on this topic, go to this YouTube [video](#)!

Use your login id and temporary password to login for the first time. To participate in Initial Training, you must complete the Login, including the waiver of **Criminal Background Check**, **change your password** and **complete other Agreements**.

How to Login to the Volunteer Management System (VMS) to change your password

1. Go to txmn.org (redirects to <https://txmn.tamu.edu>)

2. Select "Log Volunteer Hours"



3. Select
"VMS – Volunteer Login"

Welcome to the Texas Parks and Wildlife implementation of the Volunteer Management System (VMS) for Texas Master Naturalists from Samaritan Technologies.

[VMS – Volunteer Login](#) – you must already have a TPWD username; if you do not, you may obtain one below.

Hours on or before Apr 25, 2021 may not be entered	
You have until the end of	To enter Hours worked on
Today	Apr 26, 2021
Jun 13, 2021	Apr 29, 2021
Jun 27, 2021	May 13, 2021
Jul 11, 2021	May 27, 2021
Jul 25, 2021	Today
Hours on or after Jun 11, 2021 may not be entered	

4. Enter your

User ID

and

Temporary Password

Volunteer Login

If you are already a Texas Master Naturalist volunteer, please log-in

User ID:

Password:

[Log in](#)

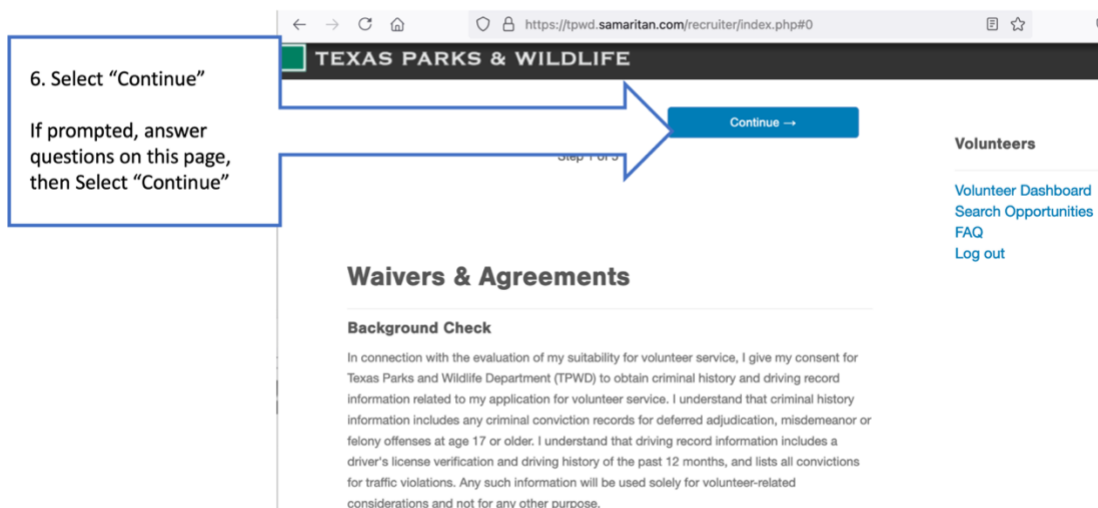
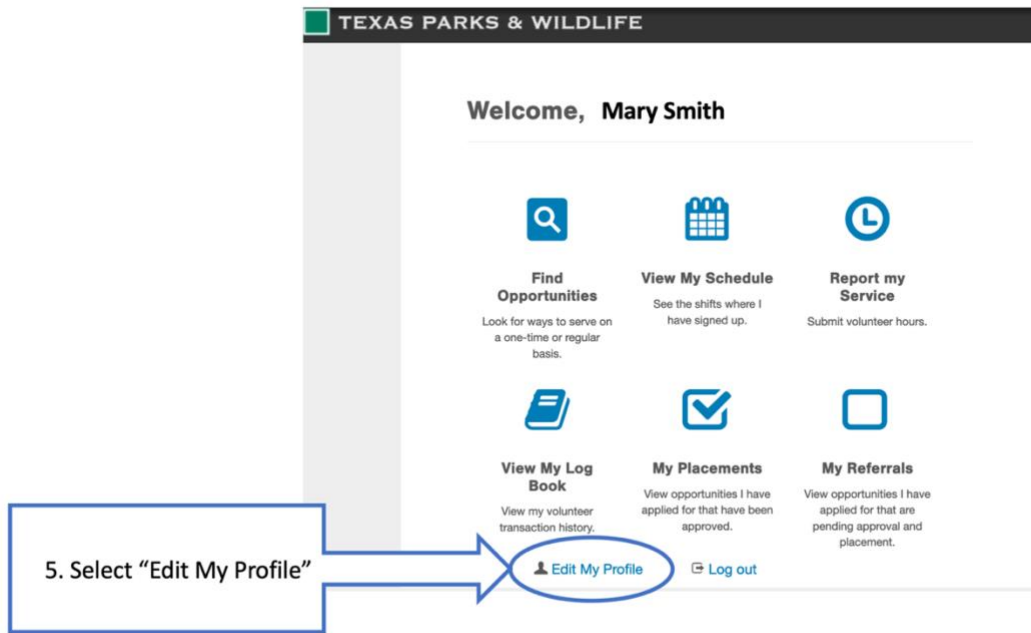
[Forgot your password?](#)

Not yet a TPWD volunteer?

[Opportunity Search](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Log in](#)



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://tpwd.samaritan.com/recruiter/index.php#1>. The page header is "TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE". Below the header, there are navigation buttons: "Back", "Save", and "Continue". The "Save" button is circled in blue and labeled with a blue "8.". Below the navigation buttons, there is a "Login Information" section with three input fields: "User ID" (containing "CTMN-MSmith"), "Password" (with a placeholder "Minimum 8 characters"), and "Password Verify" (with a placeholder "Password verify"). To the right of the "Login Information" section, there is a "Volunteers" sidebar with links: "Volunteer Dashboard", "Search Opportunities", "FAQ", and "Log out". The "Log out" link is circled in blue and labeled with a blue "9.". On the left side of the screenshot, there are two blue-bordered boxes. The top box contains the text: "7. Enter a new password (a minimum of 8 characters) and enter again for 'Password Verify'". The bottom box contains the text: "8. Select 'Save'" and "9. Select 'Log out'". A blue arrow points from the top box to the "Password" and "Password Verify" fields. Another blue arrow points from the bottom box to the "Save" button.

7. Enter a new password (a minimum of 8 characters) and enter again for "Password Verify"

8. Select "Save"

9. Select "Log out"

How to Record Training Hours

As a new member of the Training Class, **you are required to record the hours spent in class and on field trips after each session.** We recommend that you enter these hours as soon as possible after you have attended a class or field trip. Note that your training hours do not count toward the 40 Volunteer hours (VH) or the 8 Advanced Training hours (AT) needed to certify and must be entered in VMS as **"CTMN initial training: TMN Initial Training Hours"**.

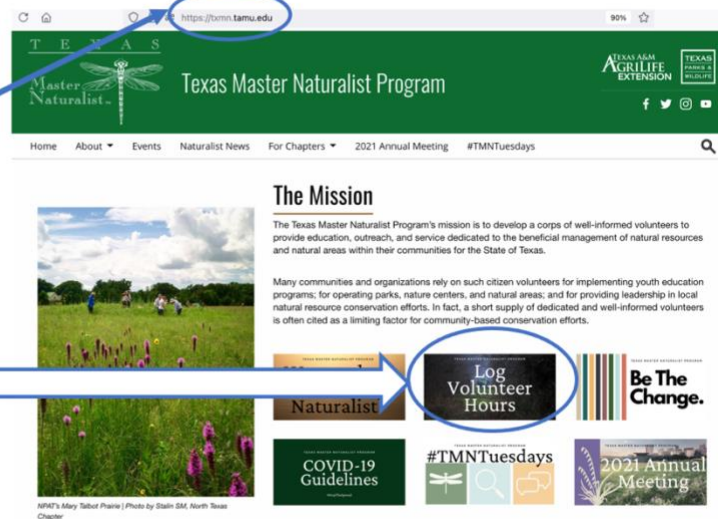
You must enter hours earned no later than 45 days after you earned the hours.

Go to txmn.org/crosstimbers or ctmn.org and select Log Volunteer Hours

How to Login to the Volunteer Management System (VMS)

1. Go to txmn.org
(redirects to
https://txmn.tamu.edu)

2. Select "Log Volunteer Hours"



3. Enter your user ID and new password that you created in your earlier login.

A screenshot of the 'Volunteer Login' page on the Texas Parks & Wildlife website. The page has a dark header with 'TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE'. The main heading is 'Volunteer Login'. Below it, a message says 'If you are already a Texas Master Naturalist volunteer, please log-in'. There are two input fields: 'User ID' with the text 'CTMN-jdoe' and 'Password' with the placeholder 'Your password'. A blue 'Log in' button is below the password field. A link 'Forgot your password?' is at the bottom. On the right, a section titled 'Not yet a TPWD volunteer?' contains links for 'Opportunity Search', 'FAQ', and 'Log in'.

4. Volunteer Dashboard

You will mainly use:

Report my Service

View My Log Book

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

Welcome, Jane Doe

Summary

Approved Hours

TMN Life: 0
TMN Year: 0
AT Year: 0

Find Opportunities
Look for ways to serve on a one-time or regular basis.

View My Schedule
See the shifts where I have signed up.

Report my Service
Submit volunteer hours.

View My Log Book
View my volunteer transaction history.

My Placements
View opportunities I have applied for that have been approved.

My Referrals
View opportunities I have applied for that are pending approval and placement.

[Edit My Profile](#) [Log out](#)

7. Complete the Date you served, the hours, a description of the event; then select “OK.”

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

Report Service

Volunteers

[Volunteer Dashboard](#)
[Search Opportunities](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Log out](#)

Please select from the following survey(s):
CTMN initial training:TMN Initial Training Hours

Opportunity Description:
Initial class & field trips for incoming CTMN members.

Initial Classroom and Field Trip Hours

Date of the class or field trip: 08/16/2022

How many hours was the training?:

What did you think of the training?: Liked It

Describe your training: (255 character limit)
First session of training at FWBG

Volunteer Opportunities

All Volunteer Hours (VH) and Advanced Training (AT) **must be earned through CTMN approved opportunities**. For example, you may help with the administration of the chapter by serving on a committee, join a work crew at a pollinator garden project, write an article for the chapter newsletter, take on a leadership position for a project or the chapter board, staff a CTMN table at a local event, teach children about butterflies, observe birds for the annual Great Backyard Bird Count and much more.

Service activities related to managing a local chapter provide multiple opportunities for volunteers to develop organizational, management and leadership skills. Volunteer projects may be a series of short experiences, or they may involve the long-term efforts of a volunteer team.

As a trainee, your volunteer hours must occur within Tarrant and Parker counties. Once you are a Certified Texas Master Naturalist, your volunteer hours on approved projects around the state will be counted for your annual and lifetime volunteer hours. **This does not apply to AT hours.** You may attend various AT trainings outside of Tarrant and Parker counties (often via Zoom), but, if not stated, you should ask the VH/AT Coordinator, if the opportunity meets the requirements for AT.

Note: Members may include a reasonable, typical amount of travel time when recording volunteer service hours. Travel time should **not** include side trips for personal activities.

Volunteer hours recorded as a chapter member cannot be “double” counted for as a member of another organization such as a Master Gardener organization.

See <https://txmn.org/crosstimbers/projects/> for a map of some of the CTMN volunteer opportunities. See <https://txmn.org/crosstimbers/calendar/> for a calendar showing volunteer opportunities.

You can begin earning Volunteer and Advanced Training hours after the first training class.

Contact the **Project Lead** for the opportunity to ask to be added to text or email notifications. Opportunities may be canceled due to weather or other factors.

Various volunteer opportunities, how and when to volunteer, and whom to contact about each opportunity is covered in a Training Class session. Your mentors, training staff, and volunteer committee members are good resources for finding volunteer opportunities that meet your needs.

If you are interested in volunteering with a project not listed in the VMS menu, you must get pre-approval from the VH/AT Coordinator or the full Board of Directors. Pre-approval may take 2-3 weeks.

Questions about volunteer opportunities should be directed to the VH/AT Coordinator at volat@ctmn.org.

Advanced Training Opportunities (webinars/presentations/chapter meetings)

Each AT opportunity must meet the following criteria:

- Promotes **continued learning** and development of naturalist skills.
- Provides Master Naturalists with practical **knowledge and skills** to work in volunteer efforts.
- Directs trained volunteers **toward specific programs** in need of their services.
- Covers natural resource issues and information applicable to Texas with a preferred emphasis on the chapter's local community or ecoregion.
- Allows questions and interaction between the speaker and the participants. The only exception to this is the Texas Master Naturalist provided "TMN Tuesday" opportunity which can be viewed as a recording or viewed live within the current calendar year only (**No credit for watching past year recordings**).

Questions about AT should be directed to the VH/AT coordinator at volat@ctmn.org. **We encourage everyone to recommend speakers and/or presenters for monthly chapter meetings; recommendations should be directed to the Vice President at vp@ctmn.org.**

The CTMN approved AT opportunities are:

AT:TMN Tuesday Presented by Texas Master Naturalist

Program. **Only AT which may be viewed live OR pre-recorded, from the current calendar year. (Note: that this item does not have an underscore before the AT ("_") so it appears in the VMS section as AT: TMN Tuesday without an underscore, as required by the state).

_AT:AgriLife

Attend presentation on the AgriLife SmartScape, YardSmart, Water University, or other.

_AT:Arlington Conservation Council

Attend presentations at the monthly meeting; topics must meet CTMN guidelines for AT.

_AT:Audubon Society

Attend monthly meetings, attend and participate in birding trips or other educational training and presentations.

_AT:Bluebird Conference

Attend lectures/programs at regional/state meetings

_AT:Bob Jones Nature Center

Attend naturalist-led tours and workshops.

_AT:Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT)

Attend classes, lectures, or workshops on composting, water conservation, native plants and other topics relevant to the Cross Timbers region.

_AT:Butterflies in the Garden (FWBG)

Training for "Butterflies in the Garden" program

_AT:Chisholm Trail Community Park

Attend naturalist-led prairie tours and presentations held at Chisholm Trail Community Park.

_AT:Citizen Forester Presentations and training

Programs, presentations and initial training and follow-up training; City of Fort Worth/Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council.

_AT:Composting training

Attending composting classes at local parks and other areas; includes state sponsored Master Composter course.

_AT:CTMN approved Online Presentation/s

Attending Online Presentation/s meeting the CTMN mission statement and approved by CTMN. Live presentations as long as there is some way to interact with others— Live chat or live Q&A. Recorded presentations okay only if there is some way to interact with speaker and/or other audience viewers. Exceptions: TMN Tuesdays, TMN Annual Meeting presentations.

_AT:CTMN Monthly meetings- 1 hour maximum

Attend regular monthly meetings with speaker.

_AT:Fort Worth Botanic Gardens

Attend classes, lectures, or workshops on composting, water conservation, native plants and other topics relevant to the Cross Timbers region.

_AT:Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

Attend walk or other program led by Nature Center staff, naturalist, or docent.

_AT:Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club

Advanced Training at Monthly meetings; must meet CTMN requirements for local ecosystem or acceptable generic topics.

_AT:Higher ed courses

Attend college or university classes with science-related topics. **The credit hours for the course can be used as volunteer hours. A 3-hour credit course equals 3 volunteer hours.**

Must be preapproved. Hours **cannot** be related to a requirement for your employment.

_AT:iNaturalist Presentations and training from iNaturalist

_AT:Lake Mineral Wells Hikes and Events training

Training to lead hikes and events; Parker County.

_AT:Master Gardeners

Attend lecture, presentation, or workshops, advance training classes provided by local Master Gardeners. Topics may include native plants, landscape design, water conservation, etc.

_AT:Molly Hollar Wildscape lectures

Attend lectures and mini classes

_AT: Nature guided walks/fieldtrips

_AT:North Central Texas MN Chapter

Attend a monthly meeting of the North Central Texas MN meeting

_AT North Texas Mycological Association

_AT:Not otherwise listed

Acceptable AT not otherwise listed. Must detail the activity, location, and speaker/leader

_AT:NPAT

Attend presentations of Fort Worth Chapter of the Native Prairie Association of Texas (NPAT) meetings.

_AT:NPSOT conferences

Attend State or Regional Conference meetings and lectures on Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)

_AT:NPSOT lectures

Monthly meetings of Native Plant Society of Texas; one hour for monthly meeting.

_AT:Oliver Nature Park, Arlington

Nature walks and other presentations let by Naturalists

_AT:OS Gray Nature Area

Tours led by area Naturalists including birding and plant identification

_AT:Project Wild training

Training for Project Wild, a TPWD program

_AT:River Legacy Docent Training & Guide-Led Tours and Walks

Docent or other training for leading groups in activities and Guide-Led Tours and walks.

_AT:Sheri Capehart Nature Preserve

Attend prairie walks and tours lead by area naturalists, attend meetings

_AT:Tandy Hills training

Training for CTMN members to lead wildflower tours, BioBlitz, or other lectures held at Tandy Hills. Often taught by FWNC&R staff or area Naturalists.

_AT:Texas Regional Water District (TRWD)

_AT:Texas Native Cats Presentations and Training

Presentations and Training

_AT:Texas Stream Team training

Attend the Training to become a member of the Texas Stream Team survey group.

_AT: Time to Restore

_AT: TMN Chapters other than CTMN

_AT:TPWD Presentations and training

Any presentations and training provided by Texas Parks & Wildlife

_AT:Tx Metro Wildlife Training

Training on rehabbing squirrels; one-day program.

_AT:TX MetroWildlifeRehab-intro

Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation

_AT:Texas Waters Certification Training

TPWD resources on management of water as a natural resource in the state of Texas

_AT:TXMN conference

Attend programs and presentations at state and regional Master Naturalist conferences

_AT:VMS Training

Advanced Training, Volunteer Management System Training, (bring laptop)

_AT:Water conservation

Attend lectures or workshops on local water conservation topics and techniques.

_AT:Whooping Crane tour

Rockport Texas, Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and other coastal area birding routes to observe Whooping Cranes.

CTMN approved Volunteer Hour opportunities:

Amphibian Watch

Field research for Texas Amphibian Watch including reporting time; TPWD.

Colleyville Nature Center

Enhance the overall beauty and quality of this natural refuge, while benefitting birds and pollinators; caring for plants; trail and pond trash removal only (no organized activity). Contact: Teresa Landfield, tlandfield@gmail.com.

CTMN chapter administration

Chapter Administration Work including Board meetings, prep time and training class attendance; preparing or planning any region or state TMN meetings.

CTMN Community Outreach Events

Community outreach, preparation/presentations to local public groups, garden clubs, HOAs, etc.

CTMN initial training

Initial classes and field trips for incoming CTMN members. **(Note: Entry of these hours are required; however, they do not count for the 40VH/8 AT to achieve certification).**

CTMN newsletter

Write articles, take photographs, prepare newsletter for distribution to members.

CTMN speaker's bureau

Presentations to various public groups on specific nature topics, including presentations at TMN meetings.

CTMN sponsored activities

Participation as a volunteer in seminars, symposia, nature tours, outreach, lead field trips, native planting projects.

Fort Worth ISD Outreach

Assist with planting of native plants in school gardens or landscapes, plan and lead the projects, make presentations to student or parent groups.

Friends of Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA)

Volunteering with Friends of LLELA group at the pollinator gardens, etc.

School demo gardens, native habitats

Work with school groups on planning, developing and working in area school garden activities with special consideration of native plants.

Texas State Park volunteer activity

Volunteer your time at any State Park in Texas.

TMN Virtual Volunteer Service

A series of short project sessions highlighting virtual and distanced service opportunities to the TMN Program and enhancing available safe and health-conscious service opportunities during these historic times.

TMN annual and regional conference

Volunteer time at the Texas Master Naturalist conferences and preparation.

TMN Volunteer at projects and programs

Volunteer time working on Texas Master Naturalist projects and programs that meet the CMTN Mission.

The following include more opportunities with updated contact information.

Cross Timbers Volunteer Projects
VMS-Volunteer Management System opportunity title in red
txmn.tamu.edu

Opportunities are listed with “ AT:” and these are Advanced Training/AT (CTMN approved educational opportunities such as webinars/presentations. Keep in mind that TMN Tuesdays are also AT but they are listed without the underscore as “AT: TMN Tuesday”. The CTMN approved projects are listed in the drop down as well after the AT list. This is a PARTIAL list of all CTMN opportunities.

AgriLife

817-884-1945, tarrant-tx@tamu.edu

<https://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/counties/tarrant-county/>

Master Volunteer Entomology Advanced Training (9/2-10/28/2025, Tue/Thu, 10a-12p)

<https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=837150&language=eng>

Molly Keck, mekick@ag.tamu.edu

VMS: AgriLife

Arlington Conservation Council

info@acctexas.org, www.acctexas.org

VMS: Arlington Conservation Council

Arlington Fielder Butterfly Garden/Monarch Waystation

817-846-8585, Josephine Kenney, josephine@texasstar.org

<https://www.npsot.org/posts/map-item/the-butterfly-garden-at-fielder-house/>

VMS: Arlington Fielder Butterfly Garden/Monarch Waystation

TMN Tuesdays

These are listed on the CMTN website (bottom) and listed in VMS as “AT” not _AT, so scroll down; these are the Texas State Master Naturalist presentations and are a great way to obtain AT hours.

VMS: AT TMN Tuesdays

Audubon Society (Fort Worth Chapter)

Tom Haase, 817-229-4987, tom.haase@sbcglobal.net (trips)

Michael Perez, maroonmichael9600@gmail.com (bird count)

www.fwas.org, avianadmin@fwas.org

VMS: Audubon Society

Bird/feeder watch

Cornell University feeder Watch/annual bird counts with the Audubon Society/bird groups

Bluebird Box Monitoring

*682-597-0612, Kimberlie (Keller), kimberlietx@gmail.com

*Donna Piercy (Tierra Verde Golf Course), depiercy@hotmail.com

*Roseann Giambro (Lake Benbrook), roseanngiambro@gmail.com

*Joy Havner (Lake Benbrook), joyhav1@gmail.com

<https://texasbluebirdsociety.org/>

BlueBird Monitoring 101, presented by Kimberlie https://youtu.be/hARyuTi2_F8

VMS: Bluebird box monitoring

Bob Jones Nature Center, Southlake

817-748-8658, Hannah Nyquist hnyquist@ci.southlake.tx.us (Monarch Festival)

817-932-0552, Carol Dowd, carolann2900@gmail.com, (pollinator garden maintenance)

<https://visitsouthlaketexas.com/explore/sports-outdoors/bob-jones-nature-center/>

[Tag Monarchs, Monarch Festival, Pollinator Garden](#)

VMS: Bob Jones Nature Center

(BRIT) Botanical Research Institute of Texas (at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden)

817-332-4441, press 0

Molly Bell, mbell@fwbg.org, Ryan Kough, rkough@fwbg.org

[Become a Volunteer - Fort Worth Botanic Garden \(fwbg.org\)](http://fwbg.org)

BRIT Herbarium, Armchair Botanist (virtual only), BRIT Library

VMS: Botanical Research Institute of Texas

Chandor Garden, Weatherford

817-598-4334, chandorgardens@weatherfordtx.gov

<https://weatherfordtx.gov/170/Chandor-Gardens>

VMS: Chandor Garden/Weatherform Parks and Recreation Nature Trail

Chisholm Trail Community Park

817-917-2750, [Alexis Chernosky, alexis.txmn@gmail.com](mailto:Alexis.Chernosky@alexis.txmn@gmail.com)

817-713-1917, [Meredith Chacin, chacm@live.com](mailto:Meredith.Chacin@live.com)

<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/parks/parks-and-trails/chisholm-trail>

Preserved acreage of the Fort Worth prairie/Registered as a Native Texas Prairie with NPAT

Trash pick-up every three weeks, blue bird boxes, docent guided walks, invasive removal

VMS: Chisholm Community Trail Park

CoCoRaHS

682-238-6417, [Greg Story, kb5yrk@aol.com](mailto:Greg.Story@kb5yrk@aol.com)

<https://www.cocorahs.org/>

Rain gauge monitoring (specific type)

VMS: CoCoRaHS

CTMN/Southwest Public Library Native Plant Demonstration Garden, Fort Worth

817-584-2609, Greg Hubbard, greg8545@gmail.com

817-480-6333, Theresa Thomas, theresakaythomas@me.com

Project of CTMN, the Native Plant Society, Tarrant County Master Gardeners

http://www.tarrantmg.org/sw_lib.html

VMS: CTMN/NPSOT SW Regional Library Native Plant Gardens

CTMNSW Sub Courthouse Pollinator Garden, Fort Worth

210-275-8965, Jolene Sherwin, ppstahle@yahoo.com

https://www.tarrantmg.org/sub_courthouse.html

Project of CTMN, NPSOT, Tarrant County Master Gardeners

VMS: CTMN/NPSOT SW Sub-courthouse Native plant garden

DFW Wildlife Coalition

817-602-4960, Teddi Zonker, tzonker@gmail.com, 214-738-2997 Whitney Wolf, redwolf8@swbell.net

214-505-7619, Prudi Koeninger, prudi.koeninger@gmail.com

<https://www.dfwwildlife.org/>

VMS: DFW Wildlife Coalition (phone bank, wildlife rehab/transport)

(FWBG)/Fort Worth Botanic Garden

817-463-4160, press 5, Ryan Kough, rkough@fwbg.org

[Become a Volunteer - Fort Worth Botanic Garden \(fwbg.org\)](http://fwbg.org)

Special Events: Butterflies in the Garden, World of Orchids, Plant Sale

(Guest check in, directions, guest experience; orientation and background check required)

VMS: Fort Worth Botanic Garden

Fort Worth Nature Center

Taylor Phillips, taylor.phillips@fortworthtexas.gov
<https://www.fwnaturecenter.org/>, <https://www.fwnaturecenter.org/serve/>
VMS: Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge

Fort Worth Zoo Pollinator Garden

Stesha Pasachnik, sapasachnik@gmail.com
VMS: NPSOT volunteer activity

Friends of Village Creek Historical Park/Bob Findlay Park, Arlington

Dick Schoech, 817-228-4631, dschoech@sbcglobal.net
Vicki Dixon, vgdixon@swbell.net
VMS: Friends of Village Creek Historical Park/Bob Findlay Park

Grapevine Parks and Recreation

817.410.3490, Cindy Harris, charris@grapevinetexas.gov
<https://gograpevine.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/>
VMS: Grapevine Parks & Rec

HOPE Farm Pollinator Garden, Fort Worth

817-926.-9116, Elsa Gonzales, egonzales@hopefarm.org
E. Foster, kfoster@hopefarm.org
www.hopefarm.org,
VMS: HOPE Farm Pollinator Garden

iNaturalist (Citizen Science)

<https://www.inaturalist.org/>
VMS: iNaturalist

(Natural habitat cleanup) Keep Fort Worth Beautiful

Natalie Nava, kfwb@fortworthtexas.gov
<https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/environmental-services/kfwb>
VMS: Natural habitat cleanup/improvement

Lake Mineral Wells State Park

Vicki Brooks, vicki.brooks@me.com
<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/lake-mineral-wells>
[Hikes, events training and Pollinator Garden](#)
VMS: [Lake Mineral Wells State Park](#)

Lights Out Fort Worth (Texas Conservation Alliance)

Mei Ling, meiling@tcatexas.org, Mia Schlicke, mia@tcatexas.org
<https://www.tcatexas.org/lights-out-dfw#>
6am 2-3mi walk downtown/bird and bat search (window strikes)
VMS: Lights Out Fort Worth

Master Gardeners/Tarrant County

817-884-1944, tarrantmg@ag.tamu.edu
817-480-6333, Theresa Thomas, theresakaythomas@me.com
<https://tarrantmg.org/>
Citizen Forester, Entomology, demo gardens, pollinator gardens, speaker's bureau, demo garden
VMS: Master Gardeners

Molly Hollar Wildscape, Arlington Veterans Park

682-554-4443, Ann Knudsen, native_gardener@yahoo.com
817-507-6340 Hester Schwarzer, hesterschwarzer@gmail.com
<http://www.thewildscape.org/volunteers.php>
http://www.tarrantmg.org/molly_hollar.html
info@thewildscape.org

Wed and 1st Sat, 9am-noon, Sat includes a mini wildscape class (1AT)

VMS: Molly Hollar Wildscape

Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)

Karen Harden, President

president@txnativeplants.org
www.npsot.org/chapters/north-central

Several committee positions, demonstration gardens, Native Plant Certification Program (NLCP)

VMS: NPSOT Conferences/Lectures, volunteer activity and NLCP

Native Prairie Association of Texas (NPAT)

817-688-9580, Kate Morgan, President, katermorgan@gmail.com
fwnpat@gmail.com

Fort Worth Chapter – NPAT (texasprairie.org)

[Guided walks, fieldtrips](#)

VMS: [NPAT FW Chapter](#)

[North Texas Mycological Association \(mushrooms\)](#)

contact@northtexasmycology.org, www.northtexasmycology.org

VMS: [North Texas Mycological Association](#)

Oliver Nature Park, Mansfield

Tiffany Chrzanowski, olivernaturepark@mansfieldtexas.gov
<https://www.mansfieldtexas.gov/865/Oliver-Nature-Park-ONP>

VMS: Oliver Nature Park

OS Gray Natural Area, Arlington

Kevin/Carrie Donovan, friends@friendsofosgray.org
www.friendsofosgray.org, <https://www.facebook.com/OSGrapyNaturalArea>
[2nd Sat monthly, 9am-noon \(summer 8am-11am\); vegetation restoration, pollinator gardens, privet removal, soft surface trail maintenance.](#)

VMS: OS Gray Natural Area

Randol Mill Park, Arlington

817-793-3917, Carol Marcotte, carol@carolmarcotte.com
<https://www.arlingtontx.gov/Parks-Places/Parks-Trails/Park-Finder/Randol-Mill-Park>
[Plant/maintain native plants/trees, privet/invasive removal, trail building/maintenance, prairie restoration, erosion control.](#)
[4th Thursday or request.](#)

VMS: Randol Mill Park, Arlington

River Legacy Park and Living Science Center, Arlington

817-860-6752, press 109, Whitney Campbell, whitney@riverlegacy.org
<https://riverlegacy.org/>

VMS: River Legacy Park

Sheri Capehart Nature Preserve, Arlington (SW Nature Preserve)

682-352-6469, Jim Frisinger, info@friendsofscnp.org
www.friendsofscnp.org, www.friendsofscnp.org/events/
<https://www.friendsofscnp.org/our-newsletters/>

3rd Saturdays, Prairie Restoration, Pollinator Meadow, Bird Habitat

VMS: Sheri Capehart Nature Preserve, Arlington

Tandy Hills Natural Area/Stratford Nature Area, Fort Worth

<https://www.tandyhills.org/>

817-845-5656, Suzanne Tuttle troutlily57@hotmail.com

VMS: Tandy Hills

Tarrant Regional Water District

Program Director: Sarah Grella, Sarah.Grella@trwd.com

<https://savetarrantwater.com/youth/volunteer/>

[School/community gardens, youth/adult programs and community events.](#)

VMS: [AT: TRWD presentations and training](#)

Texas Native Cats

469-387-4019, Monica Morrison, monica@texasnativecats.org

Teddi Zonker, tzonker@gmail.com

Educational webinars, outreach in DFW (no live cats)

VMS: Texas Native Cats

TPWD (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

Rachel Richter, Rachel.richter@tpwd.texas.gov (CMTN/Cross Timbers Master Naturalist advisor)

Sam Kieschnick, Sam.Kieschnick@tpwd.texas.gov (NTMN/North Texas Master Naturalist advisor)

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/>

Acoustic Monitoring of Bats, Project Wild Training/TEKS Correlations (TPWD)

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/project-wild>

469-222-1038, Tina Olivas, tinaolivas4@gmail.com

VMS: TPWD Programs

Texas Stream Team, Fort Worth

texasstreamteam@fortworthtexas.gov

Megan Paliwoda, (Fort Worth)

<https://www.meadowscenter.txst.edu/Leadership/TexasStreamTeam/Trainers.html> (Locations)

VMS: Texas Stream Team

Texas Wildlife Association

<https://www.texas-wildlife.org/>

VMS: Texas Wildlife Association

Time to Restore

469-222-1038, Tina Olivas, tinaolivas4@gmail.com

Erin Posthumus, erin@usanpn.org

<https://www.usanpn.org/community/TimeToRestore>

VMS: Time to Restore

UTA Maverick Garden, Arlington

Morgan Chivers, morgan@uta.edu

VMS: UTA Maverick Garden

White Settlement Monarch Waystation

Avon Burton, avon.burton@npsot.org

www.npsot.org/chapters/north-central/ [North Central Chapter/ Native Plant Society of Texas](#)

VMS: White Settlement Pollinator

Pollinator Group Garden List

817-846-8585, Josephine Kenney, josephine@texasstar.org, to be on the mailing list for the following volunteer work days: [OS Gray Natural Area](#), [Fielder House Museum](#), [Knapp Heritage Park](#), [River Legacy Park Science Center](#) and [Randol Mill Park](#).

Questions about volunteering, please contact volat@ctmn.org.

The Cross Timbers Chapter is working on a comprehensive map and list on the website and we welcome your help in working on this list and you will earn volunteer hours. Contact board@ctmn.org if you would like to volunteer for this. <https://txmn.org/crosstimbers/projects/>

UPDATED 2025

2025 Board: Officers and Committee Directors

President/Webmaster	Mary Beth Lampe	president@ctmn.org
Vice President	Teddi R. Zonker	vp@ctmn.org
Secretary	Bill Collins	secretary@ctmn.org
Treasurer	Dee Ann McGinnis	treasurer@ctmn.org
Membership	Annamarie Fresta	membership@ctmn.org
Programs	Teddi Zonker	programs@ctmn.org
Outreach/Past President	Sharon Hamilton	outreach@ctmn.org
Training	Erika Swyryn	training@ctmn.org
Hours – VH/AT	Theresa Thomas	volat@ctmn.org
Records - VMS Hours	Theresa Thomas	records@ctmn.org
Hospitality	Sandy Thornburgh	hospitality@ctmn.org
Newsletter	Madison Gover	newsletter@ctmn.org
Eblasts	Frank Keeney	frank@alpha-usa.com

Officers include the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who are elected to serve two-year terms. **Directors** are chosen by the President with agreement from the other Board members.

Texas Master Naturalist Chapter Governing Documents

Written by a committee of Texas Master Naturalist state staff and Master Naturalists from across the state, each chapter **must** abide by these governing documents.

[Cross Timbers Chapter Bylaws](#)

[Chapter Management and Operations Protocols](#)

The “CMOP” is the authoritative reference for the management and protocols for chapters. Topics include Overview and Structure of the Program, Membership, Training and Certifying Volunteers, Advanced Training Requirements, Volunteer Service Requirements, Chapter Donations, Volunteer Management System; etc.

[Chapter Operating Handbook](#)

The CTMN COH resource for all members of the chapter, detailing day-to-day operational procedures to be followed. All options, policies, and procedures contained in the COH must meet the requirements of Chapter Bylaws and the TMN Chapter Management and Operations Protocols.