

T E X A S

Master
Naturalist™
Cross Timbers



Lucky March
Issue!



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Current Events

Gear up for the City Nature Challenge April 24 – April 27, 2026 by visiting some past projects. Lots of spring opportunities to add to your calendar for next month.

CTMN Milestones

CTMN had their 2025 Awards Celebration on March 16. Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to recertify and reach new milestones.



Short Stories

Rodenticides don't just kill rodents. Speaker Tracy Cassidy reveals how common poisons harm pets and wildlife, how to recognize exposure, and safer alternatives that protect ecosystems without picking poison.



CTMN Announcements



Our Cross Timbers Chapter now has an Instagram page, and we'd love your help making it a success. Members are welcome to assist by proofreading posts, taking turns posting, or contributing photos and content. The goal is to use newsletter content as a guide for Instagram posts. If you're interested in helping or have ideas for what you'd like to see featured, please reach out with content to both newsletter@ctmn.org and amsalazar.mph@gmail.com

We're also launching a CTMN Member Spotlight series and would love to feature you. Share your story, favorite projects, and a few fun facts by filling out the short form below. It only takes a few minutes and is open to CTMN members only.

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/crosstimbers_txmn

Member Spotlight Form: <https://forms.gle/V42EVnqLeK1gGAJPA>

Go follow, get involved, and help us showcase the amazing people who make CTMN special!

March 30, 2026

WE NEED YOU!!

**The Original YWLA 10th Annual
Savage Cabbage Bash**

9a-12p, ~~Saturday, March 7, 2026~~

**Different Location: Fort Worth Rowing Club at 775 Beach
Street Walk to the river turn right and look for us!**

Sponsored by:

Native Prairies Association of Texas

Tarrant Regional Water District

Collins' Environmental Community Service

Young Women's Leadership Academy

Join us as we rid the river of an invasive species!

Sign up for Remind: Text @npat22 to 81010



**FAMILIES
INVITED!**

**Middle school
students need
a parent there.
Bring water
Closed toed
shoes, small
weeder or shovel
for digging, dress
for weather.
Bring a case of
water for extra
hour.**

**?s- JoAnn Collins
817.689.0098
Or message on
Remind**



CTMN City Nature Challenge 2026 iNat Competition

When: April 24–27, 2026

(Observations and ID submissions accepted through May 10)

Where: Dallas–Fort Worth Metropolitan Area

What: Document as many species as possible to help DFW win the City Nature Challenge and lead Texas.

Description:

Join the iNat City Nature Challenge and help put DFW back on top. Use the iNaturalist app to photograph plants, animals, and fungi anywhere in the metro area, from your backyard to local parks. This year includes friendly rivalry between DFW TXMN chapters, with chapter-specific projects you can join manually, plus upcoming opportunities to compete in small teams. You can contribute by making observations, identifying others' finds, joining a bioblitz, or exploring on your own. Let's show what DFW and CTMN can do!

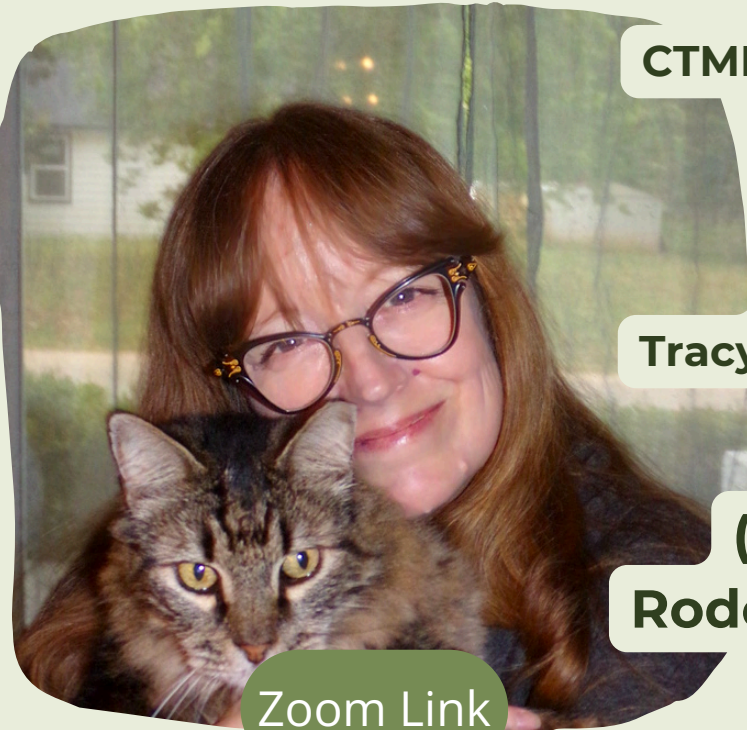
Project Link: [CTMN CNC LINK](#)

[Some Activities Listed Here](#)



Speakers

April Speaker



**CTMN Chapter Meeting/Presentation –
April 20, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.**

Fort Worth Botanic Garden

**Tracy Cassidy - Veterinary Technician &
Wildlife Rehab**

**(Don't) Pick Your Poison:
Rodenticides and the Impact on
Wildlife**

[Zoom Link](#)

Rodenticides may seem like a quick fix for pest problems, but their hidden consequences ripple through ecosystems, harming not just rodents but the predators and scavengers that rely on them. In this eye-opening presentation, Veterinary Technician and educator Tracy Cassidy draws on her 18 years of experience in emergency and wildlife care to explore how common poisons affect pets and native wildlife. Attendees will learn how rodenticides work, the signs of exposure, and safer, more sustainable alternatives. This session empowers individuals and communities to protect wildlife while effectively managing pests, without picking poison.

Tracy has been a Veterinary Technician for 18 years, specializing in Emergency Medicine and critical care. Certified in Small Animal Nursing, she has cared for a wide range of companion animals, including cats, pocket pets, exotics, and some wildlife. She volunteered as a wildlife caretaker at River Legacy Science Center and has assisted with rehabilitation efforts. Tracy currently teaches Veterinary Assisting at Northeast Texas Community College. Passionate about animal welfare, she served on the board and education committee of the Texas Lobo Coalition. After witnessing the impact of rodenticide poisoning on both pets and wildlife, she now focuses on raising public awareness about its harmful effects.

TMN Tuesdays

On the second Tuesday of each month at 12:00pm Central Standard Time, the TMN State Office offers an hour-long virtual advanced training event – with fantastic new and returning guest speakers.

April Speaker



Title: Virtual Volunteer Fair

Date: April 14, 2026, from 11:30AM – 1:00PM CT

Speakers: Michelle Haggerty, Mary Pearl Meuth, Hannah Ferguson, and various organizations

Description: The Virtual Volunteer Fair will be an opportunity for our partner conservation organizations to present volunteer service projects that need volunteers from a distance or virtually!

Learn who is presenting, how to sign up to volunteer and more on our [Virtual Volunteer Fair 2026](#) page!

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

[View Past #TMNTuesday Presentations Here for Advanced Training Hrs.](#)

[Register Here](#)

[Webex Guide](#)

[FAQ](#)



Featured Project

CTMN iNaturalist Projects

In preparation for City Nature Challenge 2026, please take a look at the following projects and help identify, bring observations to research-grade, etc! Also highlighting some of the great projects happening or that have happened in the past.



[Cross Timbers Texas Master Naturalist Chapter](#)

[Cross Timbers Texas Master Naturalist Class of 2022](#)

[CTMN Class of 2023](#)

[CTMN Class of 2025](#)

[CTMN Class of 2024](#)

[Parks for Pollinators 2021: City of Fort Worth](#)

[City Nature Challenge 2025: Dallas/Fort Worth](#)

[iNaturalist's Birthday 2026](#)



Wildlife Rehabilitation Adventure

by Linda Little

**originally published December 2025

Boxes and boxes of orphaned babies! Fall and Spring and in between, people find them on the ground, by the road or in their pets' mouths and bring them to Wildlife Rehabilitators to be rescued. It's amazing how many squirrels fall from nests, raccoons lose their mamas, possums fall from backs, rabbits wander from holes to be met by dogs, add to that skunks and armadillos; all orphans in urban settings that need help to make it to adulthood.



Beverly Godbey has dedicated nine years of her life on a 24/7 schedule, to helping them and though advancing in years, she's not slowing down, she is both fierce and kind-hearted; a champion of all the hopeless, tiny creatures. I met her a year ago and started volunteering by helping her bottle feed the orphans and clean enclosures on a trial basis.



I had raised rabbits and squirrels in the past and was approved by her for more training. She is a Certified Wildlife Rehabilitator through Texas Parks and Wildlife. It's a lot of work to tend to all their needs, bottle feeding by the clock at all hours and attending wounds, removing parasites, among a myriad of other problems and maladies. She relies on volunteers to help it happen and to clean and maintain the facilities. There is so much to do.



I find it very rewarding to see these babies grow and thrive. Sometimes we have to make hard choices as to their welfare and what is most humane but kindness doesn't exist just for us to feel good about ourselves, we have to do what's best.

All in all, we're making sure the world never runs out of little creatures... one baby at a time.

TPWD - Wildlife Rehabbers of Tarrant County

Name	City	Specialization	Contact Information
Arenson, Thomas	Keller	Birds (including small raptors)	817-991-0630 cell (8am - 8pm) No text messages please.
Godbey, Beverly	Fort Worth	Small mammals	(817) 475-1760 (9am - 8pm)
Hoyt, Lee	North Richland Hills	Small mammals, Texas horned lizards and fawns	(972) 658-0213 (anytime)
Miller-Skaggs, Cynthia	Fort Worth	Small mammals (squirrels, chipmunks, prairie dogs), White-tailed deer fawns, and Birds (ducks, pheasant, raptors)	817-457-4021 6am to 11pm or cynchip@yahoo.com
Moodhe, Sandra	Grapevine	Squirrels	smoodhe77@gmail.com
Moore, Dr. Greg	Southlake	Small mammals (no deer); birds (including raptors)	817-481-2014
Nature's Edge Wildlife & Reptile Rescue	Cleburne	Small mammals, raptors, bats, reptiles, and amphibians	682-463-9453 (anytime) naturesedgewildliferescue@gmail.com
Rader, Gina	Keller	Squirrels only	(817) 475-3177 (prefer text messages)
Singleton, Kay	Fort Worth	Small mammals (specializes in opossums)	(682) 556-2311 or sensiblepet@yahoo.com
Spiritual Wildlife Rescue	Arlington	Small mammals (specializes in bobcat, fox, coyote and cougar), reptiles, and amphibians	(817) 422-6080 (anytime) swrrs@yahoo.com

Did you know you can earn volunteer hours with the [DFW Wildlife Coalition](#)?

CTMN 2025 Awards Celebration

Photos submitted by Alice Miroslava







Congrats!



Plant of the Month



White Trout Lily (*Erythronium albidum*)

by Ruth Mauppin

The **White Trout Lily** (*Erythronium albidum*) is a perennial wildflower in the lily family that grows in moist, shaded forests across parts of the central and eastern United States, including sections of North and East Texas. It is closely related to the Yellow Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*), but it is distinguished by its pale white blossoms.

The plant gets its name from the mottled brown and green pattern on its leaves, which resemble the markings on a brook trout. Because of its early blooming period, it is sometimes also called “dogtooth violet,” although it is not actually related to violets.

The White Trout Lily is a small but striking plant. Its key features include:

- **Leaves:** Two long, lance-shaped leaves with brown or purplish mottling.
- **Flower:** A single nodding white flower with six petals.
- **Petal Shape:** The petals curve sharply backward when fully open.
- **Height:** Typically 4–12 inches tall.
- **Bloom Time:** Late February through early April in Texas.

You are most likely to encounter it in eastern portions of the state where forests are thicker and soils remain moist in spring. Some populations extend into parts of North Texas where suitable woodland habitats exist.



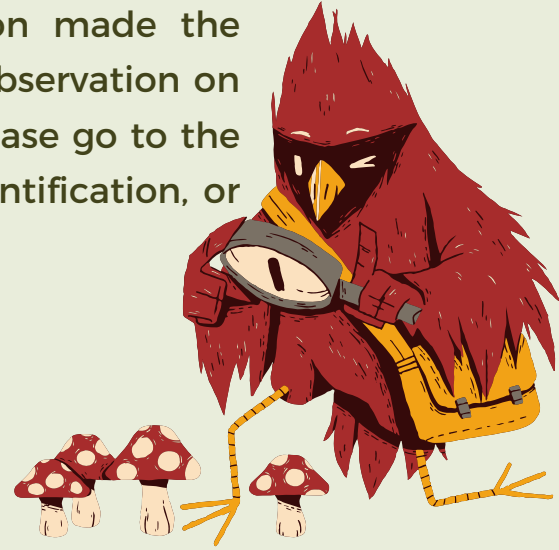
Photo by Paule Hjertaas on
iNaturalist

iNaturalist Observation of the Month

Each month we will choose an iNaturalist observation made the previous month in Tarrant or Parker County*. Make an observation on iNaturalist to be in the running for this achievement! Please go to the observation itself to congratulate the user, add your identification, or favorite (star) the observation.

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*)

jcat



Time: 11:22 am

Date: March 18, 2026

Location: Grapevine, TX

*Observation copyright settings must not be set to full rights reserved so that the photo can be used for the newsletter.



Current Events



#EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

JOIN US!

- FAMILY EVENT
- ANNUAL PARK CLEAN-UP
- COMMUNITY EDUCATION
- DISCOVERY PLAY
- TCU DAY OF SERVICE

**Saturday,
April 11th
8 A.M. - 12 P.M.
GLENWOOD PARK
900 S RIVERSIDE DRIVE**

Sponsored by the RHP/DRE, Fort Worth Climate Safe Neighborhood Coalition, TCU Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences, City of Fort Worth Community Engagement, Cross Timbers Chapter - Texas Master Naturalists, Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club Resources

AYUDE A CREAR UNA COMUNIDAD SEGURA PARA EL CLIMA

Únase a nosotros para:

- EVENTO FAMILIAR
- LIMPIEZA ANUAL DEL PARQUE
- EDUCACIÓN COMUNITARIA
- OBRA DE DESCUBRIMIENTO
- DÍA DE SERVICIO DE TCU

**Sábado,
11 de abril
8 A.M. - 12 P.M.
GLENWOOD PARK
900 S RIVERSIDE DRIVE**

Patrocinado por Fort Worth Climate Safe Neighborhood Coalition, Harris Southside Neighborhood Association, TCU Harris College of Nursing & Health Sciences, Community Foundation, Tarrant County Public Health, City of Fort Worth Community Engagement, Park & Recreation, & Police Department, RHP/DRE, Cross Timbers Chapter - Texas Master Naturalists, Greater Fort Worth Sierra Club, University Christian Church, Texas Health Resources

March 28 | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Organization: Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

Title: NatureCon

Address: Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, Fort Worth, TX

Leader: Lisa Gibson

Contact: Email lwoods4062@gmail.com & 409-782-3978

April 1 | 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Organization: NTMN (North Texas Master Naturalists)

Title: April Chapter Meeting – Relevancy of Citizen Science: iNaturalist & Urban Wildlife

Address: Dallas College Brookhaven Campus, Building H, Room 125, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, TX 75244

Leader: Sam Kieschnick

Event Link: [Here](#)

April 3 | 8:30 – 11:00 am

Organization: Fort Worth Audubon Society

Title: First Friday Feathers Bird Walk at Kelly Park

Address: Kelley Park, 4195 W. Arkansas Lane, Arlington, TX

Leader: Not listed

Event Link: [Here](#)

April 11–12 | 4:00 pm – 12:00 am

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas – Fort Worth Chapter

Title: Snakard Ranch at Chalk Mountain – Prairie Tour & Mothing

Address: Glen Rose, TX

Leader: Jeff Quayle

Event Link: [Here](#)

April 11 | 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Organization: River Legacy Nature Center

Title: Earth Day Event

Address: River Legacy Nature Center, Arlington, TX

Leader: Lisa Gibson

Contact: Email lwoods4062@gmail.com & 409-782-3978

April 14 | 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas – Fort Worth Chapter

Title: Palo Pinto Mountains State Park Spring Hike

Address: 100 Park Road 77, Strawn, TX 76475

Leader: Jeff Quayle

Event Link: [Here](#)

April 18 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: Westpoint Prairie BioBlitz

Address: SE corner of West Loop 820 S & Westpoint Blvd, Fort Worth, TX

Leader: Kate Morgan & Jeff Quail

Event Link: [Here](#)

April 25 | Time TBD

Organization: Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge

Title: BioBlitz

Address: Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, Fort Worth, TX

Leader: Lisa Gibson

Contact: Email: Brentano42@gmail.com and Chelseeself@yahoo.com

April 26 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: Savage Cabbage Bash

Address: Fort Worth, TX

Leader: N/A

Event Link: [Here](#)

May 9 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization: Oliver Nature Park

Title: Monarch Festival

Address: Oliver Nature Park, Mansfield, TX

Leader: Lisa Gibson

Contact: Email lwoods4062@gmail.com & 409-782-3978

May 9 | 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: LBJ Grasslands Prairie Tour

Address: Decatur, TX (Units 71 & 75, LBJ Grasslands)

Leader: Jeff Quayle, Canaan Sutton & Suzanne Tuttle

Event Link: [Here](#)

May 16 | 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: Introduction to Cool Season Grass Identification

Address: Fort Worth, TX

Leader: John Snowden

Event Link: [Here](#)

May 23 | 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: Hip Pocket Theater BioBlitz

Address: Fort Worth, TX

Leader: N/A

Event Link: [Here](#)

May 23 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge BioBlitz (Old Equestrian Trail)

Address: Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge, north of Cross Timbers Trail, Fort Worth, TX

Leader: Kate Morgan & Dave Vestal

Link: [Here](#)

May 30 | 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

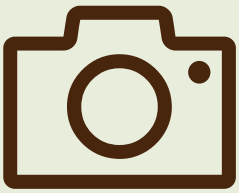
Organization: Native Prairies Association of Texas (Fort Worth Chapter)

Title: Cool Season Grass ID Master Class

Address: Hardwicke Interpretive Center, Fort Worth, TX

Leader: Dr. Joseph K. Wipff III

Link: [Here](#)



Art & Photography Gallery



Photos by Teddi Zonker





Board Members

CTMN Board Members

- Mary Beth Lampe - **President**
- Teddi Zonker - **Vice President**
 - Bill Collins - **Secretary**
 - Sarah Caldwell - **Treasurer**

For submissions, nominations or announcements, please put the subject line as the newsletter category you are entering for and email to newsletter@ctmn.org

CTMN Directors

- Annamarie Fresta - **Membership**
- Sharon Hamilton - **Past President**
 - Erika Swyryn - **Training**
- Theresa Thomas, Hester Swartzner, Sandy Milfeld - **VMS Approvals**
- Roseann Giambro and Eli Turner - **Hospitality**
 - Madison Gover - **Newsletter**
 - Mary Beth Lampe - **Webmaster**
 - Chelsee Self - **Class of 2025 Rep**
- Lisa Gibson (Director), Mike Law, Alice Salazar, Eli Taylor, Annamarie Fresta, Michelle Cyr - **Outreach Committee**

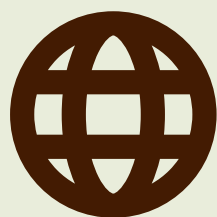


Inclusivity:

Together we can make the newsletter inclusive to the visually impaired. Consider providing a text description of your photos for screen-reader software.



**Cross Timbers
Master Naturalists
Facebook Group**



**Cross Timbers
Master Naturalists
Website**

CTMN Sponsors

- **Rachel Richter**, TPWD, Urban Biologist,
Rachel.Richter@tpwd.texas.gov
- **Jacklyn Jones Doyle**, Texas AgriLife, County Extension Agent – Agriculture and Natural Resources,
jacklyn.jones@ag.tamu.edu
- **Michael Perez**, Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge
michael.perez@fortworthtexas.gov