

THE PADDLEFISH

CYPRESS BASIN CHAPTER
TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

CADDO LAKE STATE PARK EVENTS



AUGUST MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 11th at the Transportation Center in Jefferson, located at 305 E. Austin Street. This gathering will be a potluck, so please arrive hungry! Setup will commence at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner at 6:00 PM, with the meeting starting at 6:30 PM. If the AT presenter is not prepared for this meeting, the presentation will be postponed until October. Further details will be provided as the meeting date approaches.

2025 TRAINING CLASS CANCELLED

The new training class for this year has been cancelled due to not meeting our minimum number of 6 students. The 4 that did sign up will be encouraged to come to meetings and work days, and hopefully we can hold their interest until next August. The Board did decide at the last board meeting that our chapter will only offer this class every other year, since we have difficulty recruiting folks.

THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER

As twilight falls over the cypress-lined waters of Caddo Lake, a vibrant nocturnal chorus begins. These nighttime songs come from native frogs—each voice offering insight into the health and biodiversity of this unique wetland ecosystem.

Southern Leopard Frog – Known for its irregular dark spots and sudden leaps into water, this frog's call is a chuckling trill. Common in marshes and bayous.

Pig Frog – True to its name, this large frog produces a deep, pig-like grunt. It thrives in open water and thick swamp vegetation.

Blanchard's Cricket Frog – A small jumper with a sharp, metallic clicking call. Often found on the shoreline among reeds.

Bronze Frog – Emits a singular "cloink" resembling a banjo string being plucked. Active along shallow, vegetated edges.

Strecker's Chorus Frog – A tiny frog with a faint, birdlike trill. Best heard in moist lowlands on warm spring evenings.

Why It Matters

Frogs are vital indicators of ecosystem health. A diverse nighttime chorus signals clean water, rich vegetation, and a balanced food web. Their presence means the lake is thriving.

Listening Tips

Late spring and early summer nights are ideal. Listen near quiet, still water. Bring a flashlight, but keep it dim to avoid startling wildlife.

Be a Citizen Scientist

Join frog watch programs or upload recordings to iNaturalist. Your ears can contribute to real conservation efforts.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE FROGS?





BOOK CLUB

THURSDAY AUGUST 21 AT 6:00 PM

Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge Classroom
Caddo Lake Wildlife Refuge

Our next Nature Book Club selection is *Super Fly: The Unexpected Lives of the World's Most Successful Insects*, by Jonathan Balcombe. The author of *A Dog's World*, Marc Bekoff, writes of the book: "We can learn a lot about ourselves by peering into the remarkable lives of these remarkable insects."

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cypress Basin Texas Master Naturalists

Financial Report for July 2025

MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$25 PER INDIVIDUAL
\$40 PER FAMILY

Mail checks- made payable to
Cypress Basin TMN

Mail to
PO Box 226
Karnack, Texas
75661

Beginning Balance 6/28/25		\$34,486.46
Deposits:	Annual Dues	\$50.00
	New Class Fees	\$95.00
		\$145.00
Expenses:	Portfolio case	\$75.72
	PO Box	\$84.00
	Kiosk Project	\$1,757.50
		-\$1,917.22
Flotilla Fund		\$26,050.88
Trainee Scholarship Fund		\$600.00
General Fund		\$6,063.36
Ending Balance 7/28/25		\$32,714.24

Teresa McKinney, Treasurer

VOLUNTEER FOR THE GREATER CADDO LAKE ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Are you a lover of the great outdoors? Would you enjoy a complimentary catfish lunch with all the sides? Are you looking to accumulate some volunteer hours? Come lend a hand to the Greater Caddo Lake Association of Texas at their annual fish fry fundraiser on Saturday, August 30th!

Event Details:

- ****Time:**** Gather at 9 a.m.
- ****Location:**** The Point on Goose Prairie (formerly known as Crip's Camp)

What to Expect:

- Setting up tables and chairs beneath the tents
- Organizing items for the raffle and silent auction
- Displaying t-shirts available for purchase
- Preparing serving tables for the delicious food

We are seeking volunteers to:

- Sell t-shirts and raffle tickets
- Assist with order forms
- Act as runners and manage the serving tables
- Serve tea and dessert, along with various other tasks
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Please be prepared to help with the tear-down afterward, as we all look forward to heading home after a long day. Remember to wear your TMN shirt and name tag; you'll earn volunteer hours since the proceeds from this event directly support Caddo Lake. Plus, the food is simply amazing!

If volunteering isn't your thing, feel free to come by and purchase a plate for \$20. Meals will be served from 11 a.m. until the food runs out, typically around 12 to 12:30 p.m.

If you're interested in lending a hand, please reach out to Susan Sedbury and she will get in touch with you. Yes, it may be warm, but we will have fans, shade, and usually cold refreshments available at the end. We hope to see many of you there!



Online Webinar Speaker Series **#TMNTuesdays**

Join us on the 2nd

Tuesday of each

month at 12:00pm CT!*

*Some TMNTuesday dates and times are subject to change.
Join our Email Listserv to stay updated.

AT ALERT

Caroline and Susan are always looking for AT ideas for both meetings and field trips. If you would like to do a short presentation at a meeting, or have an excellent place you would like to make a field trip to, please let Susan (caddomama@gmail.com) or Caroline (cahughes8@gmail.com) know!



2025 Officers

Barbara Judkins
President

Susan Sedberry
Vice President

Laura Wilson
Secretary

Teresa McKinney
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Caroline Hughes
Susan Sedberry
Training Coordinators

Lara Wilson
Class Representative

Linda Richtmeier
Membership Director

Vanessa Neace
Advisor

Doug Weir
Advisor

2025 Meeting Dates and Locations

January 13 - Refuge

February 10 - Transportation Center,

Jefferson - Potluck dinner

March 10 - Marshall Library

April 14 - Kellyville

May 12 - Refuge

June 9 - State Park

July - no meeting

August 11 - Transportation Center,

Jefferson - Potluck dinner

September 8 - Marshall Library

October 13 - Kellyville

November 10 - Refuge

December - no meeting

In Need of AT?

Remember that out of the 8 hours of advanced training required each year, only 4 can be online except the current year TMNTuesdays.

Here are a few good online options:

#TMNTuesdays
[https://txmn.tamu.edu/
tmntuesdays/](https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/)

Forestry and Natural Resources
Webinars
<http://forestrywebinars.net/>

Conservation of Natural Resources
<http://www.conservationwebinars.net>

Natures Notebook
<https://www.usanpn.org/nn/webinars>

Texas Wildlife Federation
<https://www.texas-wildlife.org/>