

Ron Fellows of the Elm Fork Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program is the newest inductee into the "5,000 hour club"

Ron Fellows contributed his knowledge of current technology on two significant projects for the Elm Fork Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists. His service hours are spent largely on a project he initiated and maintains [The Trails of Denton County](#) website. This project also creates and provides free smartphone guided tours and trail maps for the public on [Everytrail.com](#).

The second project he has spent a lot of his time on is the Texas Our Heritage Outdoor Learning Garden. This project was a collaboration that enhanced the garden signage with multimedia, and created an interior interactive naturalist display at Heritage Elementary School. The Great Texas Wildlife Trail maps and other materials provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife were enhanced using augmented reality. Nearly 300 pictures and illustrations now come alive with videos about nature when students scan them with their iPads, or smartphones. Schools and nature centers are enhancing the educational experience about nature with this free content.

The 5,000 hour milestone is the second highest honor available in the Texas Master Naturalist Program. With this achievement, the members will receive a specially designed TMN dragonfly pin that is polished gold with a diamond in the center. They also will receive recognition with a U.S. Presidential Lifetime Volunteer Service Award from the White House.

This award will include a lapel pin, a certificate and a personal letter from the President of the United States. The Texas Master Naturalist Program is the only certifying organization for Texas Master Naturalist volunteers reaching this service milestone in the program.

Ron joins just 27 other Texas Master Naturalists who have attained this milestone pin in our program's fifteen year history to date.

