

## East Texas Chapter Master Naturalist Program Now accepting applications for Fall 2024 Training

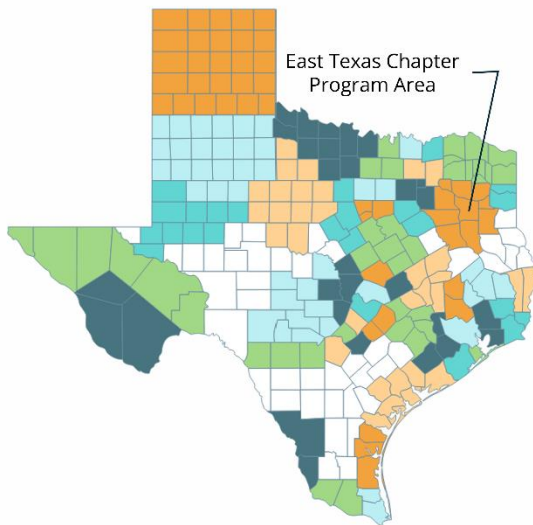
The East Texas Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program is holding initial training for people over 18 years of age who are interested in becoming a Texas Master Naturalist. Training classes and/or field trips will begin August 24, 2024, and will be held once a week through November 7, 2024, on Saturdays.

The Texas Master Naturalist Program's mission is 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 their communities for the State of Texas.

T E X A S



East Texas Chapter



The program area of the East Texas Chapter includes Smith County and the nine surrounding counties. Communities and organizations in the program area, and adjacent areas where no active Master Naturalist Chapters exist, rely on trained citizen volunteers for implementing youth education programs; for assisting parks, nature centers, and natural areas; and for providing leadership in local natural resource conservation efforts.

Annual dues for membership in the East Texas Chapter are \$20 and are due in January of each year.

### How to become a Texas Master Naturalist:

- Master Naturalist Trainees must successfully complete an approved training program with at least 40 hours of combined field and classroom instruction through a Texas Master Naturalist Chapter.
- While completing the training above, the candidate serves at least 40 hours of volunteer service in their community and engages in 8 hours of advanced training to advance their knowledge and connection with their ecoregion.
- In subsequent years, the candidate must complete another 8 hours of advanced training and donate 40 hours of volunteer service to maintain their certification (or to re-certify) as a Texas Master Naturalist.

The cost for the initial training program in the East Texas Chapter is \$150 and includes a hardbound copy of the *Texas Master Naturalist Curriculum* and entry fees to most field trip sites, if applicable. Trainees may purchase digital versions of the curriculum directly from Amazon ([Kindle](#)) or Google ([Google Play](#)) and reduce the training fee by \$50. Download the application to attend training from the "Join Us" tab on the East Texas Chapter website (<https://txmn.org/etwd/>). The 2024 program is limited to 25 people. For more information email [tmneasttxpres@yahoo.com](mailto:tmneasttxpres@yahoo.com).