

Guadalupe Chapter Texas Master Naturalist

<https://txmn.org/guadalupe/>



May 2024

Vol. 11 Issue 5

***Mission.** 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.*

Guadalupe Master Naturalists Monthly Program and Business Meeting

Date: Monday, May 27, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM - Social/Visiting

7:00 PM - Program

8:00 PM - Business Meeting

Location: AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin

Program: Adam Berglund, Coordinator and Trainer with the San Marcos River Rangers, will present a program on the Stream Team program. Adam will discuss the efforts of the San Marcos River Foundation to preserve the clean waters of the San Marcos River. Adam leads monthly training sessions in water quality monitoring for citizen scientists.



See pages 5 and 6 for more information.

Memorial Day



Let's celebrate Memorial Day in style!

Contributions of any type are welcome on the hospitality table. You can even bring a leftover from your Memorial Day picnic table!



Enjoy visiting with each other and greeting guests

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NATURE EDUCATION

Discover What's Buzzing and Blooming

Date: Saturday, May 4, 2024

Time: staggered start times 9:30 – 10:00 AM until 11:00

Volunteers, please arrive at 8:30 A.M.

Location: Seguin Public Library, 313 W. Nolte

Description: Pollinators are a vital part of the ecosystem. Participants will learn the connections between bees and the flowers they visit.

Contact: Jennifer Ehlers at ehlers@gvec.net to volunteer



Discover the Forest



Date: Saturday, May 11, 2024

Time: staggered start times 9:30 – 10:00 AM until 11:00

Volunteers, please arrive at 8:30 A.M.

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, Schertz

Description: Participants will learn how a forest functions by discovering how living organisms rely on the natural resources in the forest.

Contact: Laura Griffith at ljgriffith528@gmail.com to volunteer

Walk with a Naturalist at Crescent Bend Nature Park

Date: Sunday, May 26, 2024

Time: 3:30-4:30 pm (volunteers meet at 3:00 pm at the picnic tables next to the restrooms)

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, Schertz

Description: This is our last afternoon Walk With A Naturalist as we transition into summer and start our Owl Prowls at night. You do not need to be an expert, just need to have a willingness to talk with people about becoming a Master Naturalist and answer questions that participants might have regarding things they see during our walk. Helping with Merlin and iNaturalist is always welcome since most people aren't familiar with those apps. We'll walk about a mile and finish in about an hour. If you don't want to lead a group you're welcome to walk with another naturalist and work together to introduce visitors to the neat things to see in Crescent Bend.

Contact Carolyn Wolfer, wolfercdat@mac.com to volunteer.

Park West Forest Restoration

The dedicated Park West Resource Management volunteer crew has completed its 10th year of forest restoration work in Park West. The two leaders, Nancy Masterson and John Barrington, begin each work-season by presenting a proposed Plan of Work to the Seguin Parks and Recreation management and get their consent. We began work on the first Thursday in November and ended on April 25, completing 412 volunteer-hours in all.

We began the season with a review of safety precautions, work areas and plant identification of natives and invasives. Tools are labeled, designated locations for branch piles shown, and emergency forms are updated. Our cherished traditions now include the 10 AM water break, (sometimes with yummys), a January walk-thru of First Forest where we began under Monta Zengerle's leadership, and a wildflower seeding day in Bambooo! Corner where we once eradicated the Asian bamboo stand. We submit a workday report every week to the Parks Dept, which is now providing a trailer for all our cut branches. Our cuttings are a source of free mulch for the citizens of Seguin.

We finish each season with a small celebration on the last Thursday in April. This year we are enthused by the possibility of winning an H-E-B Trees for Texans grant for planting young trees in Park West in 2025. The Texas Forest Service has been particularly encouraging. Come join us next fall!



End of season for the Park West crew. John Barrington, Dawn Durain, Nick Franzen, Belinda Rossiter, Craig Wagner, Annette Kowalchik and Nancy Masterson. Absent are Chris Dyess and Jennifer Ehlers.

For information, contact either co-chair; John Barrington (830-237-3544 or freedom516@yahoo.com) or Nancy Masterson (830-305-9104 or nsethermasterson@gmail.com).

MORE NATURE EDUCATION



Palmetto State Park Summer Camp

Dates: June 3 – 7, 2024

Time: Volunteer staff 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Campers 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Palmetto State Park

Description: What a fun week leading children as they explore the glories and wonder of nature. Look over the schedule attached to the newsletter email and find activities you can help with. Don't miss this opportunity to become a kid again and go to Summer Camp!

Contact: Samantha Gonzales at samantha.gonzales@tpwd.texas.gov or 830-263-2060 for information, contact Pam Sagebiel at pjsagebiel@yahoo.com or 806-392-4431

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Pollinator Garden at Park West

Dates: Mondays, May 6, 13, 20, 2024

Time: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

Location: Park West, 623 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Our Pollinator Garden is a Citizen Science Monarch Observation site for Master Naturalists, adopted by the Guadalupe Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas.



Come dressed for gardening, bring water and your favorite weeding tools. We'll weed, see what's coming up, and make plans for any additions we might need.

Contact: Liz Romero, fleurromero@gamil.com

City Nature Challenge Finale Bash at Confluence Park

Let's celebrate! It's time to party, Master Naturalists!

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: Confluence Park, 310 W. Mitchell, San Antonio, TX

Description: Join us for a night of wild awards, fantastic prizes, and memories that will have you saying, "Remember that 2024 City Nature Challenge Bioblitz?!" We're tipping our hats to the teams with the most observations, most species, and giving big prizes to our superstar individuals who rocked the most observations in the City Nature Challenge. In the meantime, continue to upload and identify your observations until May 5.

Also happening... **PIZZA PARTIES!** Come eat pizza and identify observations on May 2 at Friedrich Park and on May 3 at the Hardberger Park's UEC (both are 11:30-1:30).

It's time to throw confetti for a CNC weekend well done!

Big Sit at Palmetto State Park



Master Naturalists Kate Schnautz, Dawn Durain, Sandi Wheeler, onlooker Kayla and Elaine Cowley study a bird ID at Palmetto State Park on Wednesday April 24. Other naturalists not pictured were Bobby Cowley and Nancy Masterson. The Big Sit is an annual birdwatching event that runs sunrise to sunset once a year, identifying as many birds as possible when viewed from within a 50' radius circle.

The final count for the was was 50; last 4 birds were Downy Woodpecker, Tree Swallow, Osprey!, and Mississippi Kites.

Thank you Nancy Masterson for the great picture and information.

Texas Stream Team Training

Texas Stream Team at The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment is a statewide environmental education and volunteer-based water quality monitoring program. Citizen scientists are trained to collect and submit surface water and environmental quality data that can then be used to promote and protect the 191,000 miles of Texas waterways.

Training sessions are available several times this year.

To find out more information or reserve a spot, you must contact:
Adam Berglund (Coordinator - San Marcos River Rangers)
emailto: RiverRangers@SanMarcosRiver.Org

2024 Water Quality Monitoring training schedule:

Standard Core:

- May 11, 2024 (SAT) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Jun. 09, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Jul. 13, 2024 (SAT) 11AM-3PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Aug. 11, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Sep. 07, 2024 (SAT) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Oct. 13, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Nov. 09, 2024 (SAT) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos
- Dec. 08, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Standard Core @ San Marcos

Riparian Evaluation:

- May 12, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Riparian Eval @ San Marcos
- Jun. 08, 2024 (SAT) 11AM-3PM - Riparian Eval @ San Marcos
- Jul. 14, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Riparian Eval @ San Marcos
- Aug. 10, 2024 (SAT) 10AM-2PM - Riparian Eval @ San Marcos
- Nov. 10, 2024 (SUN) 10AM-2PM - Riparian Eval @ San Marcos
- Dec. 07, 2024 (SAT) 10AM-2PM - Riparian Eval @ San Marcos

For more information go to the Texas Stream Team website,

<https://www.meadowscenter.txst.edu/leadership/texasstreamteam/about.html>

Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary



Dates/Times: Vary

Description: Assist with filling feeders, clearing brush, building owl boxes, general maintenance, golf cart repairs/maintenance Page 2

Location: Warbler Woods, 19349 Old Wiederstein Rd, Cibolo, TX

Contact: Sandi Wheeler at wheels5683@gmail.com for current opportunities

Birding 101 at Palmetto State Park

Dates: Saturday, May 4

Saturday, May 11

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Refectory building; Day Pass required

Description: Stroll the paths with Elaine Cowley and discover some of the many birds of Palmetto. You don't need to be an experienced birder; Elaine will guide you through and help you develop skills needed to become a skilled birder.



Contact: Questions? Email Elaine at ecowley@gvvc.com

Birds, Birds and More Birds

All events are sponsored by San Antonio Audubon Society and are approved for AT and Vol hours.

Beginners Bird Walk at Judson Nature Trails

Saturday, May 11 at 8am

Meet leader Barbara Sykes at the Judson Nature Trails. From the 5900 block of Broadway, turn west on Ogden Street and drive to the stop sign at Greeley Street. You'll see a sign to Judson Nature Trails. Turn left, go one block and turn right on Viesca, then into parking lot on left. Bring water.

Please RSVP to Barbara at jntbirding@gmail.com to let her know you'll be attending. Address is 246 Viesca Street, San Antonio, TX.

Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary

Saturday, May 11 at 8am

Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day at Warbler Woods.

Warbler Woods covers 124 acres of varied habitat covering Pecan Gap sediments with gently rolling topography located near the convergence of three Ecological Regions: South Texas Plains, Blackland Prairie and Edwards Plateau. All participants must RSVP to Sandi Wheeler at Wheels5683@gmail.com

Crescent Bend Nature Park

Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 8am

Meet Sandi Wheeler (wheels5683@gmail.com) in the 1st parking lot. The park address is 12780 W Schaefer Rd, Cibolo, TX 78108. Bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent.

Beginners Bird Walk at Judson Nature Trails

Saturday, June 8, 2024 at 8am

Meet leader Barbara Sykes at the Judson Nature Trails. From the 5900 block of Broadway, turn west on Ogden Street and drive to the stop sign at Greeley Street. You'll see a sign to Judson Nature Trails. Turn left, go one block and turn right on Viesca, then into parking lot on left. Bring water.

Please RSVP to Barbara at jntbirding@gmail.com to let her know you'll be attending. Address is 246 Viesca Street, San Antonio, TX.

Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary

Saturday, June 15 at 7pm

Please note this is an evening field trip.

Warbler Woods covers 124 acres of varied habitat covering Pecan Gap sediments with gently rolling topography located near the convergence of three Ecological Regions: South Texas Plains, Blackland Prairie and Edwards Plateau. All participants must RSVP to Sandi Wheeler at Wheels5683@gmail.com

Crescent Bend Nature Park

Sunday, June 23, 2024 at 7:30am (early start time)

Meet Sandi Wheeler (wheels5683@gmail.com) in the 1st parking lot. The park address is 12780 W Schaefer Rd, Cibolo, TX 78108. Bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent



This beautiful Painted Bunting was photographed by Chris Castoro at Warbler Woods on April 19.

ADVANCED TRAINING

Collin County Chapter, Native Plant Society of Texas **“An Integrated Vegetation Management Approach to Controlling Invasive Plants”**

Date: Monday, May 7, 2024

Time: 6:30 – 8:30

Location: online via ZOOM

Description: Presenter Chad Cummings, AgriLife County Extension Agent, will speak on invasive plant’s impact on our economy, biodiversity, and biophysical processes, and potential control mechanisms.

Use this link to connect to meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88554596572...>

Web address: <https://www.npsot.org/event/collin-county-chapter-controlling-invasive-plants/>

TMNTuesday – No Mow Zones

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Location: WebEx

Description: The presenter will be Rachel Richter, Urban Wildlife Biologist, TPWD. Mowing is time consuming. Mowing is expensive. Mowing, in most cases, doesn’t provide any benefit to wildlife. So why are so many of our community greenspaces dominated by mowed fields? This presentation will cover the benefits of reduced mowing programs, best management practices for “no mow” zones, and tips for starting a successful program in your community.



Register: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/>

Guadalupe Chapter of Native Plant Society of Texas
Saving Our Prairies, Part I



Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM – Refreshments/Social Time
7:00 PM – Program

Location: First Presbyterian Church, 1121 E. Walnut Street, Seguin, Texas
Parking in rear, enter from N. Moss Street

Description: David Will will speak on high quality prairies which can contain hundreds of types of native Texas plants, but they are disappearing fast. During this two-part program (May and June) you will learn how to help preserve this important ecosystem.

Website: <https://npsot.org/chapters/guadalupe>

CHAPTER CHAT

Want to get it all – Advanced Training and Volunteer Time??
Block these dates on your calendar **NOW**



Get excited for our Texas Master Naturalist 2024 Annual Meeting – to be held Thursday, October 24th through Sunday, October 27th in San Marcos, Texas.

The Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for the Texas Master Naturalist volunteers from around the state to gather, participate in hands-on educational seminars, and receive all their Advanced Training requirements for the year in one weekend. It's also an opportunity for program participants and supporters to network, share new ideas, and to learn from chapters in different regions of the state

Our Chapter will provide support by members volunteering to help with the meeting. Use this document to sign up to help.
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vhtwrcNzZ1OpH99uCtuoC44Qt34HolcQ31_XRCcPVuc/edit#gid=1571308030



Congratulations!

Our members have been working like busy bee's. These members have completed their 40 hours of volunteer work and at least 8 hours of Advanced Training, which means they have recertified for 2024

Mark de Kiewiet

Seth Faught

Elaine Cowley

Carolyn Wolfer

Chris Dyess

2024 Training Class News

It's that time of the year to begin planning for our next Training Class. It's one of the most joyous programs we sponsor as we bring new Naturalists into our organization.

Our new class will begin on Tuesday, August 6 and continue until November 16. Lecture classes will be held at the Schertz Area Senior Center, 608 Schertz Parkway in Schertz.

Rebeca Lininger will be leading the class with several supporting Master Naturalists. We need our total membership to get on board and begin spreading the word and recruiting class members.

For information and forms, go to our Chapter website at <https://txmn.org/guadalupe/gmn-training/>

Be in the know! Want to get the latest information on Texas Master Naturalists?

Sign up for regular emails from the Texas Master Naturalist Listserv. It is designed to provide a means of quickly distributing news, announcements, notification of events, grant opportunities, and other items pertinent to Texas Master Naturalist members across the state. To sign up for this free service (you may unsubscribe at any time), please complete and submit the [Texas Master Naturalist Listserv Sign-up](#) form hosted by Texas A&M.

Chapter Calendar



Visit our chapter calendar at txmn.org/guadalupe/calendar for volunteer or advanced training opportunities. Check back often---new items are added as we hear about them. Need to add an event or report a change? Please send information to gmncal@guadmn.org.



Monarch Mania at Earth Day 2024



Our booth was a big success at Earth Day. Thanks to the Master Naturalists who staffed the booth making butterfly finger puppets with children, showing the Monarch larvae Sharon Frels brought and “talkng up” the Master Naturalist program with visitors to our booth.



Chris Dyess shows the Monarch caterpillars to visitors to our Monarch Mania booth at Earth Day.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Send announcements and news items for distribution in the newsletter to Marilyn Anderson, MarilynA@access4less.net by **Monday, May 27, 2024 for the June 2024 issue**

<u>Officers:</u>	
President – Mark de Kiewiet	mark.dekiewiet@att.net
Vice-president – Susan Hanks	depositemailhere@gmail.com
Secretary – Chris Dyess	ced16123@gmail.com
Treasurer – Chris Castoro	ccastoro1340@gmail.com
<u>Committee Chairmen:</u>	
Program – Laura Griffith	ljgriffith528@gmail.com
Training Class – Michelle Darnell	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Nature Education – Jennifer Ehlers [Seguin]	ehlers@gvec.net
Laura Griffith [Schertz]	ljgriffith528@gmail.com
Citizen Science – Sandi Wheeler	wheels5683@gmail.com
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Membership/VMS – Michelle Darnell	mdarnelltex@gmail.com
Fund Raising –	
Marketing -	
10 th Chapter Anniversary Celebration -	
Hospitality – Marilyn Anderson, Seguin	MarilynA@access4less.net
Kenneth Harvey -Schertz	knnthdhryv@yahoo.com
Deborah Dedrick - Schertz	ddedrick7@gmail.com



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The Texas Master Naturalist program is sponsored by the A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife

