

Guadalupe Chapter

Texas Master Naturalist

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



August 2025

Vol. 12 Issue 8

***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, August 25, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM - Social/Visiting
7:00 PM - Program
8:00 PM - Business Meeting

Location: Schertz Area Senior Center, 608 Schertz Parkway, Schertz

Description: Thomas Relyea, arboress from Bartlett Tree Experts, will speak on oak wilt and other tree problems. He has an extensive background, a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management from Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M Forest Service - Oak Wilt Forester and Georgia-Pacific - Procurement Forester.



**Pre-meeting social time will begin at 6:30.
Arrrive early to visit with your fellow
Master Naturalists and
enjoy refreshments.**

If you are able, please bring something to contribute to the refreshment table. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate or even homemade; whatever you place on the table will be appreciated!

The Chapter will provide drinks.

Deb Dedrick and Ken Harvey serves as
hospitality coordinators for the Schertz meeting.

No Discover Program in August

Owl Prowl at Crescent Bend

Dates: Sunday, August 24, 2025

Time: 8:30 – 9:30 PM

Volunteers arrive at 8:00 at the picnic tables next to the restrooms



Description: It's that time of year again....Texas HEAT! Of course, that also means we get to wander Crescent Bend at night during our monthly Owl Prowl. If you're not familiar, we take participants around the park and look for scorpions, spiders, and hopefully owls. While walking we'll talk about anything in nature that sparks your interest. These walks are inspired by the interests and observations of those who attend. We will expand knowledge on all types of nature from soil, plants, insects, mammals, and birds, talking about their dependence, interaction and place in preserving the nature around us. 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, finish in about an hour and the route is completely accessible. 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 at night. I have a supply of UV and normal flashlights that we pass out to let people look for spiders and scorpions but it would be really helpful if you have some of your own to bring for your use.

Calling all amateur (or expert) entomologists! I'm looking for a group of people who know about the bugs in our area who would be willing to be at the Owl Prowl site when the participants return from their walk to identify and talk about them. Over the winter I purchased the supplies to set up a bug attraction and viewing area at the picnic tables, however I am definitely NOT a bug person. My knowledge extends to "Oh, there's a bug and oh, look it flies"!

Contact: Carolyn Wolfer, wolfercdat@mac.com for information and to volunteer with this popular program.

Editor's Note:

Owl Prowl is one of our Chapter's most popular and highly attended events. A committed core of Master Naturalists assisting Carolyn each month would be a great help. Consider becoming a regular monthly volunteer with this highly attended program.

Schertz Park and Rec Shirts

July is recognized as National Parks and Recreation Month so the city of Schertz provided Tshirts to everyone who volunteers during programs that help the city. If you didn't pick your shirt up at the Schertz Parks and Recreation office, I will be bringing them with me to the August and September meetings. After that, you will need to pick your shirt up at the TMN office or stop by my house to get it. Contact Carolyn Wolfer, wolfercdat@mac.com for additional information.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Park West Pollinator Garden

Date: Monday, 4, 11, 18, 25, August, 2025

Time: 8:30 – 10:00 AM [or later]

Location: Park West, 601 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Earn volunteer hours by helping to maintain the garden for the many pollinators who are visiting. Volunteers should dress for gardening work including gloves and a hat and bring a rake, clippers and water.

Contact: Please **RSVP** to Belinda Rossiter (belindarossiter@gmail.com or 713-248-2001)



Schertz Pollinator Garden – NEW Opportunity

Dates: **Tuesday, September 2, 2025** - put on your calendar now!

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Time: 8:30 – 11:30 AM

Location: 1101 Elbel Rd., Schertz [behind the Guadalupe County Clerk's Office (Annex)]

Description: The Schertz Pollinator Garden was installed by the Guadalupe Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT) in 2011-12 as a demonstration garden and habitat for pollinators.

This garden displays native plants in a semi-natural way, allowing them to achieve their natural shape and size (mostly). Plants are left as habitat during the winter and trimmed before spring growth.

The NPSOT team would appreciate the help of Master Naturalists several days a year (mostly in the spring, but there are a couple of fall dates scheduled) to prune plants and remove weeds.

Volunteers should bring their own weeding/pruning tools, gloves, and water.

This project qualifies for volunteer hour credit in VMS, in the category of “NPA: Chapter approved.”

Contact: Questions?? Please **contact** Belinda Rossiter (belindarossiter@gmail.com or 713-248-2001)



Garden Volunteer Day at Fischer Park Nature Center Pollinator Garden

Date: Saturday, August 2, 2025

Time: 9:00 - 10:30 am

Location: Fischer Park, 1935 Hilltop Summit Rd., New Braunfels

Description:

Come join other volunteers on the first Saturday of each month helping our pollinators have a great place to stop off for a meal. There are always tasks available for any age or ability and the garden is completely accessible, so feel free to bring additional family members. The tasks vary depending on the time of year, how many volunteers we have available and what's going on in the garden at that moment. This July we will be removing invasive plants from the beds, clearing the paths of overgrown vegetation and removing excess vegetation to allow more space for individual plants. Volunteers are provided water, gloves, and tools but you're always welcome to bring your own. The Pollinator Garden is located down the hill next to the Nature Center in New Braunfels.

Contact: Carolyn Wolfer, wolfercdat@mac.com or Craig Bruska craigbruska@hotmail.com for information.



Forest Restoration Crew is

HANGING UP THEIR TOOLS

Hot Texas summer forces a pause in the invasive plant removal at Park West. Work will resume in the Fall; watch for announcement in newsletter.

Kirchoff Prairie Restoration

This volunteer opportunity does not have a set date as it's dependent on when Don needs help with projects. If interested, I'll add your name to his mailing list so you can be notified when a workday is set up. Workdays occur usually two or three times a month; you can participate as much or as little as you want. These tasks are generally labor intensive, such as removing huisache, planting native vegetation, cutting back trees and maintaining/installing owl and bird boxes. The Kirchoff Prairie is located at 1444 County Rd 210, Floresville, TX [around Dewees.]

Contact: Carolyn Wolfer, wolfercdat@mac.com for information or [\(713\) 562-768](tel:713562768).

Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary



Dates/Times: Vary

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

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

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

Native Seed Library Events

08/16/25	12:00:00 PM	Seed Cleaning Workday	Marion Community Library	Milda Scott mldsct@gmail.com
08/23/25	1:00 – 3:00 PM	Seed Cleaning Workday	Seguin Public Library Downstairs meeting room	Belinda Rossiter belindarossiter@gm

Fall Stream Clean-up – Geronimo/Alligator Creeks

Date: Saturday, October 4, 2025

More details and registration coming soon!

Free Breakfast Tacos
Free Event Swag (t-shirts)
Trash Pickup Supplies





SAVE THE DATE

October 4

Fall Stream Cleanup

SINCE 2013...



Over **40,000 lbs.**
litter removed



By **1,774**
volunteers

www.facebook.com/GeronimoAlligator

TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

Funding for this effort is provided through a Clean Water Act (319(h)) Nonpoint Source Grant administered by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is an equal opportunity employer and program provider.

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Birding Crescent Bend Nature Park

Date: Sunday, August 17, 2025

Time: 7:30 AM

Description: Join Sandi Wheeler to bird the park looking for summer species and early fall migrants. The park is made up of wooded areas and open fields along Cibolo Creek and a variety of species are possible. 12780 W Schaefer Rd, Cibolo, TX 78108 We will be using ebird to record the species seen so be sure to create your own account at ebird.org. Guadalupe Master Naturalist VMS: FR Chapter

Approved or AT Chapter Approved: TMN AT Report Hours

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, 12780 W Schaefer Rd., Schertz, TX

Sign up: [HERE](https://bexaraudubon.org/3174-2/?sheet_id=236) https://bexaraudubon.org/3174-2/?sheet_id=236

Moths and other Night Insects

Date: Saturday, August 30, 2025

Time: 8:30 - 10:30 pm

Description: Join us at Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary to see what moths and other night-time insects appear at our black light stations! We will have blacklight stations set up where you can view and take photos of the insects that appear.



Download the iNaturalist app to document the insects you see.

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

Contact: To attend, email Sandi Wheeler at wheels5683@gmail.com.

Guadalupe Master Naturalist VMS: FR Chapter Approved or AT Chapter Approved: TMN AT Report Hours Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary

ADVANCED TRAINING

TMNTuesday - Combatting Chronic Wasting Disease through Citizen Science

Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM

Description: Using his varied on-the-ground knowledge of disease topics as well as his working relationships with governmental, academic, and private entities, Dr. J. Hunter Reed seeks to support the long-term conservation of wildlife resources in Texas and across the country.

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

Land Stewardship for Birds
Collin County NPSOT

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2025

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Description: Rufus Stephens, will be discussing how diverse and healthy native plant communities are the cornerstone of healthy wildlife habitats. Birds can be a great indicator for healthy plant communities. Recent articles have sounded the alarm about dramatic declines in bird and butterfly populations. Learning to look at the plant community level and identify needed habitat improvements can improve stewardship for birds, insects and native plants.

Location: Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yn85nbzd>

Meeting ID: 885 5459 6572 / **Passcode:** 571904

Gardening for Stormwater, Rain Gardens and Beyond
North Central Chapter Native Plant Society

Date: Thursday, August 7, 2025

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Description: Do you have drainage or flooding issues with your yard? If so, gardening for stormwater may be the solution for you! It's not only eye-pleasing, but it also provides a great deal of benefits beyond stormwater control.

Heather Bass will be teaching:

- ~The benefits of gardening for stormwater
- ~Rain Gardens, Bioswales, Dry Creek Beds and more
- ~How to incorporate rain gardens, bioswales, and retention ponds into your landscape
- ~How to choose the right plants
- ~Long term maintenance of stormwater gardening

Location: Advance registration is required to receive the Zoom link:

<https://npsot-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/r6bx8fvuR5CMPPUKjQ3rPw#/registration>

Native Plant Seeding: Selecting, Purchasing and Planting
Williamson County Native Plant Society of Texas

Date: Thursday, August 14, 2025

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Description: Dr. Megan Clayton will cover the basics for selecting native plant seed for specific areas, how much to purchase, and how to plant the seed for the most success. Since 2010, Dr. Clayton has been an Extension Rangeland Specialist for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Department of Rangeland, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management at Texas A&M University.

Location: To attend via Zoom, register at

<https://npsot-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/MUR1d0LiSNicrtGaKIm5SQ#/registration>



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.

Link to registration information: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/2025-annual-meeting/#Registration>

Registration for the Texas Master Naturalist 2025 Annual Meeting will open the first week of August.

View Agenda: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/2025-annual-meeting/#Agenda>

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.

2025 Training Class

We are excited to be starting our new Training Class in next week! There are nine students enrolled and another application on the way.

That means there is still room for others to join the class. So, if you know a good candidate, please pass the information along.

Spread the word about our upcoming Training Class!
Information and forms at

<https://txmn.org/guadalupe/gmn-training/>

CLASS SCHEDULE

Every other Tuesday evening from 5:45 - 9:15

August 5, 2025 - November 15, 2025

Plus 3 Saturday field trips and 8 hours of orientation
volunteer activities

LOCATION

TX A&M AgriLife Extension Bldg

210 E. Live Oak St., Seguin, TX 78155

COST

\$175 – Includes Master Naturalist textbook, t-shirt,
name tag, and background check. Deadline to apply
is August 1

*Classes are taught by university professors, scientists, TX Parks
& Wildlife staff, TX A&M AgriLife Extension staff, and other
professionals!*

Congratulations!



Road Runner 2025

Recertifications for June/July 2025

Congratulations to these members who recorded all their hours and received their certification for 2025.

Debbie Balderas
Sharon Frels

Bruce Bebow
Romy Gomez

Michelle Darnell
Janet Magee

Mark de Kiewiet
Carolyn Wolfer

A special thank you to our members who have recorded a record number of hours.

250 Hours

Susan Rumsey

500 Hours

Craig Bruska

Sharon Frels

Double Certification

Diana Gonzales

Send announcements and news items for distribution in the newsletter to Marilyn Anderson, MarilynA@access4less.net by **Friday August 29, 2025** for the September 2025 issue.

Officers:

President – Craig Bruska
Vice-president – Susan Hanks
Secretary – Belinda Rossiter
Treasurer – Chris Castoro

craigbruska@hotmail.com
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belindarossiter@gmail.com
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Committee Chairs:

Advanced Training – Jim Dyess
Communications – Bruce Bebow
 Calendar – Renee Harvey
 Marketing – OPEN
 Newsletter – Marilyn Anderson
Community Science – Sandi Wheeler
Fund Raising – OPEN
Hospitality – Marilyn Anderson [Seguin]
 Deborah Dedrick [Schertz]
 Kenneth Harvey [Schertz]
Membership/VMS – Michelle Darnell
Nature Education – OPEN - Seguin
 Laura Griffith [Schertz]
Programs – Deborah Dedrick
Resource Management – Nancy Masterson
 John Barrington
Training Class – Michelle Darnell
Volunteer Service – Bruce Bebow

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