

2026 Training Class Schedule

| Session | Date Location | Time - PM (unless noted) | Topic(s) | Unit(s) | Speaker |
|---|---|--------------------------|--|----------|--|
| 1 | 08/04/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:30 | Welcome; review class syllabus; handout Chapter paperwork, Meet your mentor | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:30 - 7:30 | Introduction to and History of Texas Master Naturalist/ Conduct, Laws and Ethics | Intro, 3 | Joseph Plappert, Urban Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife |
| | | 7:30 - 7:45 | Break | | |
| | | 7:45 - 8:15 | Introductions of class members / Getting Acquainted | | John Barrington |
| | | 8:15 - 8:45 | Go over steps to certify, and optional opportunities list | | Michelle Darnell |
| | | 8:45 - 9:00 | Wrap up and Evaluation | | Facilitators |
| 2 | 08/18/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:00 | Announcements/Opportunities coming up | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:00 - 7:15 | Citizen Science | 24 | Sandi Wheeler - Guadalupe Master Naturalist |
| | | 7:15 - 7:30 | Break | | |
| | | 7:30 - 8:45 | Intro to iNaturalist, Exploring the insects after dark | 22 | Sandi Wheeler - Guadalupe Master Naturalist |
| | | 8:45 - 9:15 | Wrap up and Evaluation | | Facilitators |
| FT1 | 08/22/2026 Saturday 9-11 Crescent Bend | 9:00am - 11:00 | Crescent Bend Nature Park, 12780 W Schaefer Rd, Cibolo, TX 78108 | 7 | Sandi Wheeler |
| 3 | 09/01/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:00 | Announcements/Opportunities coming up | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:00 - 7:15 | Interpretation & Volunteers as Teachers | 23 | Mary Habib |
| | | 7:15 - 7:30 | Break | | |
| | | 7:30 - 8:45 | VMS Training | | Michelle Darnell |
| | | 8:45 - 9:15 | Wrap up and Evaluation | | Facilitators |
| 4 | 09/15/2026 Evening 6-9PM TX Lutheran Univ., Moody Science Hall., Seguin | 6:00 - 7:30 | Plant Taxonomy - Nature of Naming | 10, 11 | Dr. Alan Lievens, Biology Professor (Retired), Texas Lutheran University |
| | | 7:30 - 7:45 | Break | | |
| | | 7:45 - 8:45 | Botany | | |
| | | 8:45 - 9:00 | Wrap up and Evaluation | | |
| 5 | 09/29/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:00 | Announcements/Opportunities coming up | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:00 - 7:15 | Urban Ecosystems | 21 | Anna Kurtin, Urban Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife |
| | | 7:15 - 7:30 | Break | | |
| | | 7:30 - 8:45 | Geology & Soils | 13 | Dr. Carter Keairns, Petroleum Geologist |
| | | 8:45 - 9:15 | Wrap up and Evaluation | | Facilitators |
| Texas Master Naturalist Annual Meeting in Waco, Thursday October ?? through Sunday October ??. | | | | | |
| FT 3 | 10/03/2026 Canyon Lake Gorge Saturday | 9:00am - 12:00 | Geology Field Trip to Canyon Lake Gorge Picnic Lunch after the hike with Mentors 12:30 - 2:00 | 7 | Gua. Master Naturalist |
| 6 | 10/13/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:00 | Announcements/Opportunities coming up | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:00 - 7:15 | Ornithology | 4, 5, 6 | Tom and Patsy Inglet |
| | | 7:15 - 7:30 | Break | | |
| | | 7:30 - 8:45 | Ecological Regions of Texas, Ecological Concepts, and Ecosystems Concepts and Management | 12 | John Herron, retired conservation ecologist |
| | | 8:45 - 9:15 | Wrap up and Evaluation / Field Trip Information | | Facilitators |
| 7 | 10/27/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:00 | Announcements/Opportunities coming up | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:00 - 7:15 | Entomology | 7 | Dr. Guillaume Dury, Class of 2025 |
| | | 7:15 - 7:30 | Break | | |
| | | 7:30 - 8:45 | Texas Water Resources | | Michelle Darnell GBRA |
| | | 8:45 - 9:15 | Wrap up and Evaluation / Field Trip Information | | Facilitators |
| 8 | 11/10/2026 Schertz Senior Center | 5:45 - 6:00 | Announcements/Opportunities coming up | | Belinda Rossiter and Debbie Balderez |
| | | 6:00 - 7:15 | Weather & Climate | 8 | Jon Zeitler, National Weather Service |
| | | 7:15 - 7:30 | Break | | |
| | | 7:30 - 8:45 | Herpetology | 15 | Tom Hardaway |
| | | 8:45 - 9:15 | Wrap up and Evaluation | | Facilitators |
| FT 3 | 11/14/2026 Seguin Outdoor Learning Center | 9:00am - 12:00 | Aquatic Systems Ecology and Management Wetland Ecology and Management | 18, 19 | Michelle Darnell and Tom Hardaway |
| | | 12:00 - 2:00 | Lunch and Graduation Celebration | | Belinda Rossiter, Debbie, John |