

Guadalupe Chapter

Texas Master Naturalist

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



JuLY 2026

Vol. 13 Issue 7

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.*



Chapter meetings will not be held during June and July. August meeting will be in Schertz. Volunteer activities will continue and opportunities for Advanced Training will be available.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

NATURE EDUCATION

A Nature Education Chairperson is needed in Seguin!

PLEASE consider taking leadership of this vital opportunity to share nature experiences with the Seguin community. Our Mission states we are "*volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service.*"

Let's fulfill this mission and bring Nature Education back to Seguin.

Thank You

Friends Of Palmetto would like to thank the Guadalupe Master Naturalists for supporting the Friends of Palmetto State Park (FOP) Summer Adventure Camp. There were twenty-one attendees ages 8 - 12. We wouldn't have had the successful camp that we did without the following people:

Donna Alvarado, Marilyn Anderson, Debbie Balderaz, John Barrington, Diana Bravo-Gonzalez, Bobby and Elaine Cowley, Mark de Kiewiet, Kathy Gulley, Laura Griffith, Tom Hardaway, Ruthie Kneupper, Kate Schnautz and Sandi Wheeler. In addition, Debbie's granddaughter and the Cowley's grandson were junior volunteers.

Five Discovery programs were led by Tom, Laura, Debbie, and Kate. In addition to the Discovery Programs, John taught Archery and Fishing and Kate did Nature Journaling. Mark did a class on bees and Sandi/Elaine - birds. Debbie led two crafting programs. All of these were very popular especially Bees, Archery and Snakes.

This is the major annual fundraiser for FOP. All money raised goes directly to projects for the park. For example, the kids used kayaks and fishing rods that were bought by FOP.

Same time (first week of June) and same place next year! Thank you for supporting FOP.



Elaine, Sandi and Kathy lead the birding activity



Mr. Bee and Mark



Ruthie helps kids make bee houses



Tom teaches about snakes and lets the kids touch



John helps a young archer take aim



Ruthie, Debbie and Kathy on the trail

Owl Prowl at Crescent Bend

Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026

Time: 8:30 – 9:30 pm (volunteers meet at 8:00 pm at the picnic tables next to the restrooms)

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, Schertz

Description: It's that time of year again....Texas HEAT! Of course, that also means we get to wander Crescent Bend at night and our first 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.



I also need a volunteer who is willing to just sit at the picnic tables and monitor our two moth tents while the groups are on their walks. This person would also be in charge of managing the sign-in and passing out flashlights at the beginning and collecting the flashlights at the end.

Volunteers should plan on arriving no later than 8pm. Please contact me ahead of time if you want to stay with the tents so I know if I have a person for this responsibility.

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

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Park West Pollinator Garden

Date: Mondays, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

Time: 8:30 – 9:30 AM

Location: Park West, 623 N. Vaughan Avenue, Seguin [close to the splash pad]

Description: Volunteers help to maintain the pollinator garden in Seguin's Park West (623 N Vaughan Ave, Seguin, TX 78155) each Monday at 8:30am. Tasks involve such things as weeding and trimming, and the team is usually there about an hour. Occasionally, larger scope projects are scheduled. Dress for gardening and bring tools.

If you would like to join the team or get more information, please contact Belinda Rossiter at belindarossiter@gmail.com or 713-248-2001.

Guadalupe Master Naturalists may log hours worked on this project under "NPA: Park West Nature".





GMN Park West Team

2026 Summer Watering of Park West Trees



Belinda Rossiter



Contact

Guadalupe Master Naturalists have planted 125 new tree saplings in the Park West forest and they will need monthly watering throughout the summer of 2026.

Park West Needs Tree Waterers for the Summer

Guadalupe Master Naturalists have planted 125 new tree saplings in the Park West forest (623 N Vaughan Ave, Seguin, TX 78155) and they will need monthly watering throughout the summer of 2026. Belinda Rossiter is coordinating a team to do that on Monday mornings once a month, and would like your help if this is something you can do.

The City of Seguin will provide a water trailer from which 2.5-gallon jugs can be filled. From that point, we **need WATER DELIVERERS** to pull jugs in wagons to drop-off points on trails around the forest. We also **need TREE WATERERS** to carry water to the trees (mapped, and marked by flags). Each tree gets one jug of water, so that's a lot of water to haul!

Get more information about this project and sign up for shifts [via SignUpGenius here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4FA8AC2FA7F94-63322583-2026) (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4FA8AC2FA7F94-63322583-2026>).

Our little trees would appreciate your help

Native Seed Library Events

Earn Volunteer Time while enjoying the company of fellow Master Naturalists at the public libraries. No experience necessary in cleaning, sorting and packaging valuable native seeds.



07/11/26	1-3:00 PM	Seed Cleaning/Packaging Workday	Seguin Public Library Tech Lab 313 W. Nolte	Belinda Rossiter belindarossiter@gmail.com
07/19/26	1-3:00 PM	Seed Cleaning/Packaging Workday	Schertz Library Mtg. Rm 1	Milda Scott mldsct@gmail.com

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 planned. There are usually two or three opportunities a month and you're welcome to participate in as much or as little as you want. This is a great way to see first-hand what's involved in bringing a Blackland Prairie back to life. The Kirchoff Prairie is located around Dewees (out past Floresville).

Contact Carolyn Wolfer | wolfercdat@mac.com for information

ADVANCED TRAINING

Master Volunteer Entomology Advanced Training

Date: September 1 – October 29, 2026 on Tuesdays and Thursdays

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Class is VIRTUAL.

Description: The class covers over 30 hours of entomological subjects.

The class fills up quickly, so if you want to take it this year, I encourage you to sign up soon. Wizzie Brown will be leading the class this year; if you want to take the class when Molly Keck is the lead then you should wait until next year. You can see the program agenda by clicking a link on the registration page.

You **MUST** be a **CERTIFIED** Master Gardener and/ or Master Naturalist to sign up for the course.

All classes will be recorded and posted for class participant viewing. Recording links should not be shared with others not in the class. Class can provide Advanced Training Hours, but how many hours are given and if you need to attend sessions live is up to your local advisors (so check with them for that information).

Complete information on this link: <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/ento-ev-153>



Get excited for our **Texas Master Naturalist 2026 Annual Meeting** –
to be held **Thursday, October 22 through Sunday, October 25** in Waco, 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.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/2026-annual-meeting/> Lodging information now on website!

Upcoming Events

2026 Fall Training Class Meet & Greet Sessions

The deadline for applications to the 2026 Texas Master Naturalist training class is August 1. Classes run from August 4 to November 14 at Schertz Area Senior Center, 608 Schertz Pkwy, Schertz, TX 78154.

Before the application deadline, there are two Meet & Greet sessions for registered and potential training candidates to meet Master Naturalists and discuss the program. If you would like to meet these prospects and share your experience with the Master Naturalist program, please join us at one or both of these sessions:

- **Tuesday, July 14**, 6-7pm, at Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Guadalupe County, 210 E Live Oak St, Seguin, TX 78155
- **Tuesday, July 21**, 6-7pm, at Schertz Area Senior Center, 608 Schertz Pkwy, Schertz, TX 78154



Forms needed to register are on our website. Please provide the information or print copies for those you think would be great additions to our Chapter. Here's the web address for you: <https://txmn.org/guadalupe/gmn-training/>

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 gmnca@guadmn.org.

Send announcements and news items for distribution in the newsletter to Marilyn Anderson, MarilynA@access4less.net by **Friday, July 24** for the **August issue**.

Officers:

President – Craig Bruska
Vice-president – Jenn Jontry
Secretary – Belinda Rossiter
Treasurer – Chris Castoro

craigbruska@hotmail.com
gourmet_gardener@outlook.com
belindarossiter@gmail.com
ccastoro1340@gmail.com

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

at@guadmn.org
communications@guadmn.org
[gmncal@guadmn.org](mailto:gmncl@guadmn.org)

MarilynA@access4less.net
wheels5683@gmail.com

MarilynA@access4less.net
ddedrick7@gmail.com
knnthdhrvy@yahoo.com
gmnmembers@guadmn.org

ljgriffith528@gmail.com
ddedrick7@gmail.com
nsethermasterson@gmail.com
freedom516@yahoo.com
gmnmembers@guadmn.org
bbebow@gmail.com

Sponsors:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
 Jeff Hanselka, County Extension Agent
Texas Parks & Wildlife
 Olivia Kost, Game Warden

jeff.hanselka@ag.tamu.edu

olivia.kost@tpwd.texas.gov



<https://txmn.org/guadalupe/>
The Texas Master Naturalist program is sponsored by the
A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife

