

THE HEARTWOOD BULLETIN

Advanced Training & Volunteer Opportunities Announcements

HEARTWOOD CHAPTER, TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

July 8, 2019

Do you want to help slow down the spread of harmful invasive species and reduce their ecological and economic damage? The first step is to locate where invaders have arrived and get that information to those who can do something about it. That's where citizen scientists come in. Citizen scientists are volunteers who receive expert training to identify and track important invaders in our area.

Join the **Heartwood Satellite Group** by attending the **August 10th Invaders of Texas Citizen Scientist Workshop**:

Satellite: [Heartwood Invaders](#)

Location: Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC) (The Woodlands, TX)

Trainers: Dr. Hans Landel, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Date: August 10, 2019

Time: 9:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Notes: This workshop will cover the Invaders of Texas citizen scientist program, focusing on training citizen scientists to identify and report invasive plants. It will include data entry using the TX Invaders mobile application. The workshop will also present general information on invasive species, managing the spread of invasives, invasive pests of regulatory concern and the Sentinel Pest Network, and best management practices for control and eradication of selected species. We will demonstrate the "Eradicator Calculator", which is designed to help organize and record volunteer-based eradication efforts.

Registration is first come, first served.

Please bring your smart phone or tablet, or laptop computer. We will be outside for a brief period, otherwise indoors, so please dress appropriately. Lunch will be provided courtesy of Woodlands Water.

Local Host: [Teri MacArthur](#)

<https://environmentalservicesdepartment.wufoo.com/forms/r15g0jp50bpoqqq/>

AT: Invasives Species Workshop

The Heartwood Invaders have 12 citizen scientists who've made 230 observations for a total of 53.6 hours. Statewide, there are 3,326 trained citizen scientists who have made 22,248 observations.

Become part of the Heartwood Invaders Satellite Group to continue this important work!

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Unique Summer Opportunities

Update :

Texas/Oklahoma Pollinator Project for Summer 2019

The goal of the TOPP is to gather observational data on what plants are most attractive to bees and other pollinators, to provide Texas gardeners and naturalists with observation-based, local data to be used for regional fact sheets, and for efforts to conserve our important pollinator species.

Sign up at:

https://agrilife.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eyA8ahpNBj5ZJIP

New: Link to the [one-hour online training](#) on YouTube.

Partner Organization: Texas A & M Agrilife Extension

Contact: Danielle.dunn@ag.tamu.edu 972-952-9239

VMS code: AT specific project, in the box type "Texas/Oklahoma Pollinator Project"

Do you have a passion for pollinators?

This project studies plants that provide a pollination pay-off.

Gulf Fritillary on zinnia.



Wed, July 10 The Woodlands Township Environmental Services Dept. Pollinator Project

8:00am—

Nature's Way Resources, 101 Sherbrook Cir, Conroe, TX 77385

Missed the first big planting day? We're doing it again! We'll be filling pots with soil and planting milkweed seeds. We work in the shade of large oak trees. It's a great way to get your hands dirty, make new friends, and impact the environment all at the same time!

Remember to bring something to drink and, if you prefer, a pair of work gloves.

Please register here so that we know how many seeds to have on hand:

<https://environmentalservicesdepartment.wufoo.com/forms/rb8xkva01nxstb/>

Partner organization:

The Woodlands Township Environmental Services Department

Contact: Teri MacArthur: tmacarthur@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov or call 281-210-3928.

VMS code: RM: The Woodlands Township.

Advanced Training Opportunities

July 10 Heartwood Chapter Monthly Meeting

5:30 — 8pm HARC, 8801 Gosling Rd, Spring, TX 77381

Herpetology

Please note this is NOT the first Wednesday of the month!

VMS code: *AT:Chapter Meeting Heartwood*

July 15 Texas Wildlife Association

9:00 am – Outdoor Teacher Workshop

4:00 pm Texas A & M Agrilife Extension, Rosenberg, TX

Outreach Teacher Workshops are six (6) hour hands-on trainings that introduce attendees to the Texas Wildlife Association, in-class and outdoor L.A.N.D.S. Outreach lessons and activities, and how to incorporate natural resources into classrooms or programming. Lessons focus on teaching land stewardship, native wildlife, and water conservation and are TEKS-aligned. This workshop is ideal for educators grades K-8 (ages 5-14) and is completely FREE!

[Click here to register.](#)

VMS code: *AT Single Presentation (Specify Texas Wildlife Association)*

July 16 Native Plant Society of Texas, Sam Houston Chapter

6:30 pm – Meet & Greet, Social Time, Refreshments

7:00 – 8:00 pm– Chapter Meeting & Presentation at W.G. Jones Forest, 1328 FM 1488, Conroe 77384

VMS code: *AT: Native Plant Society of Texas*

July 20 Texas Wildlife Association

9:00 am – Outdoor Teacher Workshop

4:00 pm Houston Zoo, Houston, TX

Outreach Teacher Workshops are six (6) hour hands-on trainings that introduce attendees to the Texas Wildlife Association, in-class and outdoor L.A.N.D.S. Outreach lessons and activities, and how to incorporate natural resources into classrooms or programming. Lessons focus on teaching land stewardship, native wildlife, and water conservation and are TEKS-aligned. This workshop is ideal for educators grades K-8 (ages 5-14) and is completely FREE!

[Click here to register.](#)

VMS code: *AT Single Presentation (Specify Texas Wildlife Association)*

July 20 Mothing at the Acton Nature Center, 6900 Smoky Hill Court, Granbury, TX

8 pm-11 pm

actonnaturecenter.org

Mothing presentation at the Pavilion

Public event

144 nocturnal insect species observed overnight last year

YES there are “real restrooms” at the ANC

Partner Organization: Rio Brazos Chapter TMN

Contact: Valerie Taber alamodragonfly@yahoo.com

VMS code: *AT Single Presentation*

July 21 United We Win: Collaborating to Solve Houston’s Toughest Environmental Challenges

A monthly environmental education web meeting from Christ the King Lutheran Church; Jaime Gonzalez, Houston Urban Conservation Programs Manager for The Nature Conservancy, will highlight a variety of local environmental issues, and how local people/organizations are coming together to address them.

Location: Online; Cost: Free

Contact: Lisa Brenskelle gcs.lrc@gmail.com

Add to your calendar at this web address: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/united-we-win-collaborating-to-solve-houstons-toughest-environmental-challenges-tickets-62181168549>

VMS code: *AT single presentation,*

Advanced Training Opportunities

Sat. July 27 Learn Water Conservation Activities for Area Classrooms

8:00 am—noon

Location: 8203 Millenium Forest Drive, Parks and Rec. Dept. Aquatics Building, Multi-purpose Room, The Woodlands 77381

Description: Learn water conservation activities for classrooms, primarily for 4th and 5th grades. (see also Volunteer Opportunity on page 7, Aug. 3.)

Contact: Teri MacArthur, 281-210-3928 (direct), TMacArthur@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov.

Partner: The Woodlands Township, Environmental Services.

VMS code: AT: Woodlands Township (specify water conservation education)

August 7 Heartwood Chapter Monthly Meeting

5:30 — 8pm Big Stone Lodge, Dennis Johnston Park, 709 Riley Fuzzel Rd, Spring, TX 77373
Mercer interns present their summer research. **See flyer on next page.**

VMS code: AT:Chapter Meeting Heartwood

August 19-22 Annual Hummerbird Festival

1801 Omohundro St., Rockport, TX <https://www.rockport-fulton.org/HB>

August 20 Native Plant Society of Texas, Sam Houston Chapter

6:30 pm – Meet & Greet, Social Time, Refreshments

7 – 8 pm– Chapter Meeting & Presentation at SHSU Natural History and Art Research Center, 746 University Ave, Huntsville 77320

VMS code: AT: Native Plant Society of Texas

Sept. 11 Heartwood Chapter Monthly Meeting

5:30 — 8pm HARC,8801 Gosling Rd, Spring, TX 77381

VMS code: AT:Chapter Meeting Heartwood

Texas Master Naturalist



20th Annual Meeting

Join us for our **20th Texas Master Naturalist Program Annual Meeting**, where we'll gather, learn and celebrate another year of the Texas Master Naturalist program. This year's event, taking place in Rockwall, Texas, will run from **Friday, October 18th through Sunday, October 20th**. The event will be hosted at the **Hilton Dallas/Rockwall Lakefront Hotel** on the shores of Lake Ray Hubbard just east of Dallas.

<https://txmn.org/2019-annual-meeting/>

Love photography? Consider entering the photo contest at the annual meeting! See what other competitions are taking place and prepare to show off your creativity!

<https://txmn.org/2019-annual-meeting/2019-annual-meeting-contests/>

Student Research EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

Hosted by Mercer Botanic Gardens and
the Heartwood Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists

Wednesday, August 7

Networking
Refreshments Provided

5:30 p.m.

Presentations
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Big Stone Lodge at Dennis Johnston Park
709 Riley Fuzzell Road, Spring, TX 77373

Mercer Botanic Gardens partners with colleges, universities, and high schools to find motivated students who wish to conduct botanic research, engage garden visitors through programming, and explore natural mosquito abatement methods at our facilities. This year, students and interns will present projects featuring education, interpretation, and research of Mercer's globally diverse botanical collections; research and documentation of the SBSC Herbarium collection of more than 50,000 plant specimens and over 2,300 botanical illustrations; propagation work for Mercer's greenhouse collections and mosquito abatement research.

Mercer's interns are generously provided by the Harris County Precinct 4 Intern Program and Mercer's Herbarium Research internships through funding from the Native Plant Society of Texas, Houston Chapter in honor of Dr. Larry Brown, Heartwood Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists, Center for Plant Conservation rare plant research funds, and other donations to The Mercer Society.



Harris County Precinct 4
Commissioner R. Jack Cagle
Mercer Botanic Gardens



THE
MERCER
SOCIETY



@hccprecinct4 • @mercerbotanicgardens • 713-274-4160 • www.hcp4.net/mercer

Scheduled Volunteer Opportunities

Sat. July 20

9 – 11 a.m. Project: Invasives Beware! at Jesse Jones Park, Humble TX

Description: Find, document, and remove invasive plant species within Jones Park, as well as conduct vital habitat management. Participants need to wear closed-toed shoes and bring their own gloves. Long pants, a hat, and a refillable water bottle are recommended.

Partner Organization: Jesse Jones Park, Humble Tx

Contact: khammond@hcp4.net

VMS code: RM : Jesse Jones Park & Nature Center

Various weeks in July

9 am – 2 pm. Project: Summer Nature Camp at Jesse Jones Park, Humble TX: True Texas Natives

Description: **Volunteers must commit for 1 week.** Each summer Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center hosts eight weeks of day camps for over 300 children ages 5 – 12. Summer Nature Camp is offered free of charge, thus allowing children to attend camp who might not otherwise have the opportunity to go to a summer camp.

- SNC counselors attend camp every day for one week, starting with a volunteer orientation on Monday from 9 – 10 a.m.

- Each counselor oversees a group of 6 students from 9 a.m. to 1 or 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday (all 4 days).

- The counselors will usher the children to the different activity stations, where the Park Rangers will lead lessons, crafts, and games.

- The counselors just need to keep the children on task (no teaching required).

- Camp weeks 6, and 7 (for 10 – 12 year olds) include a canoe day and a field trip to San Jacinto Battleground.

- Because this is a one week commitment, it is a great opportunity to earn a lot of service hours all at once!

Week 6: July 8 - 12 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Campers this week are 10 – 12 years old.

Week 7: July 22 - 26 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Campers this week are 10 – 12 years old.

Week 8: July 29 – August 2 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Campers this week are 7 – 9 years old.

VMS code: DO: Training and Education Events

Sat. Aug. 3 Assist Teachers Learning Water Conservation Activities.

8:00 — 12:00

Location: 8203 Millenium Forest Drive, Parks and Rec. Dept. Aquatics Building, Multi-purpose Room, The Woodlands 77381

Description: Assist teachers learning classroom activities, primarily for 4th and 5th grades. (see also Advanced Training Opportunity on July 27.)

Contact: Teri MacArthur, 281-210-3928 (direct), TMacArthur@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov

Partner: The Woodlands Township, Environmental Services.

VMS code: DO: Training and Educational Events

Scheduled Volunteer Opportunities, cont.

**Thu. Aug. 15 Planting of Aquatic Plants at Carolina Creek Christian Camp
9:00—11:00 am in Walker County.**

Location: contact Scott Ball for details.

Description: Participants should be prepared to wade. Wading boots will be provided.

Contact: Scott Ball, henryball415@gmail.com

Partner: Friends of Lake Livingston

VMS code: RM: Friends of Lake Livingston

**Wed. Sept. 4 Conservation Connections at Jesse Jones Park, Humble TX
8:30—11:30 am**

Description: Assist with conservation projects around Jones Park. Projects may include: pollinator garden maintenance, vegetation management, habitat restoration, native plant propagation, biological surveys, and more throughout the year.

Contact/ Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D44A4AB28ABFB6-volunteer>

VMS code: RM: Jesse Jones Park & Nature Center

***Please note this opportunity requires you to sign up via SignUp Genius. Click the link above to register.**

**Fri. Sept. 13 Planting of Aquatic Plants at Sam Houston Bear Kat Camp
8:00 am—2:00 pm Northeast of Huntsville, near Riverside.**

Location: contact Scott Ball for details.

Description: This event will involve 9 high schools and approximately 100 kids. Adult volunteers are needed to supervise, assist in planting, checking in and out of equipment, and setting up a buffet lunch for the the high school participants.

Contact: Scott Ball, henryball415@gmail.com

Partner: Friends of Lake Livingston.

VMS code: RM: Friends of Lake Livingston

Ongoing Scheduled Volunteer Opportunities

Tuesdays 8:30—11:30 am Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Rd, Tomball, TX 77377
Hummingbird/Butterfly Garden Restoration

Partner Organization: Harris County Precinct 3 Parks

Contact: Megan Ahlgren klebWoods@Pct3.com

VMS code: RM: Kleb Woods

1st & 3rd Friday of each month Ashton Gardens Preserve (next to Ashton Gardens Venue)
21919 Inverness Forest Boulevard, Houston, TX 77073

Invasive Species Removal and preserve maintenance

Partner organization: Bayou Land Conservancy

Contact: Melissa Carter info@bayouland.org

VMS code: NPA: Bayou Land Conservancy

3rd Sunday of each month Kickerillo Mischer Preserve, 20215 Chasewood Park Dr, Houston 77070
Preserve Cleanup and Invasive Removal

Partner organization: Harris County Precinct 4 Parks

Contact: Rose Belzung Holmes kmp@hcp4.net

VMS code: RM: Other Locations

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

Huntsville State Park

Alligator talks, nature hikes, aquatic science programming (for schools); trail cleanups

Partner organization: Texas Parks and Wildlife

Contact: Ted Pick Ted.pick@tpwd.texas.gov

VMS code: DO: Training and education events (Talks, hikes, programming)

VMS code: NPA: Nature Public Access for Other Organizations

Jesse Jones Nature Center and Park

Adopt-a-trail; removal of invasive species; trail maintenance

Partner organization: Harris County Precinct 4 Parks

Contact: Matt Abernathy mabernathy@hcp4.net

VMS code: RM: J Jones Park and Nature Center

Lake Livingston

Lake Livingston restoration; planting water willow

Partner organization: Friends of Lake Livingston

Contact: Scott Ball henryball415@gmail.com

VMS code: RM: Friends of Lake Livingston

Mercer Botanical Center

Botanical Database inputting and maintenance, Botanical Curator/Garden Inventory, Botanical Sign Maker, Herbarium Restoration

Partner organization: Mercer Botanical Center

Contact: Suzanne Chapman schapman@hcp4.net

VMS code: [dependent upon assignment]

Spring Creek Greenway

Greenway Vegetation Management, Restoration; Planting Native Vegetation & Riparian Trees

Partner organization: Spring Creek Greenway

Contact: Laura Carlton clcarlton@hcp4.net

VMS code: NPA: Spring Creek Greenway

WG Jones State Forest

Pollinator and Wildlife Garden restoration; invasive species removal, aquatic habitat restoration, planting native trees, trail maintenance; interpretative signage

Partner organization: Texas A&M Forest Service

John Warner/Caroline Cruz jwarner@tfs.tamu.edu

VMS code: NPA: WG Jones State Forest

The Woodlands Township Environmental Services Department

A long-term project promoting native plants for Water Conservation and for our Plant for Pollinators program.

Volunteering:

- Assist with development of additional propagating areas at Partner organization Nature's Way Resources (NWR) facility
- Assist with ongoing propagation of Milkweed with the potential for other native plant propagation at NWR facility (potting, organizing)
- Assist with ongoing care of seedlings/plants at NWR facility (weeding, watering)
- By becoming familiar with a specific selection of native plants, assist with outreach opportunities in the Township (residents, schools, organizations, etc)

If you are interested in the volunteering opportunities for this project, REGISTER FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFORMATION at this link:

<https://environmentalservicesdepartment.wufoo.com/forms/rb8xkva01nxstb/>

Partner organization: The Woodlands Township Environmental Services Department

Teri MacArthur: tmacarthur@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov or call 281-210-3928.

VMS code: RM: Woodlands Township

Mark your calendars:

Texas Wildlife & Woodland
expo
save the date **03.28.20**

what it's all about

 **photographs with Smokey Bear**

March 28, 2020 • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Lone Star College-Montgomery
3200 College Park Drive, Conroe

- **FREE EVENT** with thousands of guests each year
- **Interactive booths and hands-on learning stations** for all ages
- **Opportunities for youth organizations** to work toward badges and patches
- **Outdoor recreation activities, hunter safety, fishing, archery, and many other skills & fitness challenges** in the Kid Adventure Zone
- **Urban and rural home and landowners mini-lecture and "how to" sessions** covering ecosystem services
- **ASK the EXPERTS** on a variety of topics
- **Questions call 936.295.5688**

 **new exhibit this year monarch madness**

 **wildflowers**

 **woods**

 **water**

 **wildlife**

 **wildfire**

LoneStar.edu/WildlifeExpo

Contact Adrienne Paquette to learn about working the Heartwood booth at this event. It's great fun and you'll see a lot of friendly faces! heartwoodsec@gmail.com