



## TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

### Indian Trail Chapter Applicant Information

Dear Applicant:

The goal of the Texas Master Naturalist program is to develop knowledgeable volunteers to increase public awareness, understanding and appreciation of our natural resources and to promote stewardship, the principles of responsible, sustainable development, and renewable natural resources through education and active citizen participation.

This course provides a conceptual understanding of our natural systems and the detrimental, long-term consequences of imbalances and faulty management. It also includes essential information and strategies to restore, regenerate, nurture and conserve our indigenous plant species and animal habitats. The program enhances your love of nature with research-based scientific knowledge. You receive training in wildlife and natural resource management taught by recognized experts in the field and customized to focus on the native ecosystems of North Central Texas, Ellis and Navarro Counties, specifically. You also have the opportunity for advanced training in specialized subjects that interest you.

In return for this training, you provide your community with at least 40 hours of volunteer services per year in the form of educational activities, projects, outreach or service.

Requirements to become a certified Master Naturalist volunteer:

- Attend all scheduled classes and field trips
- 40 volunteer hours of service
- 8 advanced training hours

These requirements must be completed by May 31, 2013.

Training schedule: Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., April 12 – May 31, 2012, with two Saturday field trips. Classes will be held at First United Methodist Church Banquet Hall, 505 W. Marvin Ave., Waxahachie TX.

Fees: The Training Program tuition is \$150. This fee pays for the Texas Master Naturalist manual, handouts, speakers and background check. The fee is \$100 for a second family member when one handbook is shared.

Background Check: The State Master Naturalist Office requires each participant to pass a background check in order to protect youth and adults with whom we work.

Liability Waiver: The State also requires each class member to sign a liability waiver.

Class size is limited. Selection criteria include: Interest in the program, availability for volunteer service and commitment to stewardship of our natural resources. **Please complete the attached application and mail it to:** Indian Trail Chapter, Texas Master Naturalist, 701 South I-35, Suite #3, Waxahachie, TX 75165.

Application deadline is **March 22, 2012**. All applicants will be notified of their status no later than **March 31, 2012**. Fees will be collected after acceptance notification and before the first class.

This program is intended to serve persons of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, gender, religion, disability or national origin. We seek to provide reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Please advise us as soon as possible of auxiliary aid or services that you require.

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Master Naturalist program. We look forward to your participation in this educational and beneficial volunteer program.

Sincerely,

Paul Grindstaff, Training Committee Chair  
Chair  
Indian Trail Chapter  
Texas Master Naturalist  
972-291-2868 • [pcgrindstaff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pcgrindstaff@sbcglobal.net)

Carolyn Gritzmaker, Membership Committee  
Indian Trail Chapter  
Texas Master Naturalist  
972-743-9353 • [c.gritzmaker@gmail.com](mailto:c.gritzmaker@gmail.com)

T E X A S



INDIAN TRAIL CHAPTER

### INDIAN TRAIL CHAPTER APPLICATION

c/o AgriLife Extension  
701 South I – 35, Suite #3  
Waxahachie, TX 75165  
Phone: 972.825.5175  
Fax: 972.825.5184

The APPLICATION DEADLINE is **March 22, 2012**. Please type or print **clearly** and return your application to the address above or FAX to the above number. All applicants will be notified of acceptance status by March 31, 2012.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(As you wish it to appear on your name tag and certificate)

Mailing address: Street/Apt. #: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation, if employed or former occupation, if retired \_\_\_\_\_

What times do you have available for activities? Week days  Weekends  Evenings

Do you belong to any other volunteer organizations? Yes  No   
If so, which ones, and about how many hours do you volunteer each month?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What special talents or skills do you have that could benefit our Texas Master Naturalist Chapter? These don't have to be nature related – examples: computer programming, accounting, wood working, newsletter writing, graphic arts, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please summarize any experiences and/or training you have had related to the management or stewardship of our local natural resources \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The goal of the Master Naturalist program is to create a pool of knowledgeable citizens to educate the public on the natural world and promote environmental stewardship. Which of these areas would you most enjoy working in to fulfill these objectives? Check all that are of interest.

Educational programs for children (Project Wild, Growing Up Wild...)

Educational programs for adults (presentations to local organizations, manning nature related booth at local events, ...)

Assistance with nature programs in local parks (leading nature walks, improving trails, wildlife habitat improvement...)

Environmental surveys (bird counts, Stream Team, CoCoRaHS, Turtle Watch...)

Media communication (write articles for local papers, chapter newsletter, help with website...)

Chapter Administration (fund raising, event planning, training....)

Other nature related activities which you feel might qualify for volunteer hours' credit.

Please describe \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

By submitting this application, I understand that I am required to attend the classes and field trips scheduled, complete 40 hours of accepted volunteer service and 8 hours of approved advanced training by May 31, 2013, in order to become a Certified Texas Master Naturalist.

I understand that membership in the Master Naturalist program is contingent upon passing a background check to protect the safety of our youth and adults.

I also understand that to maintain an active status as a member of the Indian Trail Chapter, I must complete 40 hours of volunteer service and 8 hours of advanced training each year thereafter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Questions about the Indian Trail Master Naturalist Chapter Volunteer Training may be directed to Paul Grindstaff at 972-291-2868 or email [pcgrindstaff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pcgrindstaff@sbcglobal.net)