Dear Texas Master Naturalist Program Applicant:

We would like to invite you to become involved in an exciting program for the Wichita Falls area - the Texas Master Naturalist program. The mission of this program is to develop and certify a group of well informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated toward the beneficial management of natural resources, lands and waters within our community.

This program will furnish participants with basic information and strategies to restore and conserve our indigenous species and habitats. Throughout the training classes, local experts will cover interesting topics about our natural resources and lead hands-on field trips to study local ecosystems. Specific class and field trip topics are listed in the training agenda. Texas Master Naturalist trainees may select from a wide variety of approved local projects to volunteer their time. Projects may include habitat restoration, native plant rescues, interpretive trail building, school habitats, educational presentations, or projects of your own design.

To become a **certified** Texas Master Naturalist of the Rolling Plains Chapter, trainees must fulfill the following requirements:

* Attendance at all training classes, including field trips (about 50 hours total). One miss is allowed to still become certified. More than one will need to be made up the following spring for certification. You can still participate and miss more than one class, but can’t be a **certified TMN** unless the requirement is completed.
* 40 hours minimum of volunteer service on approved projects within a year.
* 8 hours of advanced training in approved classes within a year.

To maintain certified status, Texas Master Naturalists must complete the following annually:

* 40 hours of volunteer service on approved projects.
* 8 hours of advanced training in approved classes.

Most training classes will be held from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursdays beginning at 7:00 p.m. March 20, 2012 at Midwestern State University-Bolin Science Hall, room ***209?*** **The fee for this training session is $80.00 unless you are enrolled as a student; then the fee is only $70**. A maximum of 25 applicants will be selected to attend the class. Selection criteria include: interest in the program, availability for volunteer service, and commitment to stewardship of our natural resources.

Please return the completed application to 409 Chester Avenue, Wichita Falls, TX 76301. The application deadline is March 12, 2012. **You must mail the $80.00 fee with your application. Please make checks payable to: Rolling Plains Texas Master Naturalists.**

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Master Naturalist Program. We look forward to your participation in this educational and beneficial volunteer program. You will be contacted no later than March 16 about your selection for the spring training class.

Sincerely,

Robert Mauk Terry McKee

Chapter Advisor Chapter President

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department TMN Rolling Plains Chapter

940-766-2383 940-766-4097

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

This program is a collaborative effort between the Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Rolling Plains Texas Master Naturalists

409 Chester Avenue

Wichita Falls, TX 76301

940-766-2383

940-766-1496 (fax)

The application deadline is March 12, 2012. Please type or print clearly and return your application and check to the address above.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (As you wish it to appear on your certificate)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (As you wish it to appear on your nametag--if different from above)





SEX: Male Female







Please Check (Optional): Anglo African American Hispanic







Asian or Pacific Islander American Indian or Alaskan Other

MAILING ADDRESS:

Street \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: Day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Evening\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Occupation, if employed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If retired, what was your former occupation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Describe why you are interested in the Texas Master Naturalist volunteer program.

2) Please indicate any organizations of which you are a member, or have volunteered time during the last two years. Indicate the average number of hours you have volunteered for each organization on a monthly basis.

3 Please note your profession and/or skills or interests that would be helpful to the Texas Master Naturalist Program. (Skills may include computer, photography, typing, graphic arts, public speaking, teaching, specific knowledge, etc. If you are retired or work part-time, please include relevant training or education you have received relative to natural resources.)

**AREAS OF INTEREST:**

Please rate each area as **HIGH, MEDIUM, OR LOW.**

**Education/Public Information**

Speakers Bureau - (presentations) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Guide or Docent (special projects) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Children's Activities \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Field Research/Surveys**

Prairie Ecosystems \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Wetland Ecosystems \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Plant & Wildlife Census (bird, insect, amphibian, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Habitat Restoration Projects \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Native Plant/Seed Collection \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Administration**

Fund Raising \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Computer Work \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Other**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I will be available for the 7 weeks of classes shown on the spring 2011 training agenda. I understand that I am required to attend all the classes (excepting one) and four field trips, complete 40 hours of volunteer service within 15 months after program inception and complete 8 hours of approved advanced training in order to become a **Certified** Texas Master Naturalist**.**

\_\_\_\_\_ NO, I am not available for the spring 2012 classes, but I want to be considered in the first group of applicants for the March 2013 class. Please send me a copy of the class schedule when it becomes available.

\_\_\_\_\_ NO, I am not interested in the Texas Master Naturalist Program. Please delete my name from your mailing list.

**ROLLING PLAINS Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program** **VOLUNTEER PLEDGE:**

I understand that in exchange for the training made possible through the Rolling Plains Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program, I will volunteer at least 40 hours of my time toward approved projects and complete 8 hours of approved advanced training within 15 months. I understand that I will become a **certified** Texas Master Naturalist **only** when I complete **both** the training and volunteer work. I also understand that to maintain an active status, I must complete 8 hours of advanced training and 40 hours of volunteer service each year thereafter.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials)I understand that in consideration of being accepted as a participant in the Texas Master Naturalist volunteer program ("program") I hereby release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless the program and its sponsoring state agencies, their agents, employees, officers and successors, from and against the program and sponsoring state agencies, their successors, employees, or officers for all personal injuries (including death), known and unknown or damage to property caused by or arising out of activities performed under the Texas Master Naturalist Program.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials) Yes, I will be able to comply with the requirements listed above.

\_\_\_\_\_ (initials) No; I cannot comply with the above policies and understand that I cannot be certified as a Texas Master Naturalist.

Volunteer Pledge:

I understand and agree to uphold the above statements of the Texas Master Naturalist Program:

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_Rolling Plains\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This program is intended to serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex 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 service that you require.

**TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST™ PROGRAM**

This program is a collaborative effort of professionals from Texas Cooperative Extension and Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.