



Fall 2019 Application - Texas Master Naturalist Program

Alamo Area Chapter, San Antonio, TX

Contact for questions: Jeanette Geiman training2@alamomasternaturalist.org

* * * * *

The deadline for applications is September 30, 2019.

Applicants will be notified of acceptance status by October 10, 2019.

All accepted applicants must pay class fee of \$200 by October 24 (PayPal or mailed check).

Click link below to view training class schedule (subject to change)

Fall 2019 Class Schedule

Orientation will be held on November 7. The training program runs from November 21 through April 16, 2020.

Classes will be held every other week on Thursday evenings from 5:00-9:00 pm at the Urban Ecology Center at Phil Hardberger Park. There will be no classes held the week of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years.

K-12 educators: If you are concerned that your work schedule will not permit you to commit to our full training program and volunteer service requirements, you may attend one or more individual sessions from our training program for a nominal charge. Our program is approved for Continuing Professional Education hours. [Details](#)

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete all information requested below. In fields where you are prompted to provide details, provide as much information as possible to help us understand your commitment, background, skills and your experience as a volunteer.

Your application information should clearly explain why you want to become a Texas Master Naturalist and what skills you have to offer.

If you are an educator, student or employed professional, please explain how attending our training will benefit your ability to serve the community if those benefits will be other than direct volunteer service as a Texas Master Naturalist.

We often receive more applications than we have space to admit. When this occurs, we strive to select the best applicants — those whose listed backgrounds, interests and commitment demonstrate motivation to become certified Texas Master Naturalists and serve in our community as naturalist

volunteers. The text entry fields have no character limit, so provide as much information as you wish.

A field has been provided at the end of the application where you can add any information you want to include that wasn't covered elsewhere. We look forward to reviewing your application.

Name *

First Name

Last Name

Suffix

E-mail *

We prefer that you provide a personal rather than work email mail address. Make certain there are no typos. The email address you list here will generate your application confirmation notice.

Home address *

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State

Zip Code

Preferred Phone Number *

Area Code

Phone Number

Alternate Phone Number *

Area Code

Phone Number

Emergency Contact Name *

First Name Last Name

Emergency Contact Phone *

Area Code Phone Number

If you are admitted to class, you will receive an embossed Member-in-Training name badge and a chapter t-shirt at orientation.

1) Your name as you would like it to appear on your member name badge *

First Name Last Name

2) Your estimated t-shirt size. Sizes available are S, M, L, XL, 2XL and 3XL. Shirts are Port and Company PC61 Essential T-shirts, 100% cotton. *

T-shirt size

The mission of the Texas Master Naturalist program is 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 our communities for the State of Texas. What specific interests do you have that relate to our mission? Examples: native plants, birding, mammals, geology, trail management, invasive removal, education, chapter leadership. *

List previous and current volunteer service, especially those related to nature and natural resources. If you volunteer for an organization that is associated with the Alamo Area Chapter, provide details. *

What skills, knowledge and abilities do you possess that will make you a successful Texas Master Naturalist? *

How will you use your training to benefit our community and promote the goals of the Texas Master Naturalist Program as detailed in the Mission Statement? *

Important Program Information

Read each section and click button to indicate your acceptance/agreement

Class Schedule

[Fall 2019 Class Schedule](#)

Click on the link above to review the class schedule and make certain that you are available to attend classes on the dates listed. All classes are held at the Urban Ecology Center at Phil Hardberger Park.

Class Schedule *

I have reviewed and I am available to attend classes

Attendance

It is our expectation that you will attend all classes. All are important to your training.

We understand that work and family commitments or illness may require that you miss a class. If your known schedule will require that you will be absent from more than two classes, we recommend that you wait until next year to apply for training.

State curriculum requires that you **MUST** complete a minimum of 32 hours of classroom presentation and 8 hours of field trips in order to complete training.

It is not necessary for you to attend all field trips listed on the schedule. After class is underway you will have an opportunity to register for field trips that interest you and that you are available to attend. You must attend at least two 4-hour field trips.

The Optional Advanced Training events listed on page two of the schedule are not required attendance. After class is underway, you will have an opportunity to register for one or more of these optional events that count toward your advanced training requirement for initial certification.

Attendance *

I understand and accept

Background Check

Upon acceptance to class (and prior to orientation) you will be required to input your driver's license information in a secure application to enable a background check to be run. Background checks are mandatory for all Texas Master Naturalists. The background check will be processed by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) at no cost to you and is necessary regardless of existing background checks.

Background Check *

I understand and agree

Computer Access and Hours Reporting

You **MUST** have regular access to a computer or tablet and be willing to record your training and service hours in the TPWD Volunteer Management System (VMS).

A smartphone will **NOT** suffice for reporting hours in VMS because you will not be able to access necessary features.

Reporting of class hours in VMS (as well as the class attendance requirement) is mandatory for completion of training class. If you do not record your class hours in VMS, you will not officially complete training and therefore will not be eligible for certification.

Your VMS record is your official record of training and service and is used to document volunteer activity. Collectively, VMS records of all TMN's are used for the purpose of establishing grant funding, which is very important to our program.

Hours reporting is not difficult or time consuming. We provide training and user aids that make it very simple. We also have a dedicated VMS coach in class to assist you with any questions or concerns. We require that you report your class and service hours on a weekly basis during the initial training program,

so that you can develop the habit and skill of reporting.

Computer Access and Hours Reporting *

I understand and accept

Release for Audio, Video, Digital, Film, and Photographs

I hereby consent to and authorize Texas Master Naturalist, Alamo Area Chapter to utilize any images/photos I donate, and any photograph of my image and/or voice recording taken of me, for use by the Texas Master Naturalist Program or its assignees in research, education and promotional programs.

I understand and agree that these audio, video, digital, film and/or print images may be edited, duplicated, distributed with or without charge, reproduced, broadcast and/or reformatted in any form and manner without the payment of fees, in perpetuity. I also confirm that I waive all rights/claims arising from such use for any additional compensation, damages and invasion of privacy.

A photograph will be taken of each new Member-in-Training during the evening of orientation. This photo will be used for a class directory that will contain your name, email address and phone number. The purpose of the directory is to provide class participants and training team members a way to quickly associate faces with names and contact information. The directory is for training class use only and will not be published publically.

Release for Audio, Video, Digital, Film, and Photographs *

I understand and agree

Volunteer Service and Advanced Training Requirements

In addition to classes and field trips, you are required to complete 40 hours of approved volunteer service and 8 hours of approved advanced training by December 31, 2020 in order to attain initial certification. Each year after initial certification, you must complete an additional 40 hours of approved volunteer service and 8 hours of approved advanced training to maintain certification.

Volunteer Service and Advanced Training Requirements *

I understand and accept

Select the condition below that best describes your availability for volunteer activities. *

- My schedule will allow me to volunteer regularly. I will definitely volunteer more than 40 hours per year.
- My schedule is pretty busy but I can definitely volunteer 40 hours per year.
- Due to my schedule, volunteering 40 hours per year will be challenging.

How did you hear about the Texas Master Naturalist Program? *

Do you know Alamo Area Chapter members? If so, list a name or names. *

If working, what is your profession? if a student, what is your field of study?

Place of employment, school, or university.

Is there any additional information you would like to provide in support of your application?

Complete the following two questions below ONLY if you wish to be considered for reduced tuition based on financial need. We do not provide full scholarships. We may contact you for additional information, if needed.

1) Is receiving financial assistance necessary in order for you to attend this class?

- Yes
- No

2) What are the factors contributing to your financial need?