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Texas Master Naturalist, Blackland Prairie Chapter 2020 Training Program Application

Name (please print)

Name I prefer to be called

Mailing address (street / apt / PO Box)

City

Texas County

Primary email address for class communications. (Please write clearly and double check)

Primary phone

Mobile? YES

Secondary phone

Mobile? YES

Emergency Contact _____

Name

Relationship

Phone

Are you employed? Full time _____ Part time _____ Retired _____

What is/was your profession? _____

Place of employment _____

How did you hear about us? _____



Yes, I wish to share my name, email address, and phone number with my classmates via the 2020 class directory.

What we do

We are an organization of community volunteers. The Blackland Prairie Chapter is one of about 50 Texas Master Naturalist chapters in our state. Our Chapter has roughly 175 active members who provide volunteer service on multiple projects throughout Collin and Hunt counties.

We clear, build, maintain and lead hikes on local nature trails, providing the area's children and adults with awareness of the many natural areas in our communities. In that effort, we are available to teach people about wildlife, plants, insects, birds, trees, prairies, wetlands and the various habitats that we conserve and sustain here in North Texas. We support our major partners in all aspects of their preservation, restoration and education efforts. We organize and participate in citizen science projects that monitor and report data on the health of natural areas and their species. We share the knowledge gained through our training and continuing education by teaching others in classrooms as well as outdoor settings. And to ensure the sustainability of our own organization, our members apply their various talents in communications, technology support, creative arts, fundraising, marketing and hospitality to help build a broader community of dedicated advocates of nature.

Please tell us about you

What are your interests, education, special skills, how long have you lived in the area, etc.?

What aspects of the natural world interest you most?

How do you like to experience nature? For example: camping at the state parks, bird watching, nature walks, etc.

Tell us a little about your prior experience with volunteer organizations. If this is your first volunteer experience, what encouraged you to consider volunteering with as a Texas Master Naturalist?

What qualities, skills and abilities do you feel you would bring to the Blackland Prairie Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program?

Is there anything that would keep you from completing forty (40) hours of volunteer service and eight (8) hours of continuing education to fulfill your requirements for certification by May 15, 2021?

What else would you like to tell us about yourself related to this training opportunity?

YES, I affirm that:

- I am 18 years of age or older.
- I will be available for the weeks of classes conducted from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. every Wednesday beginning February 12, 2020 and continuing through May 8, 2020.
- I understand I am required to complete a minimum of forty (40) hours of basic training (classes and field trips), acquire an additional eight (8) hours of continuing education, and I must complete forty (40) hours of acceptable volunteer service by May 15, 2021.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

A TYPED OR SIGNED SIGNATURE INDICATES YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Goals of the Texas Master Naturalist Program

Our goal is to provide services to the community through public educational programs that promote understanding and conservation of our natural resources, that foster an appreciation of the diversity of our plant and animal species and promote stewardship and conservation of our natural environment; and that provide opportunities for our members to use and expand their knowledge and skills in ways that will benefit and interest the volunteers and promote the Texas Master Naturalist program.

Please return the following by January 15, 2020.

- This completed and signed application
- Volunteer Service Agreement
- The Volunteer Waiver
- A check for \$150 payable to **Blackland Prairie Texas Master Naturalists**.
- Deliver or mail to:

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Attn: Maureen Metcalf
825 North McDonald Street, Suite 150
McKinney, TX 75069