

Coastal Prairie Chapter Courier

Volume 13 Issue 7 – August 2025



*Alone we can do so little;
together, we can do
so much.*

Helen Keller



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T E X A S



The Texas Master Naturalist Program's mission 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 their communities for the State of Texas.

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COVER PHOTO

Clockwise from top: Jean Stipelcovich captures the moth night group hosted by Bert and her for Moth Week; Phil Ward celebrates project completion with a selfie; Spring 2025 graduation class with mentors and training team (by Hoiman Low)



EDITOR TEAM

This issue was crafted by Co-Editor, **Shannon Westveer**. Have a great story for the September issue? Submit by **August 25th** to:

#submissions-courier on Slack or Submissions@coastalprairie.org to reach everyone on the Editor Team.

<https://txmn.org/coastal/monthly-coastal-prairie-courier/>

President's Message

Susan Walther, TMNCPC President



As we move into the heart of summer, I've been reflecting on what makes our Texas Master Naturalist Coastal Prairie Chapter so special. Yes, we are a group of enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and dedicated volunteers, but we are also something more. We are a **family**.

Like any strong family, we're united by shared values: a love of nature; a desire to serve our communities; and a deep commitment to conservation. Beyond that, we support each other through the seasons, both in the field and in life. We share tools, watch out for each other while volunteering, swap stories, and celebrate each other's accomplishments. I see it at every chapter meeting, workday, and outreach event: the laughter, encouragement, and camaraderie that define who we are.

I'm lucky enough to have been a member of this amazing chapter family for 14 years. It's been a joy to continue meeting and connecting with new "family members" twice per year as our chapter grows and evolves. Each new training class gives us a special opportunity to make a meaningful connection with someone brand new by **serving as a mentor**. If you've never tried it, I encourage you to give it a go! You'll get to coach, encourage, and walk alongside someone as they begin their Texas Master Naturalist journey.

Another great way to build new, stronger connections is by joining a team or committee. So often we start in these groups as acquaintances, but by working together, sharing ideas, and tackling tasks side by side, we become energized not just by what we have in common but also by the things that make each of us unique. By listening to one another and working with mutual respect, we accomplish more than any one person could alone. And we build great and lasting friendships along the way.

Family

Our chapter is in a wonderful time of growth, with fresh faces at nearly every activity. **Please wear your name badge!** If you're a longtime member, keep reaching out; your warm welcome can make all the difference. If you're new, know that you've joined more than a volunteer organization — you've joined a community that values human connection just as much as nature conservation.

Whether you're knee-deep in a wetland restoration or chatting during a water break, remember that **your presence matters**. Your voice, your energy, and your friendship all help strengthen this unique group we're proud to call our chapter family.

See you outside!

Community

August Chapter Program: Thursday, August 7 @ 7 PM
 “Native Texas Wildlife: Our Treasure” by Wildlife Center of Texas
Jan Peterson, TMNCPC Programs Director



Catch a glimpse of what the **Wildlife Center of Texas** does to help injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife return to their natural environments. Volunteers will share their passion for wildlife through stories about some of the interesting cases that have entered their doors. The audience will meet some of The Center’s education ambassadors — a Harris’s hawk, crested caracara, eastern screech owl, and American kestrel.

Monica Taylor, Jean Watson, and Randolph Watson are longtime



[Wildlife Center of Texas](#)

volunteers and ambassadors, clockwise from top: Monica with Harris’ hawk; Jean with eastern screech owl; Randolph with crested caracara

Wildlife Center of Texas (WCT) volunteers who provide countless hours of care. They are also members of WCT’s outreach team and deliver educational presentations to various groups in and around Houston. Monica, Jean, and Randolph are all certified Texas Master Naturalists™ and members of Coastal Prairie Chapter.

The mission of WCT is to care for injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife through rehabilitation, release, and public education. It is one of the largest wildlife care facilities in the country,



taking in thousands of animals each year. It took in more than 14,000 animals in 2024.

Our programs are always **FREE** and **open to the public**, held at the Rosenberg Civic Center, 3825 TX-36, Rosenberg, TX 77471.

Thanks to the TMNCPC information technology team, programs are also **streamed LIVE remotely via Zoom**. The 1-hour program begins at **7:00 PM**.

The [Texas Master Naturalist Program](#) is sponsored by [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#) and [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service](#).

[TMNCPC members in attendance should record their Advanced Training (AT) hours under “AT: Chapter Meeting-Coastal Prairie” and the VSP hours for the following business meeting under “Chapter Business: Chapter Meeting.”]

Let's give a big thank you to **Matt Abernathy** for speaking at our chapter program meeting on July 7. He reminded us how linked we are to Galveston Bay day. He can serve as a vital link in the future to our chapter to continue to learn about how connected we really are.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Matt anytime!



Matt Abernathy
 Education & Outreach Coordinator
 Galveston Bay Estuary Program,
 A Program of TCEQ
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Membership Minute

*Sari Garfinkle and Constance Rossiter,
TMNCPC Membership Co-Directors*



Congratulations! to our numerous certification and milestone achievers. Way to go!



Initial Certification

Liz Baldwin – 2025 Spring
Richard Guajardo – 2025 Spring



2025 Recertification

(88 Members to-date)

Karen Brisch - 2024 Fall
Cindy Burns - 2023 Fall
Cindy Colluro - 2025 Spring
John Cooper - 2019
Susie Doe - 2008
John Greene - 2022 Spring
Lisa Hendrix - 2023 Spring
Janis Hodgson - 2020 Fall
Bill Johnson - 2010
Diane Johnston - 2025 Spring
Debbie McMullen - 2017
Andrea Morgenstern - 2018
Cee Cee Parker - 2024 Fall
Dorothy Tran - 2022 Spring
Jerry Trenta - 2017
Timothy Tufts - 2021 Fall
Rodney Walther - 2023 Spring
Philip Ward - 2021 Fall
Erik Wolf - 2017
Pauline Zinn - 2017



250 Hour Milestone

Patricia Cabrera Escobedo - 2024 Spring
Cindy Chapman - 2024 Fall
Vanessa Weidman - 2024 Fall



500 Hour Milestone

Susan Brodmerkel - 2024 Spring
Bayard Nicklow - 2022 Fall



1,000 Hour Milestone

Monica Taylor - 2023 Fall
Jean Watson - 2023 Spring



Randolph Watson is recognized for 4,000 hours by Susan Walther who achieved 5,000 hours at the July Program | Photo by Debby Wendt



4,000 Hour Milestone

Randolph Watson - 2022 Fall



5,000 Hour Milestone

Susan Walther - 2011

Volunteer Service — August Highlights

Jan Poscovsky, TMNCPC Volunteer Director



Before departing to serve, check our website calendar for last minute changes, cancelations, or other information.

[TeamUp Website August Calendar](#)

Signature Project Seabourne Creek Nature Park (SCNP), Rosenberg: 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM, Wednesdays and 1st and 3rd Saturdays which fall on 8/2, 8/6, 8/13, 8/16, 8/20 and 8/27

Public Outreach Mindful Nature Walk at SCNP, Rosenberg: 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM, 1st Saturday which falls on 8/2

Public Outreach Monthly Story Time for Children at SCNP, Rosenberg: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM, 1st Saturday which falls on 8/2

Public Outreach Monthly Nature Walk at SCNP, Rosenberg: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM, 3rd Sunday which falls on 8/17

Public Outreach Insect Hike at SCNP, Rosenberg: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, 4th Thursday which falls on 8/28

Public Outreach Houston Museum of Natural Science in Sugar Land: 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM, 2nd and 4th Saturdays which fall on 8/9 and 8/23; **Garden Workday** 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM 3rd Thursday which falls on 8/21

Chapter and Board Meetings via Zoom: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, 3rd Wednesday which falls on 8/20

Coastal Prairie Conservancy Indiangrass Preserve, Katy: 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Tuesdays, Fridays, and 2nd Saturdays which fall on 8/1, 8/5, 8/8, 8/9, 8/12, 8/15, 8/19, 8/22, 8/26 and 8/29

Odolympics Citizen Science, anywhere in Texas: Saturday 8/16 through Sunday 8/24

Willow Fork Pollinator Garden Workday, Katy: Saturdays which fall on 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23 and 8/30

Lawther-Deer Park Prairie, Deer Park: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM 4th Saturday which falls on 8/23

Join Us at Seabourne Creek

The public is always invited to participate in our fun and educational monthly hikes and walks. We invite you to get out and meet TMNCPC members as we commune with nature.

Check our website calendar to easily find the dates and times for regular Bird Hikes, Plant Walks, Nature Walks and Insect Hikes there.



John Paul Landing Weekly Bird Hike, Houston: 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM, Thursdays which fall on 8/7, 8/14, 8/21 and 8/28

Harris County Precinct 4 Bird Survey at Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Park, Houston: 7:30 AM - 11:00 AM, 4th Monday which falls on 8/25

Willow Waterhole Monthly Bird Survey, Houston: 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM 3rd Saturday which falls on 8/16

Kolter Elementary Pollinator Garden Workday, Houston: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM 2nd Saturday which falls on 8/9

Bolivar Flats Beach Ramble, Port Bolivar: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 1st Saturday of the month which falls on Saturday 8/2

Coastal Prairie Members Become Entomology Specialists Through Fieldwork and Teamwork

Jan Poscovsky, TMNCPC Volunteer Director



Last September, several members of the Coastal Prairie Chapter took on a challenge that would deepen their knowledge and commitment to Texas' insect life — the Master Volunteer Entomology Advanced Training. Offered through Texas A&M AgriLife and taught by entomologist Wizzie Brown, this 16-week online course featured expert-led webinars covering a wide range of topics including insect identification, pest management, native pollinators and insect collecting and curating.

Like most advanced training programs, this one was like *drinking from a firehose*. With so much detailed and specialized information coming at us each week, it was a lot to absorb ... but incredibly rewarding. Once we completed the course, we had one year to put our knowledge into action by completing 20 hours of related service work.

At first, many of us were unsure how we'd fulfill the requirement. Early May, the perfect opportunity arrived: an email call for volunteers to assist with a national termite mapping project focused on identifying where Formosan termites were being found across Texas. The closest target area to us was Wharton County;



Susan Brodmerkel, Jan Poscovsky, and Constance Rossiter with trap findings | All photos by Jan Poscovsky

that's where our adventure began.

Constance Rossiter, Susan Brodmerkel, and I (photo, left) signed up for the project. Wharton felt like a trek at first, but by the time we wrapped up, it felt almost like home.

We received kits containing traps, Ziploc bags, instructions, tally sheets, and more. Some materials went unused, but the traps quickly became our focus. The three of us met to plan our

approach. First step: connections. We reached out to fellow chapter member Jo Cain, who lives in Wharton County, and she jumped on board. She also connected us to Hesed House, a location near the river that we believed would be ideal for trap placement.

Our first day in the field was surprisingly productive. In Hungerford, a renting family allowed us to use a pole on their property. At the Love's Truck Stop on Highway 59, the manager gave us permission to install three traps (photo, right). Then, the Holiday Inn nearby welcomed us with enthusiasm — three more traps. Jo's home and Hesed House (photo, left) added another six between them.



In total, we placed 13 traps across Wharton County. While we hoped to expand further, larger

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retailers required corporate permission, and despite repeated follow-ups, we never heard back. So, we worked with what we had—and it was plenty.

Each week, we returned to check the traps. We faced scorching heat and unexpected rain. Some traps were overflowing, others showed potential evidence of Formosan termite activity. We carefully bagged the suspects and refrigerated them, slowly building a sizable collection of specimens. One week



we chose a Saturday to check on the traps and staffed an outreach booth at the Wharton County Farmers Market before making our rounds.

When the survey ended, we collected all remaining traps, reviewed the findings, and labeled the most promising samples (photo, above). We then mailed our submissions to Dr. Robert Puckett, entomology professor at Texas A&M, who would determine whether we had successfully identified any Formosan termites. We just found out that Formosan termites were positively identified at two of the three Love's trap locations. All the other locations were positive for dry wood termites.



By the end, each of us had accrued well over the required 20 hours. We submitted our reports and were officially recognized as graduates of the Master Volunteer Entomology Advanced training class. We have the certificates and pins to prove it!

What did we think of the experience? It was a wonderful opportunity to apply what we learned, contribute to real-world research, and explore an area we hadn't expected to get to know so well. The fieldwork was at times challenging, but most of all, it was fun. We'll take a break before we decide what's next.



Rattlesnake Master

We have it on our property, and it might be on yours too.

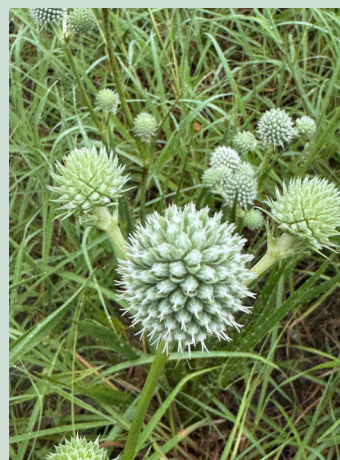
Don't let the name of this Texas native fool you — rattlesnake master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) isn't a snake or a master of anything. This spiky, native prairie plant is a quirky standout in North America's grasslands, with a vibe that is Dr. Seuss-ish.

It can grow tall but ours never gets higher than my hip. It is topped with prickly, golf-ball-sized flower heads that look like medieval maces. Its bluish-green, sword-like leaves give it a yucca-like swagger, earning it a spot in the carrot family. (Yes, really! This plant is in the carrot family).

Those spiky blooms aren't just for show; they're a pollinator party, attracting bees, butterflies, and wasps like nobody's business. Deer hate it, but birds love its seeds.

So how'd it get its name? Pure folklore fun. Native Americans and early settlers thought its roots could treat rattlesnake bites, a claim more legend than fact. Still, the plant's roots were brewed into teas for everything from fevers to fatigue, making it a prairie pharmacy staple.

Rattlesnake master thrives in sunny, well-drained spots, laughing off drought and poor soil. It's a low-maintenance garden star, perfect for adding drama to native plantings or xeriscapes.

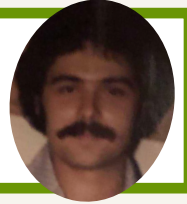


So, next time you spot this spiky superhero that thrives at Oakridge Ranch, give it a nod. Rattlesnake master: part myth, part muscle, all charm, and one of my favorite summer-blooming wild things.

Jean Stipelcovich,
TMNCPC Class of 2018

SmugMug Photo Repository Does a Photo Take You Back?

Tom Zaal, TMNCPC Communications Director



As Master Naturalists, it is basic instinct to want to share a vision of our world that inspires us all to value and protect its resources. In fact, it's in our DNA. And while there is no substitute for living an experience, nothing is more powerful than a photograph to bring that experience back to life.

SmugMug is an app for professional photographers, as well as avid prolific amateurs. It enables organizing, editing, and displaying a large volume of photos. One of SmugMug's most convenient features is the ability to assign keyword values to each photo. This gives SmugMug an outstanding search capability.

In 2023, our chapter acquired a non-profit license to use SmugMug as a repository for the chapter's photos of members, events, projects, flora and fauna. Currently, there are over 2700 photos from as early as 2004.

Several chapter members directly utilize SmugMug. Seabourne co-director Randolph Watson and team lead Lynn Trenta load and edit the photos they take on Wednesday and Saturday workdays. Nature photographers Hoiman Low and Ron Masters upload some of the photos they capture of events, birds, critters and bugs. Hoiman also has shared video of some loudly bellowing alligators!

Other members may send me photos of events such as Nature Day or a Workshop on Wheels presentation to add to various photo galleries. I often download obvious chapter photos that members post to the various Slack channels, adding easily to our SmugMug repository.

Photos that we like to add to SmugMug ideally have several characteristics: in focus; show action; feature faces rather than backsides; and capture the chapter at work.

Members and the public may ask for photos from

*Continued on
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Projects



2013 Eagle Scout project building bump-up table

Flora and Fauna



Goldfinches, TMN
Annual Conference
winner | Photo by
Joyce Tipton



Rescued barred owl (*Strix Varia*) | Photo by
Ron Masters

SmugMug Photo Repository Does a Photo Take You Back? (Cont'd)

Tom Zaal, TMNCPC Communications Director



Events



Outreach: building a bird feeder at the Weston Lakes Bird Sanctuary | Photo by Joyce Tipton

Inaugural Class – Fall 2004



History



The beginnings of TMN Coastal Prairie Class in 2004;
2013 Native Plant Garden

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the repository for presentations or media material they are creating. The slideshow feature can be selected to entertain viewers during presentation intermissions; for relaxation, I like to play a nature slideshow on my computer or screen share to a smart TV.

Although we have had the SmugMug repository for a few years now, most members still aren't aware of it. There are three ways to access it. For members, there is a SmugMug link conveniently displayed at the Members Only section of the chapter website. Another way is to paste the URL (below) into a browser window, viewed on a desktop. Installing the SmugMug app (smartphone, tablet) is yet another way; add (+) then search for Tom Zaal to find the chapter's gallery.

Have some great photos that you would like to donate for chapter use? Reach out to me directly by email or on Slack.

<https://tmncoastalprairiechapter.smugmug.com/>
PASSWORD: **dragonfly**

Seabourne Creek Spring Special Edition



Did you miss the last issue? No worries! You can go back and read it anytime.

https://txmn.org/coastal/files/2025/06/Seabourne_Creek_Special_Edition_Spring_2025.pdf

As summer comes to a close, Seabourne Creek Co-Directors and team members can't wait to share with you all they've done to steward our chapter's signature project. *Stay tuned* for the Seabourne Creek Summer Special Edition to be coming soon.

Many Ways to Make a Difference, Texan by Nature

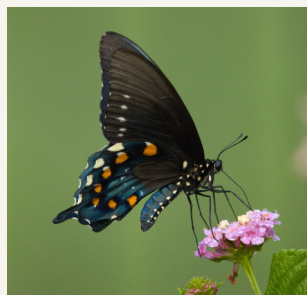
Cee Cee Parker, TMNCPC Class of Fall 2024



One of our members recently posted a question on a Slack channel asking for an elevator speech she could use that would encourage people to get more interested in conservation. She asked for statistics that might spur people to action or a short story that might pique their interest. Her seemingly easy question invoked detailed, thoughtful answers. It was evident that many of us had asked ourselves that question before and our answers were all over the board! Answers included nature walks, meeting folks indoors where they are comfortable, sources for



White-tailed deer twin fawns
(All photos by Cee Cee Parker)



Pipevine swallowtail

statistics, and even a suggestion that allowing caterpillars to crawl on folks could be very effective. Okay, I'll call myself out; that last one was my suggestion. (Don't laugh. It worked!)

Obviously, this question of getting folks interested in conservation does not have

a one-size-fits-all answer. The answer depends upon many factors including the targeted individual's interests, lifestyle, access to nature, early childhood experiences, availability of a nature mentor, and additional factors. Of equal importance is the person who is sharing their interest in conservation. What are their interests, access to nature, etc.? Also important is their personal communication style. Are they a scholarly, data-driven communicator or a friendly storyteller? In short, there are so many different factors involved with getting people interested in conservation that I don't think there is a black-and-white answer.

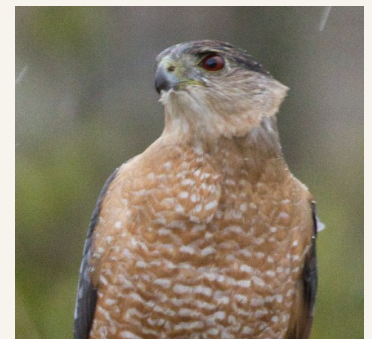
One thing we all can agree on is that we need to keep trying to connect with people about nature and

conservation. We need to keep asking people to care, and we need to keep *showing* them why they should care. Most importantly, we need to keep leading the way through example and sharing our knowledge with anyone who expresses an interest.

Think about it: What would happen if every Texan participated in conservation? Native wildlife habitat would increase, more

people would have the opportunity to observe and enjoy healthy wildlife populations, and water and air quality would improve across the state! A large part of achieving this dream is communicating with our fellow Texans about the importance of conservation, but as important is helping them determine how they can help make this dream a reality.

Thankfully, many Texans have already shared conservation best practices. A great repository of best practices can be found with our partner conservation organization, **Texan by Nature (TxN)**. I wish I had found them a long time ago; I could have saved myself a lot of trouble! I contacted



Cooper's hawk

TxN and was lucky to connect with **Faith Humphreys**, Project Associate at TxN, who patiently answered my questions, explained their programs, and offered me an amazing number of contacts to help us with our projects at Hidden Territory Farm. Faith also used to be a TMN with the Big Country Chapter, and part of her job is to help all of us be successful with our conservation missions and to help us help

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Many Ways to Make a Difference, Texan by Nature (Cont'd)

Cee Cee Parker, TMNCPC Class of Fall 2024



TEXAN NATURE

As Texans, it's in our nature to take care of the wildlife, native habitat, and natural resources that help our economy thrive and help define our identity as Texans. In 2011, Texan by Nature's founders saw great conservation work taking place across the state, but there was a lack of partnerships and data-based approaches. In a big state where more than 94 percent of land is privately owned, teamwork and targeted strategies are critical to conservation's success.

Texan by Nature (TxN) exists to advance conservation that is beneficial to people, prosperity, and natural resources. TxN believes in a future where every business, and every Texan participates in conservation, and Texas is a model of collaborative conservation for the world.

[Texan by Nature Certification](#) is one way TxN shows that this future is possible. TxN Certification provides Texas employers, organizations, and individuals with recognition for meaningful conservation efforts. Qualifying projects are data-based, successfully and positively involve or impact Texas' people, produce economic prosperity, and conserve or restore natural resources. TxN Certified projects act as models for others to learn from and replicate.

Conservation-minded land stewardship is more important than ever because of increasing land fragmentation. From 1997 to 2022, Texas lost nearly [3.7 million acres](#) of privately-owned farms, ranches, and forests to non-agricultural uses, with a significant loss of over 1.8 million acres from 2017 to 2022. Landowners have a unique opportunity to aid wildlife populations and ensure native species exist for generations to come. Cee Cee's 31-acre Hidden Territory Farm is a great example of how landowners can steward their property to benefit natural resources, which is why it earned TxN Certification. Read more about Hidden Territory Farm's TxN Certification [here](#).

Texas is a large and diverse state, and there is always room for more TxN Certified projects. If you have an impactful project that others can learn from, we encourage you to **share your story!** You can submit an application [here](#). It is a no-cost program, and applications are open year-round.

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others
along the way.

Having just been through the TxN Certification process, I can encourage other TMN members to apply if you have complete conservation projects you'd like recognized for others to learn from. In addition to the [TxN Certification page](#), they have a page that lists [180+ Conservation Partners](#) that are positively impacting conservation in Texas. The [Partner Event Calendar](#) displays conservation events across the state. If you're talking with a landowner who is interested in nature and conservation, encourage them to first engage with our Master Naturalist Chapter chapter (and you of course!), then take a look at the resources on TxN's website, especially the [Texas Landowners Guide to Land Conservation & Management](#). This publication offers guidance for landowners interested in voluntary conservation practices on their land.



Texas bluebonnets

The question posed by our Spring 2025 class member is answered in part by the fact that we, Texas Master Naturalists, along with conservation partners such as TxN, are the elevator speech

that can be used to encourage people to get more interested in conservation! It's on us to spread our passion for conservation in our community, and it's great to have resources like TxN on hand when needed.

Sun Energy Life Cycle School Outreach

Lynne Woods, TMNCPC Class of Fall 2022



What fun! Sandra Brown and I had a great time exploring nature with the kids at four Montessori schools in Missouri City. We shared with them how the sun's energy cycles through plants and animals, fungi and soil. Sandra read them the book *In a Nutshell* by Joseph Anthony, asking the kids lots of questions about the life cycle of an oak and all the creatures that the oak supports.

Then we talked about something amazing, photosynthesis: how green plants, with energy from sunlight, can take carbon dioxide and water and turn them into oxygen and glucose, creating the food we eat and the oxygen we breathe. We humans can't do that! So, we said "thank you" to the sun and the plants for enabling us to live.

We looked at a live plant's roots and stem and leaves, and



Sandra Brown (above) and Lynne Woods (below) in class | Photos by Lynne Woods



asked, "Do we eat roots?" **NO!** they all shouted. So, then we pulled out a carrot and a potato. What are these?

Do we eat stems? How about leaves or flowers or nuts or seeds? Lots of exploration and conversation.

We talked about how herbivores, like caterpillars and rabbits and deer, turn plant energy into animal energy, and then how all that energy cycles on through the omnivores, the carnivores, the scavengers, the decomposers and finally back into the soil, so new plants can grow.

The sun is our star whose warmth creates this cycle of life on earth. We too are part of this cycle, and you are our little stars, our future leaders. So, walk outside and learn about nature, study it, become a naturalist.

When you grow up, we hope you will love and protect nature, for all life depends on it.

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In addition to TxN's Certification program, TxN is working with TMN in other capacities. The state TMN program is one of five 2025 [Conservation Wranglers](#), an accelerator program that catalyzes the very best Texan-led conservation projects occurring in the state. TxN is working with the TMN state office staff to develop a strategic plan. You can read more about how TxN is working with the state TMN office [here](#). More locally,

Aanjaneya Chaturvedi (who goes by **Aan**), a member of the TMN Coastal Prairie Chapter, was recently selected as a TxN Community Contributor. Aan shared valuable observations from the field on TxN's social media channels! Check out [his Instagram reel](#), showing how TMN members connect people to conservation in unique and personal ways. Learn more about Aan and his philosophy for helping nature and people co-exist in this [blog](#). To see more Texas conservation content,

follow TxN on social media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#).

Texan by Nature is grateful for the contributions made by Cee Cee, Aan, and all the Texas Master Naturalists. The TMN program does essential work for conservation in Texas. TxN looks forward to continuing to collaborate with TMNs and support efforts that positively impact Texas people, prosperity, and natural resources.

—Faith Humphreys, TxN

Lighter Side

Various Members



Contributed by Karen Bueker
(Credit: Lures and Laughs)

Resting birch face.



Contributed by Karen Brisch
(Credit: Unknown)

Something Make You Giggle?

There's a Slack channel for that! Share what makes you laugh whether it's nature-related or not. Please keep it PG-rated for the courtesy of fellow members. Who knows? You might find it on the *Courier's* Lighter Side section.

#humor (on Slack)



Contributed by Jan Poscovsky
(Credit: offthemark.com)



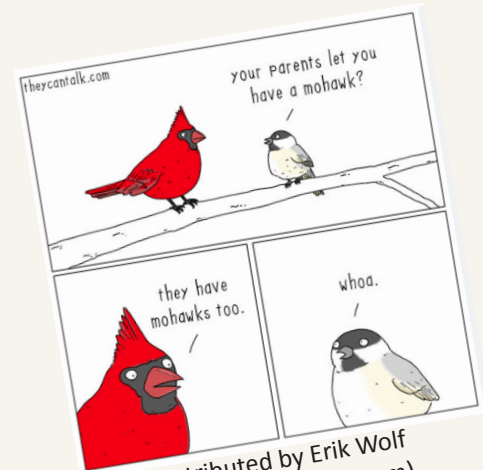
Contributed by Shannon Westveer
(Credit: Unknown)



Got Newsprint? APC-NWR and Jean Will Take It!

Please save your newspapers and bring them to the **Chapter Program meetings** for collection by **Jean Stipelcovich**.

Attwater Prairie-Chicken NWR will use it for the transportation of endangered Attwater prairie-chickens from captive breeding facilities to the refuge. Biologists and staff line the bottom of the transport boxes with newspaper and hay. We recently learned their newspaper inventory is depleted often. Thanks for helping our local national wildlife refuge!



Contributed by Erik Wolf
(Credit: theycantalk.com)

Visit Us **On-line:** www.CoastalPrairie.org
Email: Info@CoastalPrairie.org