Greetings, TMN Program Inquirer!

We are thrilled that you have expressed an interest in our Cypress Basin Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program!

Each year, we invite members of our area’s communities to join us in this wonderful program, sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

If you love nature, if you cherish the natural beauty of East Texas, and if you wish to preserve this beauty for future generations, please join us and share this passion with other like-minded East Texans.

Our training consists of 40 hours of classroom and field instruction, taught by professionals in their respective areas of expertise, and founded on scientific research and knowledge.  The training is spread over four months, one weekend/month (Friday evening 6-9 pm, Saturday 9-5).  The goal of the training is to enhance the volunteer’s understanding of the natural resources of East Texas, and management efforts related to these resources, which will then lead to certification as a Texas Master Naturalist.  Please see the attached information sheet explaining all of the training requirements.

The Cypress Basin chapter currently consists of over 45 Texas Master Naturalists, living in several East Texas counties, and serving our communities through many different volunteer projects throughout the year.  No matter your interests, there is something for you, both to enhance your knowledge and skills, as well as to build friendships as you build community awareness of our natural world.

If you wish to fill out an application to attend our 2018 training, which begins in mid-January, please email me, Jill Wright, Training Coordinator, at:  [jillmom8788@hotmail.com](mailto:jillmom8788@hotmail.com)   Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, as class size is limited.  The deadline for applications is December 31, 2017.

Please join us!   We look forward to hearing from you!  If you have any questions, you can contact our chapter president, Stella Barrow, by phone at 903-672-5524, or 903-736-3063.

Sincerely,

Jill Wright, Training Coordinator

Carl & Diane Turner, Training Committee

**“Nature is not a place to visit.  It is home.”   – Gary Snyder (American Poet and Conservationist)**