**Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center (CCNHC) – Project# PO40708**

Located on the northeast side of Denton, Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center comprises over 2900 acres of bottomland habitat with some prairie and wetland habitats included, offering a variety of excellent hiking and wilderness experiences near Denton.

Volunteer opportunities cover four general categories. All are invited to participate in one or more of the opportunities to build up this resource and share it with the wider community. Clay Thurmond is the general Project Manager/Coordinator.

**Gardening/Greenhouse**: Master Naturalists develop and maintain demonstration gardens of native prairie plants and pollinator gardens. Seed harvesting and plant propagation is done through the greenhouse program, drawing on native plants on the property and locally sourced native plants. Toni Benjamin, Class of 2015, is the director for this aspect of Clear Creek. For more information, contact Toni at trb910@yahoo.com or 940-453-4348.

**Resource development and maintenance**: This opportunity includes trail development and maintenance, Eastern Bluebird nest box monitoring, and general support to CCNHC operations, including conducting user surveys to aid in staff and city council decision making regarding CCNHC. At times Master Naturalists are asked to lead community volunteers in maintenance tasks and assist with community hikes. For more information contact Clay Thurmond at rcthurmond@gmail.com or 940-206-8974.

**Guided hikes**: Requests come in from school, church, and other community groups for guided hikes at Clear Creek. Currently, this aspect is being run through PO080313:TR:Denton City Nature Hikes. For more information, contact Susan Pohlen at pohlensusan@gmail.com.

**DISD School Days**: Volunteers provide educational experiences to complement the DISD science curriculum for 2nd graders in the Spring semester and 4th graders in the Fall semester. This is a cooperative program between DISD, EFCTMN, and SWAt (Science With Attitude, a cooperative program by Denton County Master Gardeners, Elm Fork Chapter Texas Master Naturalists, and 4-H, an AgriLife program). For more information, contact Elise Spain at elisespain2@gmail.com or 469-236-5820.