



Dear 2020 Training Class Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Texas Master Naturalist (TMN) training program. This program is supported by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. Elm Fork Chapter, with approximately 200 members, is one of more than 40 TMN Chapters in the state with a combined 13,000 members. Our training is designed to increase the availability of information about the natural world and provide volunteers to help with a variety of beneficial projects in Denton, Cooke and Wise Counties.

While Members-in-Training will personally benefit from the TMN training program, the principle criteria for acceptance into the program is your availability and willingness to provide **volunteer service to the community** through approved chapter projects. A list of chapter projects is available on our website.

The TMN training program conducted by the Elm Fork Chapter covers topics such as ecological systems, geology and soils, ornithology, herpetology, entomology, mammalogy, weather and climate, and aquatic systems. Regional experts will present these topics throughout the class sessions.

The training program consists of 12 class sessions from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesdays from August 18, 2020 to November 3, 2020. Most classes will be conducted at Global Spheres, 7801 I-35 E, Corinth, Texas 76208, but there will also be field trips to other locations.

The Training Program fee is \$150 and includes the cost of the TMN textbook as well as membership dues for Elm Fork Chapter for the following year.

Upon completion of your coursework, you will receive a Certificate of Completion.

The next step to becoming a *certified* TMN requires that you also:

1. Accrue **40 hours of volunteer service before December 31, 2021**. This service must be on projects approved by the Chapter.
2. Acquire **8 hours of advanced training before December 31, 2021** via Chapter approved events.

Once those requirements are met, you will be awarded your Certified Texas Master Naturalist certificate, your official Texas Master Naturalist name badge, and your initial certification dragonfly pin.

You may even find yourself so involved and immersed in your Texas Master Naturalist experience that you complete **80 or more** hours of volunteer service and **16 or more** hours of advanced training by December 31, 2021. This makes you eligible for double certification, and you will receive an annual recertification pin in addition to your initial certification dragonfly pin.

On behalf of Texas Master Naturalist, Elm Fork Chapter, we thank you for your enthusiasm and commitment. We look forward to receiving your application.

Elise Spain and Regina Dale  
2020 Training Committee Co-Chairs  
Texas Master Naturalist, Elm Fork Chapter  
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