



Mission. 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.

Guadalupe Master Naturalists Monthly Program and Meeting

Date: Monday, April 25, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM Program

8:00 PM Chapter Meeting

Location: Schertz Area Senior Center, 608 Schertz Parkway, Schertz and on Webex

Description: Bob white, bob bob white! Many of us have fond memories of walking in pastures or driving country roads in the evening and hearing the cheery call of bobwhite quails or seeing them running along the sides of gravel roads. Those calls and sightings are rarer now for some obvious reasons like habitat loss, and maybe some less obvious reasons. **John McLaughlin**, Upland Game Bird Program Leader at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will give an overview of bobwhite quails in Texas and speak about challenges they face and conservation activities. This will probably be a virtual presentation shown on the large screens at the center. There will be opportunity for audience members to participate in Q&A with Mr. McLaughlin.



Field Trip—"Binocs, Bird Books, and Beautiful Birds in Spring Migration"

Date: Saturday, April 16, 2022

Time: 9:00-11:00 AM

Location: Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary, 19349 Wiederstein Road, Cibolo

Description: South Central Texas is an exciting place to be in the spring. We sit on a major flyway for spring bird migration. Unlike fall migration, in spring most migrants will be sporting their bright, bold breeding plumage. Not only are they gorgeous they are easier for beginner or mid-level birders to identify. One of our expert GMN birders, Sandi Wheeler will be our guide and leader to help less experienced birders gain skills and knowledge.

Bring binocular, water, your favorite bird ID book and dress for the weather.

Warbler Woods will be a popular place then, so make sure to RSVP to Sandi by April 9.

Must RSVP by April 9 to: Sandi Wheeler email: wheels5683@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FOREST HEALTH

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Date: Thursday, April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2022

Time: 8:30 – 11:00 AM

Location: Park West, 623 N. Vaughn St., Seguin

Come on out and get a taste of our weekly work! Wear closed-toe shoes, long sleeves and pants, a hat and bring gloves and water.

Meet in the Park West Parking lot and join the forest crew!

Contacts: John Barrington - freedom516@yahoo.com

Nancy Masterson – nsethermasterson@gmail.com

March Brush Busters



On Thursday March 24, five Guadalupe Master Naturalists (Alejandro Montero, John Barrington, Nancy Masterson, Annette Kowalchik and photographer Jennifer Ehlers) collected and stacked a month's-worth of invasive ligustrum branches in the heritage oak area of Park West in Seguin. The city Parks Dept will chip them and make free mulch available to the public.

NATURE EDUCATION

Discover A Bug's World

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Date: Saturday, April 9, 2022

Time: staggered start times 9:30 – 10:00 AM

Location: Crescent Bend Nature Park, Schertz

Leader: Viviane Marioneaux-Maguire

Volunteers: Debra Dedrick, Ken Harvey, Carolyn Wolfer

Please arrive at 8:30 A.M.

Contact: Rebeca Leininger rsleininger@gmail.com to volunteer

Date: Monday, March 14, 2022

Time: staggered start times 3:30 – 4:00 PM

Location: Seguin Public Library, 313 W. Nolte

Leader: **NEED A LEADER!**

Volunteers: Debbie Balderas, Kate Schnautz, John Barrington, Jennifer Ehlers

Please arrive at 2:30 P.M.

Contact: Jennifer Ehlers ehlers@gvec.net to volunteer

NEW!! You may sign up here: [Signup Genius for Discover](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CA5AE2FA6F49-discover1)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CA5AE2FA6F49-discover1> or send a note to Rebeca via text 210-620-9998 / email rsleininger@gmail.com.

Description: Help children and their adult sponsors learn the world needs bugs! A world without insects would be a changed world with human consequences. The program will increase awareness and understanding of the essential role of insects in the natural environment.



Please contact Jennifer or Rebeca to assist with the April Discover programs.

Contact information above.

Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CA5AE2FA6F49-discover1>

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Palmetto Bird Walk

Dates: Saturday, April 2 and 16, 2022

Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Refectory

Description: Join Elaine and other bird lovers as you explore the bird population at Palmetto State Park. If you are a new birder and learning birding skills, you can count the hike as Advanced Training.

Day pass is needed; obtain one online or at the Park Headquarters.

Contact: Elaine Cowley at ecowley@gvtc.com or 432-559-5101



Four Guadalupe Master Naturalists joined Elaine for the March bird walk. Enjoying the outdoors are Bobby Cowley, Sandi Wheeler, Elaine Cowley, Pam Sagebiel and Nancy Masterson.

Palmetto Plant Hike

Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 and April 8, 2022

Time: 9:00 – 10:00 AM

Location: meet at Refectory

Description: Join Palmetto State Park Interpreter Samantha for a walk along the trails identifying the “plants of Palmetto.” Being new to Palmetto, Samantha would like some experienced plant lovers to help her as she takes on the role of learner. Individuals with all levels of plant knowledge are welcome; come explore with her and have a restful day walking the beautiful trails at Palmetto. This is a great opportunity to use your iNaturalist skills!



Day pass is needed; obtain one online or at the Park Headquarters.

Contact: Samantha Gonzales, Samantha.Gonzalez@tpwd.texas.gov
or Elaine Cowley at ecowley@gvtc.com or 432-559-5101

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Walk with a Naturalist at Park West

Dates/Times/Guide: Tuesday, April 5 at 9:00 AM
Tuesday, April 19, at 7:00 PM

Location: Splash pad area at Park West

Description:

Walks with a Naturalist are one-hour strolls providing an opportunity for the guide to introduce the participants to the Master Naturalist Program, the park, and to share a few of the natural highlights within the park.

Examples of nature highlights include:

- Impact of the invasive, exotic trees which took over the forested areas, and are being managed through the collaborative effort of Guadalupe Master Naturalists and the Seguin Parks Department
- An overview of the native plants that are slowly taking over areas that were cleared over the past 5+ years of the forest health invasive removal efforts.
- Animal habitats in the tress or on the forest floor.
- Common wildlife that maybe encountered.
- Spend some time at the pollinator garden then look for plants that seem to draw pollinators elsewhere in the park.
- Look at the change in soil type and vegetation along the abandoned natural stream channel of Walnut Branch on the north end versus the caliche and cobble-rich soils in the far south.
- Basically, anything you'd like to share that the audience may find of interest. The topic will not be publicized in advance so there is lots of flexibility to adjust to the audience's interests and to what is encountered the day of the walk.

To make sure we have enough volunteers, we are currently committing to two per month. The first Tuesday walk will be at 9AM. The third Tuesday walk at 7PM.

We will do sign-ups initially for two walks during the months of April, May, and June. Other Tuesdays can be added to match the availability of guides.

Opportunities to sign-up to be a Walk with a Naturalist guide will start at the March Chapter meeting or can be sent to Jim Dyess, coordinator of the Seguin walks.

See you on a walk!

Contact: Jim Dyess, jnd16123@gmail.com or 713-206-6218

 Unsure if you have the knowledge to lead a Walk? Join as a Tag-a-Long and learn from one of the experienced guides.

Walk With a Naturalist at Crescent Bend

Dates and times will be determined by Carolyn Wolfer, Crescent Bend coordinator. To participate in the nature walk at Crescent Bend, please contact Carolyn at wolfercdat@mac.com

Earth Day in Seguin is back...

and the Guadalupe Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists (that's us) is participating. So mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 30th**, to come to Central Park in downtown Seguin and enjoy the fun.

The event is sponsored by Seguin's Downtown Main Street Project. You can go their website to find more information. https://www.seguintexas.gov/departments/main_street/earth_day.php

There is no cost for us to participate. However, we do have to provide everything for our booths; pop-up tents, tables, chairs, signage, etc. Luckily, we have most of what we need, or know where we can find it. We just need volunteers to help set-up, take-down, and be at the booth.

We have participated in this event for a number of years and have done a variety of things through the years. This year we are going to be doing what had been planned for 2020, before Earth Day was cancelled. Basically, it will be what we did very successfully in 2019...winning the "Outstanding Booth Award," but refined.

The theme will be "Be a Naturalist"! We will have information about the TMN, posters, etc. to share with the adults and try to "recruit them" for upcoming classes.



There will be three interactive stations targeting the children in attendance:

- Be A Naturalist: Learn about Geology
Have rocks and hand lenses
- Be A Naturalist: Learn about Insects
Have fake compost with insects
Have the pyramid blocks.
- Be A Naturalist: Learn about Rangelands/ animals
Have the "touchable" items from Clues and Traces and other possible things

We plan to give away the snake skins from Tom and also butterfly finger puppets. (These will have to be made ahead of time but we have the materials to make them.)

Also, as added bonus, John Barrington will bring his telescope and solar filters (assuming good seeing conditions). The naturalist question that should also be asked is: What on earth does the sun have to do with the natural world? Everything.

We will have three shifts with at least 5 people at each shift so



we can have at least one person at each of the three stations and 2 to interact with the adults.
8 to 11:30...set-up and begin the day
11:15 to 2:30....
2:15 to 4:00...finish the day and tear-down

We also will need a couple of people volunteer to make the finger puppets ahead of time.

Sign up with Jennifer Ehlers via e-mail (ehlers@gvec.net) or text (830-305-1352)



M. O. Neasloney Wildlife Management Area

Dates/Times: vary with volunteer schedule

Location: 20700 SH 80 North, Gonzales, TX 78629 [between Belmont and Luling]

Description: Several of our Chapter members volunteer to help Trent Teinert, TPWD Natural Resources Specialist, with various tasks. If you are interested, **please contact Trent** to set up a day/time to go out and determine what he needs help with. If not familiar with Neasloney, it is 100 acres located in Gonzales County, south of Luling, midway between Luling and Gonzales. Mr. M.O. Neasloney donated the property to the Wildlife Division to be developed as a wildlife education center. It is also Mr. Neasloney's burial place. The WMA is used primarily for wildlife ecology field tours by public school groups. Outdoor recreational opportunities include wildlife viewing, hiking and an interpretive nature trail.

Contact: Trent Teinert, trent.teinert@tpwd.texas.gov or (830) 424-3407

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Pollinator Garden at Park West

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 13, 20, 27, 2022



Time: 8:30 AM

Location: Park West, 623 N. Vaughn, Seguin

Description: Work is starting at Park West in March! Devote some volunteer time in the garden and help make it attractive to our necessary pollinators. Come join the fun.

Leaders: Clara Mae Marcotte, Liz Romero



Stop by the Park West Pollinator Garden at 601 N. Vaughan St., Seguin to see the work of these Guadalupe Master Naturalists Nancy Masterson, Annette Kowalchik, Clara Mae Marcotte, Liz Romero and Pam Turner.

The blooming bluebonnets are ready for the arrival of bees and butterflies.

Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary



Dates/Times: Vary

Description: Assist with filling feeders, clearing brush, building owl boxes, general maintenance, golf cart repairs/maintenance

Location: Warbler Woods, 19349 Old Wiederstein Rd, Cibolo, TX

Contact: Sandi Wheeler at wheels5683@gmail.com

9th Annual Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Spring Clean-up

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2022

Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

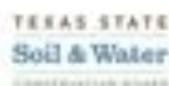
Location: Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center [1865 US Hwy. 90, Seguin]
Oak Creek Elementary School [3060 Goodwin Ln., New Braunfels]

Description:

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors and come out to help keep the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks watershed beautiful by cleaning up the creeks and areas around them!
Cleanup supplies (gloves, bags, and grabbers) will be provided.

Sign up at <http://geronimocreek.org>

FREE BREAKFAST & COFFEE!



The **Virtual Volunteer Fair** will be an opportunity for our partner conservation organizations to present volunteer service projects that need volunteers from a distance or virtually! Save the Date and plan to join us on **May 4th and 5th 2022**, for this series of project presentations showcasing opportunities from across the state and across the spectrum of natural resource topics.

The Texas Master Naturalist Program is planning to host its fourth Virtual Volunteer Fair over a two day period this spring: **Wednesday May 4th & Thursday May 5th 2022** with a series of 10-minute sessions highlighting projects by a variety of partner conservation agencies and organizations.

An agenda for the presentations will be shared in the weeks prior to the event. Sessions will be recorded and uploaded to our website post-event for those who cannot attend the live presentations.

How do I join?

Registration to attend our Virtual Volunteer Fair will open in mid-April. It will be free to register for either of the days or for both days **but registration is day specific** so make sure you sign up for the day you want to attend! You can attend any or all project proposal presentations on either of the days – come and go as you please! **TMN volunteers will earn Volunteer Service hours for attending all project proposal sessions** – please use the “TMN Virtual Volunteer Service Fair” Statewide Project Opportunity for logging service hours.

Texas Master Naturalists can earn Volunteer Service hours for attending the Virtual Volunteer Fair and for participating in service projects presented during the fair.

For information, go to <https://txmn.tamu.edu/virtual-volunteer-fair-2022/#attendee>

Watch for registration information through Listserv. If you are not receiving Listserv email messages, sign up at <https://txmn.org/staying-connected/sign-up-for-tmn-listserv/>



Birding Big Sit for the Park

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Time: Sunrise to Sunset

Location: Palmetto State Park – Group Campsite on Oxbow Lake side of Park

Description: Jason True , the Assistant Superintendent at Palmetto State Park has scheduled a Birding Big Sit for the Park. This is part of the TPWD Great Texas Birding Classic Event from April 15 - May 15. Volunteers are welcome for this event. The location is the Group Campsite on the Oxbow lake side of the park. People can get a day permit in advance or at the office after 8:15 am. Parking is available at the Group Campsite - just follow the road to where it dead ends. Participants can spend as little time as they want or spend the day. Bring a chair, sunscreen, water and binoculars.

Contacts: Jason True at Jason.True@tpwd.texas.gov

Elaine Cowley at ecowley@gvtc.com or 432-559-5101

Website Information: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/events/great-texas-birding-classic>

ADVANCED TRAINING

Using iNaturalist for Science and Learning: Workshop & BioBlitz

Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022

Time: 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Location:

Workshop: 9:30 – 11:15 AM: Texas A&M University—San Antonio, One University Way, Science & Technology Building, Classroom 241, San Antonio, TX 78224

BioBlitz: Noon to 2:00 PM: Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, 10750 Pleasanton Rd, San Antonio, TX 78221.

Description: Texas Nature Trackers Biologist Craig Hensley will lead an in-person workshop about using iNaturalist. iNaturalist is a community science app making it possible to identify photos of plants, mammals, birds, and insects by connecting with experts, and helping scientists understand when and where organisms occur. Knowing how to use iNaturalist is necessary if you plan to participate in the **City Nature Challenge April 29 – May 2**.

Advanced registration required at https://bexaraudubon.org/3174-2/?sheet_id=18

Sponsor: Bexar Audubon Society

Event Chair: Patsy Inglet

Be the Change Workshop

Date: Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Time: 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: ZOOM; Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://tamu.zoom.us/j/96012345678>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Description: As a goal we've been working towards for the past year when we first launched our Be The Change mini webinar series March 2021, this workshop will provide the framework for our chapters moving forward in their diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility work. Join in to hear two guest speakers, Dr. Roel Lopez, Department Head of the Rangeland Wildlife & Fisheries Management Department at Texas A&M and David Buggs the Diversity & Inclusion Director for Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

Attendees can claim Advanced Training (AT) hours for attending the workshop – logged under the 'TMNTuesday' code. Work done locally for chapter administration in diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility planning would count for Volunteer Service.

Contact: Mary Pearl Meuth, Texas Master Naturalist Program Assistant State Coordinator, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. E-mail: mpmeuth@tamu.edu Cell: (727) 366-1144



Guadalupe Co. Native Plant Society

Date: Tuesday, April 12,, 2022

Time: 6:30 PM – Social and Snack Time
7:00 PM - Program

Location: St. John's Lutheran Church, Marion, TX

Directions to St John Lutheran Church: From FM 78 turn south on FM 465. The church is just past Marion Middle School on the right. From IH 10 go north on FM 465 toward Marion; the church is on the left.



Description: Speaker **Jennifer Parrilli** gained a love of mycology (the study of fungi) while earning her ecology degree from the University of Georgia. In 2018, she started the Fungi Town podcast, aimed at spreading knowledge and appreciation for the wide world of fungi.

Texas Master Naturalist Tuesday

Date: Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Time: 12:00 – 1:00 PM

Topic: not given on website; go to <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/#april2022>

Lindheimer Chapter Texas Master Naturalists

Date: Thursday, April , 2022

Time: 5:45-6:15 pm - Logon

6:15-7:15 pm - Speaker - 1hr ATH

7:15 - Announcements, etc.

Online via Webex. Go to the members area on website, log in with the chapter password, and click on the link to go to the meeting. If you need the password, email LindheimerMNContact@gmail.com .

Location: Virtual

Description: To be announced

Website: <https://txmn.org/lindheimer/>

The Importance of Native Plants for Birds

Williamson Co. Native Plant Society

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2022

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Virtual ZOOM; register at <https://npsot-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYuc-quqTkiGNLMkxDGI3JdPLoRAPBFcl43>

Description: Native plants are essential to our avian species. They provide shelter, nesting material, and what the birds eat!

Website: <https://npsot.org/wp/wilco/>



Texas Stream Team Training Standard Core Water Quality Citizen Scientist

Date/Time: Saturday, April 16, 2022 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Saturday, March 26, 2022 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Location: Ramon Lucio Park - 601 S CM Allen Pkwy, San Marcos, TX 78666

Description: Standard Core monitoring involves performing tests for parameters such as conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, total depth, water and air temperature, and water transparency using a chemical Standard Core kit. In addition to these parameters, Standard Core citizen scientists also conduct various field observations.

Contact: RSVP by emailing bobcatstreamteam@txstate.edu or by filling out the form [here](#).

Website for information: <https://teamup.com/ksos37y3n9acgt5pk5/events/1110553802>



2022 Annual Meeting

October 20 – 23, 2022

Omni Hotel, Houston

Format coming

CHAPTER NEWS

Fall Training Class News

The Training Class committee held a Webex meeting on March 22. Plans are moving along well and committee members are looking forward to a good class starting August 9 at Schertz Senior Center.

What do we need now?
STUDENTS

You are a main source of information about our organization and program. Please spread the news about our Fall class to those you believe would be interested in joining our group. Direct people to our website at <https://txmn.org/guadalupe/> and the drop-down menu "Certification Training." The class application and cover sheet with information can be found there.

BOARD RETREAT

The board has scheduled a “retreat” on Saturday, May 7, 2022, 9-12:30pm at Chris Dyess’, 2205 Lakewood Drive, Seguin. This will be a time to talk in depth about what each committee has planned for the year, as well as to discuss future plans for projects and for the chapter as a whole. As with all board meetings, this meeting is open to any GMN member. If you plan to attend please email or text Chris. ced16123@gmail.com 713-816-9499 We will meet on a covered patio so please dress for the weather. Bring your own drink/snack and if possible, a chair.

Young Naturalist II Award

Riley Davenport, 7, was presented the first Young Naturalist II award by Guadalupe Master Naturalists at the monthly Discover program at Seguin Public Library recently. Riley had attended 16 programs and his little brother, Liam, 2, received his Young Naturalist I certificate for attending 8 sessions.



Pictured, front row; Liam, mother Rebecca, and Riley Davenport.
Back row; Master Naturalist volunteers Elaine Cowley and Nancy Masterson.
Photo by Nature Education chair Jennifer Ehlers who presented the awards.

FYI - The Lawn & Garden Water Smart Tax Holiday

The Lawn & Garden Water Smart Tax Holiday was created by the Texas Legislature in 2016 to encourage responsible water use in the Lone Star State! Over Memorial Day Weekend, retailers can sell select water-saving products without charging sales tax. ‘ If you’re planning a backyard refresh, you can purchase any plant, any product with a **WaterSense** logo and a number of other items without paying sales tax! Shop water smart this Memorial Day Weekend and save!



WaterSense Products

During Memorial Day Weekend, retailers do not need to charge sales tax on any product tax free that displays a WaterSense label or logo. These items can be bought for either personal or business purposes.

Water-Conserving Products

Consumers can also purchase certain water-conserving products tax free. Unlike WaterSense-labeled items, these items are only exempt when purchased for use at a residential property.

Items are tax free during the holiday that are used or planted for:

- conserving or retaining groundwater;
- recharging water tables; or
- decreasing ambient air temperature, and so limiting water evaporation

Examples of items that qualify for the exemption include:

a soaker or drip-irrigation hose

a moisture control for a sprinkler or irrigation system mulch

a rain barrel or an alternative rain and moisture collection system

a permeable ground cover surface that allows water to reach underground basins, aquifers or water collection points

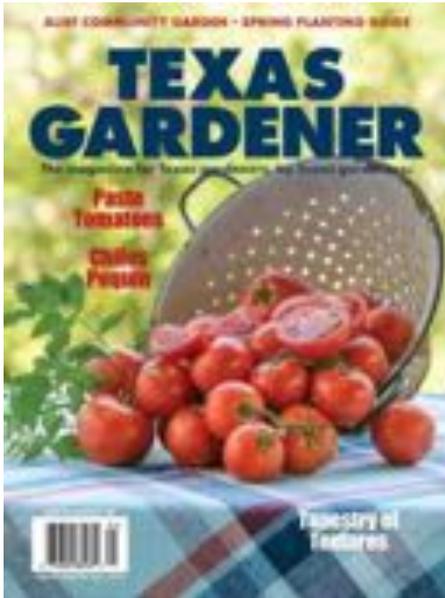
all plants, trees and grasses

water-saving surfactants

soil and compost

Examples of items that do not qualify for the exemption include:

- construction/building materials
- awnings and other items used to create shade
- air conditioners
- ceiling fans
- sprinklers



Come hear Jay White, the owner/editor of Texas Gardener Magazine, discuss the top 5 things that he believes separates the great gardeners from the good gardeners.

When: Tuesday, May 17th, at 6:30 p.m.
**Where: The Seguin Public Library
(Community Meeting Room)**

Regardless of your skill level, Jay’s fast paced and interactive talk will give you the tips you can use right now to become a better gardener! There will also be time for questions and answers. We hope to see you there!

Brought to you by the Nogales Garden Club in partnership with the Seguin Public Library

About the Speaker: Jay White is the owner and publisher of Texas Gardener magazine. He is an avid gardener who grows vegetables, herbs, native and improved flowers, flowering shrubs, fruit trees and native hardwoods on his two acre Brenham property. He is a huge supporter of local farmers who are growing ecologically responsible flowers for the cut flower market and the favorite things in his gardens are the heirloom and pass along plants that have been shared with him by the incredible gardeners he has been blessed to know.

Jay loves sharing the stories of the plants and the people that make Texans the greatest group of garden enthusiasts on the planet. While Jay is a hobby gardener, he has a B.S. and M.S. in Agriculture. His time in graduate school at Texas A&M helped him develop a passion for the science of horticulture which he loves sharing in his fast paced and entertaining lectures.

Whether you love growing fresh sprouts that only take a few days or mighty trees that take a lifetime, Jay’s talks will give you the encouragement and knowledge you need to be highly successful in your Texas garden.

- This program does not qualify for Advanced Training credit.

