**Application for Conducting Advanced Training Within South Texas Master Naturalist Chapter**

**This form is for Advanced Training programs developed and presented by volunteers of South Texas Master Naturalist**

**Presenter Name: AT Subcommittee Approval: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Presentation Title: Preserving Specimens in Resin**

**Type of Training:** Is this field, **classroom** or combination training (Circle one) – Classroom

**Hours for Advanced Training Presentation:**   1,  **2,  3**,  4,  5,  6 (Circle one) – 2 or 3, depending.  We can easily go for 3 hours, but if we need to make it 2, I can do that too.

**Objectives for the Presentation:**

I’ve been developing techniques to preserves specimens for our learning center, insects, fragile things like sand dollars, etc. so they can be displayed longer in our learning center.  We’ve done a few public workshops to share my experience and get people started with it.

* Objective: Participants will be confident setting an insect or other small object in clear plastic resin by the end of the workshop.

**What should Master Naturalist leave the presentation knowing or understanding?**

TMN will leave knowing a few techniques for preserving specimens in resins, the products I use and why and other applications of resin work such as glazing on top of something for long term display and what type of specimen works best and which do not work well.

**Facility/Equipment Needs:** Please include if it is indoor, outdoor or combination.

We would need an indoor area that has good ventilation, such as windows and fans.

Clear Polyester Casting resin (with hardener) - ~28 from hobby lobby – brand – “Castin Craft”

Disposable cups small, ~3-5 oz only.

Popsicle sticks for stirring.

Latex square molds (also available from hobby lobby) $10

[https://www.hobbylobby.com/Party-Baking/Baking-Supplies/Cookies/Square-Easy-Flex-Silicone-Bite-Size-Mold/p/48097](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.hobbylobby.com%2FParty-Baking%2FBaking-Supplies%2FCookies%2FSquare-Easy-Flex-Silicone-Bite-Size-Mold%2Fp%2F48097&data=02%7C01%7C%7Ca1a144f0799c4bb1035208d6914b3adc%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636856149633255757&sdata=A3TOEDwupuPhO8B3%2FGNHQ7%2FHXNI2Cp5iuG7qjdhvRIA%3D&reserved=0)

**Supplies provided by participants:**

If participants want to cast their own insect in resin they would need to bring it.

**Supply Cost/Gratuity:**

Resin: $28 for 16 oz (enough for about 6 people), so $28 per 6 participants.

Stirring sticks – cheep - $2-5

Cups - $2-5

Latex molds - $10

**Time of Year to Conduct Presentation:**  Please include season, morning, afternoon or all day,

This is best done in the winter spring or fall, since we’ll need to have the room ventilated, the summer will be too hot.

TMN Mission:  “to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers who provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the state of Texas”