

Application to Conduct Advanced Training for South Texas Master Naturalist Rev 3-2021

This form is for programs other than community and partner AT, Monthly Meeting AT and Intern Training

Presenter Name: Jon Brandt

AT Subcommittee Approval: _____

Presentation Title: Using Online Soil Mapping

Type of Training: Is this field (or laboratory), classroom or combination training (Circle one) At Home

Hours for Advanced Training Presentation: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (Circle one): Face-to-face ZOOM (Circle One)

Objectives for the Presentation:

The training will be given in two sessions: first session is comprised of two parts and will be held the same day. The second session will be held a week later. A third session can be scheduled if necessary. Objectives: 1. Review the importance/implications of soil characteristics (which are the backbone of the soil mapping); 2. Understand the rationale and methods for characterizing/mapping soils; 3. Gain working knowledge of free, online web applications (USDA Web Soil Survey and SoilWeb Apps from the California Soil Resource Lab) that allow users to examine the soils of their chosen area of interest (backyard, farm, ranch, nature preserve, region, etc.) and obtain soil information and/or produce soil reports.

What should Master Naturalist leave the presentation knowing or understanding?

An understanding of basic soil information; soil geography and mapping; uses and limitations of soils; introduction to ecological site descriptions; working knowledge of Web Soil Survey (specifically, how to acquire the information they need, understand the caveats of soil mapping, and produce customized soil reports); and familiarity with the online SoilWeb applications.

Facility/Equipment:

Personal laptops/desktops at home, with adequate Internet connectivity - running an up-to-date web browser. Web Soil Survey has been tested on Microsoft Windows 10 browsers: (Firefox, Google Chrome, and Edge). The online app will work on Safari for Macintosh. Useful, but necessary, load the following free application before the class: Google Earth Pro on desktop/laptop. Class will be conducted over Zoom, with students completing exercises on their computers

Supplies provided by participants (notebooks, lunch, outdoor apparel):

A ruler (in inches)

Supply Cost/Gratuity (if any): none

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

Training will be conducted indoors, on students' personal computers – weekday evenings.

Possible Dates: February 25, 2025 and March 4, 2025 – 6:30 to 8:30 pm, both days.

Minimum and Maximum Number of Participants:

Minimum – 5 Maximum - 10

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”