



What qualifications do I need?

You need only an interest in nature—any and all aspects—be it birds, butterflies or other insects, mammals, plants, forests, rivers, bays or oceans, invasive-plant remediation, fish or other marine animals and plants—and the desire to learn and share that learning with adults and children.

You need not be a scientist, teacher, researcher, or expert in any natural science.

Most importantly...the desire to have fun as a life-long learner!

For more information...

<https://txmn.org/tmncot/>
and
<https://txmn.org/tmncot/training/intern-training/>

**Texas Master Naturalist Program
Cradle of Texas Chapter
Texas A&M AgriLIFE Ext. Bldg.
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979-388-1558 Brazosport
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**TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION**

The Texas Master Naturalist program is sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension Service and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Texas Master Naturalist programs serve all people without regard to socio-economic level, race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.

Your Guide to Becoming a...

T E X A S



Cradle of Texas Chapter



Texas Master Naturalist...



...is a state program begun in 1997 that currently includes almost 50 chapters statewide. Its mission is 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.

Many communities and organizations rely on such citizen volunteers for implementing youth education programs; for operating parks, nature centers, and natural areas; and for providing leadership in local, natural-resource conservation efforts.

The Cradle of Texas (COT) chapter, started in 2001, draws its members primarily from Brazoria County. Its approximately 115 members have volunteered over 175,000 hours, estimated at \$3.5 million contributed to the citizens of Brazoria County. Members volunteer at a broad range of programs and places, including:

- County parks (e.g., camps and festivals)
- County libraries (e.g., summer programs)
- State Parks (e.g., camps and projects)
- National Wildlife Refuges (e.g., Migration Celebration, school field trips, projects)
- Sea Center Texas (as docents)
- Gulf Coast Bird Observatory (e.g., events, native plant propagation, bird banding)
- And of course, members gather for fun and education on field trips.

The COT Chapter is based and meets monthly on the second Wednesday of each month in the Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension Building in Angleton. Social time and snacks at 8:30 a.m. are followed by a short meeting to discuss chapter business and to present outreach opportunities followed by Advanced Training, which includes a 10-minute talk by a member and an in-depth presentation by guest speakers—often noted specialists in their fields.



Your Commitment—An active, certified Texas Master Naturalist completes 40 volunteer hours and eight Advanced Training hours each calendar year to recertify. Training can be completed by attending General Meeting presentations.

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Interested?



Any person at least 18 years old is eligible to become a Texas Master Naturalist. The COT Chapter's Intern Training classes are held at least once each year for 12 weeks. The program consists of 40 hours of classroom and field work specific to Brazoria County and is designed to provide interns the basic knowledge needed by all naturalists. Your cost for the program includes the State Curriculum textbook and materials, TMN-logo polo shirt and T-shirt and a name tag.



All Photos: <http://www.refugefriends.org/photos/>

