



**Sessions Agenda
Updated July 31, 2022**

Please Note:

All items on the agenda are tentative and subject to change prior to event registration and the final event agenda.

Please consider the environment before printing this 20+ page agenda.

T E X A S



OUR 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.

Program State Sponsoring Agencies:



About the 2022 Annual Meeting

*Welcome to Houston, Texas! This year marks our 23rd Annual Meeting and the **24th year** of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. We have scheduled **over 100** different presentations and field sessions with a variety of topics and speakers from around the state. Outside of the classroom, we also have plenty of opportunities to meet new friends and old friends alike, some really beautiful artwork and photos entered into our annual contest, and a wide variety of chapter projects on display in the Project Fair. Enjoy this weekend of comradery and learning! Thank you for being here with us to celebrate another year of incredible conservation impacts on the land!*

KEY for Agenda

Field Session
Meal

Thursday October 20th 2022

8:00am - 2:30pm

Botany Everywhere

Field Session

- *Anita Tiller, Linda Costanzo, Kari Hernandez – Mercer Botanical Center, Mercer Botanic Gardens*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Protecting the Prairie for People and Wildlife

Field Session

- *Shari Lewis, Coastal Prairie Chapter & Bethany Foshee, Coastal Prairie Conservancy*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Prairie Potholes - What's Not to Love

Field Session

- *John Egan & Irmi Willcockson, Gulf Coast Chapter*

8:30am - 12:00pm

Bayou, Forest, and Prairie Oh My! Exploring Armand Bayou Nature Center

Field Session

- *Jennifer Logsdon Kramer & Irmi Willcockson, Gulf Coast Chapter*

8:00am - 11:30am

Dig In: Tree Planting Workshop

Field Session

- *Stephen Brueggerhoff, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service & Rich Sommer, Exploration Green Conservancy*

8:30am - 11:30am

Texas Waters Day - Midtown

- *Melissa Felty, Texas Parks and Wildlife*

9:00am - 12:00pm

Nature Lover's Paradise

Field Session

- *Montse Canedo & Hoiman Low, Coastal Prairie Chapter*

11:00am - 2:00pm

Chapter Leadership Luncheon - Greenway Ballroom

Meal

12:30pm - 3:30pm

Increasing Our Catch - Monitoring and Raising Fish Stocks for the Upper Texas Coast

Field Session

- *Paul Cason, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Paddle Spring Creek

Field Session

- *Kris Linberk, Jesse H. Jones Park*

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Welcome Dinner & Social - Post Oak Ballroom

Meal

Friday October 21st 2022

7:00am - 8:00am

Breakfast - Post Oak Ballroom

Meal

8:00am - 12:00pm

Nature Reborn at Seabourne Creek Nature Park: Master Naturalists Transforming a City Park

Field Session

- *Katie Sallean, Shari Lewis, Jerry Trenta & Lynn Trenta, Coastal Prairie Chapter*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Beyond Tagging, Measuring Monarch Mass and Wings

Field Session

- *Jim Isleib, Houston Arboretum and Nature Center*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Explore a Neighborhood Gem - Bellaire Nature Center

Field Session

- *Eric Duran*

8:00am - 11:30am

Grasses, Grasses, Grasses, Everywhere, but Which One is it!! - Apollo Boardroom

- *Dale Kruse, S. M. Tracy Herbarium*

8:00am - 10:15am

Here an App, There an App: Getting the Most from Each for Community Science - Constellation East

- *Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:00am - 9:00am

The Invasive Species Dilemma in Texas: Highlight on Houston Area - Heights

- *Matt Turner, University of Texas at Austin*

8:00am - 9:00am

Houston Parks - The Large, the Linear and the Adapted - Memorial

- *Irmi Willcockson, Gulf Coast Chapter*

8:00am - 9:00am

Collecting Scientific Botanical (Herbarium) Specimens - Midtown

- *Tiana Rehman, Fort Worth Botanic Garden and Botanical Research Institute of Texas & Anita Tiller, Mercer Botanical Center – Mercer Botanic Gardens*

8:00am - 9:00am

Recovering America's Wildlife Act - Montrose

- *Richard Heilbrun, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:00am - 9:00am

Becoming a Doctor: Evaluating Land Health - Museum Park

- *Megan Clayton, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*

8:00am - 10:15am

Intro to Interpretation, WHO CARES? - River Oaks

- *Ben Horstmann, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:00am - 9:00am

A Bird's-Eye on Night Skies - Timber Grove

- *Braulio Torres, Environment for the Americas*

8:00am - 10:15am

New Class Directors Round Table - Westbury

- *Paige Wood, Good Water Chapter & Jeanette Geiman, Alamo Area Chapter*

9:15am - 11:30am

Armchair Botanist Program: Participate in Virtual Community Science - Midtown

- *Tiana Rehman & Ashley Bordelon, Fort Worth Botanic Garden and Botanical Research Institute of Texas*

9:15am - 11:30am

The Texas Coastal Prairie: Then and Now - Museum Park

- *Bethany Foshee, Coastal Prairie Conservancy & Dan Worrall, Local Author and Historian*

9:15am - 11:30am

You Can Monitor Bats Too! —A Hands-On Introduction to Acoustic Surveying with the North American Bat - Constellation West

- *Brian Reichert, Frank Tousley, Dane Smith, & Bethany Straw, NABat; Nathan Fuller, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

9:15am - 11:30am

State Parks, Solar Eclipses, and Community Science - Timber Grove

- *Katie Raney, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

9:15am - 10:15am

Report It and Stop the Spread! Using Texasinvasives.org for Identification, Management, and Reporting - Heights

- *Ashley Morgan-Olvera, Texas Invasive Species Institute*

9:15am - 10:15am

Fire & Goats: Vegetation Management Using Traditional Techniques in a Novel Setting - Memorial

- *Stephen Benigno & Trevor Rubenstahl, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

9:15am - 10:15am

Ocelots in Texas: Conservation Challenges and Opportunities - Montrose

- *Shari Wilcox, Defenders of Wildlife*

10:30am - 11:30am

Birding with Today's Technology: Utilizing eBird, Merlin, and Other Online Resources to Be a More Effective - Constellation East

- *Kelsey Biles, Houston Audubon*

10:30am - 11:30am

Friends Don't Let Friends Spread Invasive Species - Heights

- *Matthew McClure, Lamar State College Orange*

10:30am - 11:30am

For The Birds! Rookery Enhancement at Armand Bayou Nature Center - Memorial

- *Chris Smith & Derek Sanford, Armand Bayou Nature Center*

10:30am - 11:30am

**Endangered Species in Texas and How You Can Help -
Montrose**

- *David Powell, Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary*

10:30am - 11:30am

Interpretation for Master Naturalists - River Oaks

- *Jerrel Geisler, Heartwood Master Naturalist & Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve - Harris County Precinct 3*

10:30am - 11:30am

**New Member Trainee Handbook: A Valuable Asset -
Westbury**

- *Bruce Neville & Betty Vermeire, Brazos Valley Chapter*

11:30am - 1:30pm

Conservation of the Night & Lunch- Post Oak Ballroom

Keynote Address & Meal

- Cindy Luongo Cassidy, International Dark-Sky Association Texas Chapter*

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Get EnRaptured with Raptors and Houston Audubon

Field Session

- *Mary Anne Morris, Houston Audubon*

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Fun on the Trails

Field Session

- *Patti Bonnin, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

1:45pm - 5:15pm

**Sedges Have Edges, Rushes Are Round...Well, Not
Always!! - Apollo Boardroom**

- *Dale Kruse, S. M. Tracy Herbarium*

1:45pm - 5:15pm

**iNaturalist: From Getting Started to Contributing to
Community Science and Self-Learning - Constellation East**

- *Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

1:45pm - 4:00pm

Pollinators on the Night Shift - Constellation West

- *Lisa Tuck, Heartwood Chapter, Walker County Master Gardeners, The Herb Society of America*

1:45pm - 4:00pm

Restoring Native Prairie Habitat on Public Land - Memorial

- *David Powell, Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary*

1:45pm - 4:00pm

Plant Checklists: Finding and Filling Gaps in the Texas Flora - Midtown

- *Tiana Rehman & Brooke Best, Fort Worth Botanic Garden and Botanical Research Institute of Texas*

1:45pm - 4:00pm

Native Host Plants for Texas Butterflies and Moths - Timber Grove

- *Lynne Weber, Capital Area Chapter*

1:45pm - 2:45pm

Feral Hog Biology and Impacts: What We Know and What We Hope to Learn. - Heights

- *Mikayla Killam, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

1:45pm - 2:45pm

Coronavirus Should Awaken Us to Fight Global Wildlife Trafficking - Montrose

- *Mike Mitchell, Game Warden (retired)*

1:45pm - 2:45pm

Revealing Hidden Coastal Prairie - Museum Park

- *Evelyn Merz, University of Houston Coastal Center*

1:45pm - 2:45pm

Interpreting Our Backyards - What Do We Say about Wildlife Interactions - River Oaks

- *Jerrel Geisler, Heartwood Master Naturalist & Kickerillo-Mischer Preserve - Harris County Precinct 3*

1:45pm - 2:45pm

"Help, We Need Some More People!" Attracting and Retaining Motivated Volunteers - Westbury

- *John Stacy & Diana Filpot, Bayou Land Conservancy*

3:00pm - 5:15pm

Bats Are Amazing: Conservation and Education is Needed and You Can Help. - Heights

- *Janet Hurley, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

3:00pm - 5:15pm

Nature Journaling - Change Your Perspective - River Oaks

- *Irmi Willcockson, Gulf Coast Chapter*

3:00pm - 5:15pm

Roundtable Discussion: VMS System Administration for Chapter Leaders - Westbury

- *Cheryl Foster, Clyde Camp, Dale Hughling, Bert Stipelcovich TMN VMS Administrative Team*

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Living in Harmony with America's Song Dog - Montrose

- *Roberto Saucedo & Karin Saucedo, Texas Native Cats*

3:00pm - 4:00pm

Assessing Prairie Quality from Field Observations - Museum Park

- *Carly Aulicky, Native Prairies Association of Texas (NPAT)*

4:15pm - 5:15pm

What's in a Name? More Nature of Naming - Memorial

- *Matthew McClure, Lamar State College Orange*

4:15pm - 5:15pm

The New University of Texas Fungarium - Midtown

- *Angel Schatz & Liz Bowman, Central Texas Mycological Society & University of Texas*

4:15pm - 5:15pm

Symbiotic Relationships in Texas and How to Teach it - Montrose

- *David Powell, Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary*

4:15pm - 5:15pm

Re-Wilding the City, One Acre at a Time - Museum Park

- *Janice Walden, Friends of Don Greene*

4:15pm - 5:15pm

TPWD's TEAM Tool: Ecosystem Analysis and Crowdsourcing Citizen Science - Timber Grove

- *Wendy Anderson, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

5:30pm - 6:30pm

Quiz Bowl/Trivia Contest IX - Constellation East & West

- *Richard Heilbrun, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Keynote Presentation & Dinner - Post Oak Ballroom

Keynote Address & Meal

- *Michelle Haggerty & Mary Pearl Meuth, Texas Master Naturalist Program*

8:00pm - 9:00pm

Moths! Bugs that Come to Blacklights, Yippee! - Hotel Lawn

- *Sam Kieschnick, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:00pm - 10:00pm

Houston's Night Life

Field Session

- *Kelsey Low & Patti Bonnin, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

8:00pm - 9:00pm

Evaluate Your Lights for the Critters and Plants

- *Cindy Luongo Cassidy, International Dark-Sky Association Texas Chapter & John Cassidy, Hays County Friends of the Night Sky, Founders Circle, International Dark Sky Association, Hays County Chapter*

Saturday October 22nd 2022

7:00am - 8:30am

Breakfast - Post Oak Ballroom

Meal

8:00am - 12:00pm

Creating a Pollinator Paradise at Home

Field Session

- *Lauren Simpson, St. Julian's Crossing & Carolyn Langlains, Heartwood Chapter*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Fire & Goats: Impacts of Using Traditional Vegetation Management Techniques in an Urban Setting

Field Session

- *Stephen Benigno & Trevor Rubenstahl, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center; Chris Schenck, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Urban Parks - Nature in the City

Field Session

- *Irmi Willcockson, Gulf Coast Chapter*

8:00am - 12:00pm

Bryophytes: Taking a Closer Look at Biodiversity - Apollo Boardroom

- *Dale Kruse, S. M. Tracy Herbarium*

8:30am - 12:00pm

TMN Partnership Boosts Birding at Cullinan Park

Field Session

- *Robbin Mallett & Hoiman Low, Coastal Prairie Chapter*

8:30am - 12:00pm

Planting for Independence with Edible Native Plants - Montrose

- *Rachel Cywinski, Native Plant Society of Texas, Sierra Club, International Society of Arboriculture, Alamo Area Chapter*

8:30am - 12:00pm

Spiders - What Are They and Why Do They Do What They Do? - Heights

- *Melanie Hollenshead*

8:30am - 12:00pm

Camera Trapping for Science - Timber Grove

- *Tania Homayoun & Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:30am - 10:45am

Convincing a Park to Reduce Mowing (Updated!) -

Constellation West

- *Sam Kieschnick, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:30am - 10:45am

Go Beyond The Road with TxDOT - Memorial

- *Rebekah Dobrasko, Amanda Fowler, Samuel Glinsky, Sean Palmer, & Travis Jez, Texas Department of Transportation*

8:30am - 10:45am

Screech Owls, Owl Boxes, and Owl Cameras - Museum Park

- *Mike Mitchell, Game Warden (retired)*

8:30am - 9:30am

**The TPWD Adopt-a-Loop Program Two Years Later:
How Master Naturalist Chapters Can and Are Helping -**

Constellation East

- *Bruce Neville, Brazos Valley Chapter, Lisa Marler, Hill Country Chapter, Terri Stinn, Heartwood Chapter, Shelly Plante Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:30am - 9:30am

Insect Photography - Midtown

- *Mary Ann Melton, Good Water Chapter*

8:30am - 9:30am

Plants and Children Grow Healthy Together - River Oaks

- *Melissa Felty, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

8:30am - 9:30am

**Creating an Accessibility Initiative for Your Chapter -
Westbury**

- *Charlise Hill-Larson, Blackland Prairie Chapter & Cristina Araiza, Rehab Without Walls*

9:45am - 12:00pm

The Young and the Nestless: The Secret Lives of Songbirds - Constellation East

- *Kelsey Low, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

9:45am - 12:00pm

Here be dragons! Odonata 101 - Midtown

- *Brent Franklin, Cross Timbers Chapter*

9:45am - 10:45am

Supporting Full and Equal Access to a Community's Natural Environment: A Class Project Case Study - Westbury

- *Kristi Kerr Leonard, Shelby Smith, & Rebecca Posten, North Texas Chapter*

10:00am - 2:30pm

A Hidden Man's Gem

Field Session

- *Allison Copony & Wendy Sera, Heartwood Chapter*

11:00am - 12:00pm

Twists and Turns Replacing Lost Canopy - Constellation West

- *Beth Miller, Piney Wood Lakes Chapter*

11:00am - 12:00pm

Talk with TxDOT! - Memorial

- *Amanda Fowler, Samuel Glinsky, Sean Palmer, & Travis Jez, Texas Department of Transportation*

11:00am - 12:00pm

Magical Migrations: Birds on the Move - Museum Park

- *Shelia Hargis, Capital Area Chapter*

11:00am - 12:00pm

"Be the Biologist" Junior Ranger Program - River Oaks

- *Laurie Gonzales, Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge*

11:00am - 12:00pm

Science, Social Media, and the Sea: My Summer with Texas Master Naturalists - Westbury

- *Kiara Carrasco, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Galveston County*

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch & Science Fair Winners Presentation - Post Oak Ballroom
Meal

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Asters and Rasters: GIS for Landscape Ecology and Citizen Science at George Bush Park

Field Session

- *Wendy Anderson, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

1:00pm - 5:00pm

Native Plant Propagation

Field Session

- *Caitlin Keating, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

1:15pm - 3:30pm

Exploring Ambiguous Moral and Ethical Situations (Formerly Laws and Ethics) - Constellation West

- *Richard Heilbrun, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department & Mike Mitchell, Game Warden (retired)*

1:15pm - 3:30pm

Fungi is Fantastic in Texas - Midtown

- *Angel Schatz, Central Texas Mycological Society*

1:15pm - 3:30pm

Gardening for Jewels - Montrose

- *Deborah Repasz, Galveston Bay Area Chapter*

1:15pm - 3:30pm

Look, Listen, and Learn - Timber Grove

- *Mike Farley, Good Water Chapter*

1:15pm - 2:15pm

iNaturalist 301: Advanced Applications & Exploring Data in iNaturalist - Constellation East

- *Tania Homayoun, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Good for Us, Good for Them - Heights

- *John Gardner & Karen Gardner, Gideon Linsecum Chapter*

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Join the Flock! - Museum Park

- *Cindy Luongo Cassidy, International Dark-Sky Association Texas Chapter & Soll Sussman, Hays County Friends of the Night Sky*

1:15pm - 2:15pm

State Parks as Training Grounds - Memorial

- *Ben Horstmann, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Excellence in Youth Research Presentations - River Oaks

- *Lynn Seman, Rolling Plains Chapter*

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Plants and People: Making Meaningful Connections for Enhanced Inclusion - Westbury

- *Laura Zarate, Native Plant Society of Texas Hill Country Chapter*

2:30pm - 4:45pm

Wrens: Little Birds with Lots of Energy - Constellation East

- *Scott Kiester, Friends of LLELA*

2:30pm - 4:45pm

Human:Nature – Expanding Conservation in a Socially and Ecologically Diverse Region - Museum Park

- *Berri Moffett, Houston Audubon*

2:30pm - 4:45pm

Interpretive Trail Guiding to Help Adults and Children to Enjoy Being Outdoors - River Oaks

- *David Powell, Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary*

2:30pm - 3:30pm

Weed or Wildflower? - Heights

- *Cindy Chrisler, Good Water Chapter*

2:30pm - 3:30pm

Filling the Gap in Cold Stunned Turtle Response - Memorial

- *Brigid Berger, Mid-Coast Chapter*

2:30pm - 3:30pm

Coordinating And Leading Dementia Friendly Nature Walks - Westbury

- *Fran Witte, Elm Fork Chapter*

3:45pm - 4:45pm

**Operation Game Thief: Collaboration to Catch Poachers -
Constellation West**

- *Daniel Shaw, Operation Game Thief & Mike Mitchell, Game Warden (retired)*

3:45pm - 4:45pm

A Look into Beneficial Aquatic Plants - Heights

- *Brittany Chesser, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*

3:45pm - 4:45pm

**1 Million Trees Across Texas, One Billion in Return? -
Montrose**

Brenda Dees, Scenic Texas

3:45pm - 4:45pm

**Ned Fritz: Founder of Nature Preservation in Texas -
Memorial**

- *Amy Martin & Kristi Kerr Leonard, Ned Fritz Legacy*

3:45pm - 4:45pm

Ornamental Ponds & Water Gardens in Texas - Midtown

- *Todd Sink, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*

3:45pm - 4:45pm

**Little Brown Birds: Who's Who Among Our Native
Sparrows - Timber Grove**

- *Craig Hensley, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

3:45pm - 4:45pm

Digging into the Past: A Look Back - Westbury

- *Patti Bonnin, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center*

5:00pm - 6:00pm

Evening Social - Ballroom Foyer

6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Dinner & Evening Awards Presentation - Post Oak Ballroom
Meal**

Sunday October 23rd 2022

7:00am - 8:00am

Breakfast - Post Oak Ballroom

Meal

8:00am - 9:00am

Contest, Awards, & 2023 Recertification Pin

Presentation - Post Oak Ballroom

End of Conference

Thank you all for attending and have a safe trip home!