

April 25th
Chapter Presidents & Advisors
Monthly Meeting



Agenda

- **2023 Planning**
 - Governing Documents
 - April 2023
 - 25th Anniversary
 - Virtual Volunteer Fair 2023
 - TMNTuesdays
 - Annual Meeting
- **Resources**
 - Website
 - WordPress training
 - TMN Merchandise
 - License Plate
 - Endowment
- **Roundtable & Calendar Check**



Governing Docs Update

Bylaws

- 37 of our chapters complete with Bylaws
- 4 of our chapters have a Bylaws update in process
- 7 chapters we haven't heard from yet!

COH

- 26 (or 17) chapters we have not heard from on the COH

PLEASE – email/call/reply us and let us know the status of your chapters document review process.

Need Bylaws Adoption Update:

Alamo Area - Adopting next mtg.

Cypress Basin - in process

Elm Fork

Heart of Texas

Lindheimer - confirming completed Dec22

Longleaf Ridge

Lost Pines

Lower Trinity Basin

North Texas

Tierra Grande - in process

Trans Pecos

*as of 4.24.23



Adoption Process for Governing Documents

- <https://txmn.tamu.edu/governing-documents-adoption-process-2023/>
- The Texas Master Naturalist™ Program governing documents for a chapter are the
 - Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct
 - Bylaws
 - Chapter Management and Operations Protocols (CMOP)
 - Chapter Operating Handbook (COH)
- All Texas Master Naturalist Governing Documents can be found on the Chapter Documents Page: <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-documents/>



TMN Governing Documents

FUTURE

- Documents to be reviewed on regular 3-year cycle:
- Comments & Feedback collected through website – <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-documents/governing-documents-feedback-form/>
- 2023 – Year 1
- 2024 – Year 2
- 2025 – Year 3
- Summer 2025 – Review feedback & edits – Compile
- Fall 2025 – Completed updates made & sent out.
- 2026 – New Documents Year 1



Governing Documents Review Timeline

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-documents/>

Other Documents:

Marketing & Brand ID Guidelines

Scheduled for an update in 2023

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/tmn-brand-marketing/>

Show
this page!



2023 Training Hours Policy

- No longer using the Temporary Training Policy's developed during Covid
- Following CMOP Guidelines on Basic and Advanced Training Hours via Web
 - Done with the anticipation for chapters to return to in-person training – basic and advanced
 - CMOP Section 4.1 Basic and 5.5 for Advanced for reference
 - 5.5 excerpt: “Members are **encouraged** to obtain the bulk of their AT hours in live classroom settings or in live online training that includes an opportunity for communication with the instructor.”
 - No cap, min or max for AT hours earned online vs in-person.
- TMNTuesdays
 - Allowed AT hours watched live or as recording
 - Log hours based on calendar year the event happened live
 - i.e 2022 TMNTuesdays watched live or as a recording will only count for 2022 AT hours.
- 2022 Annual Meeting
 - Allowed AT hours for recordings up to 90 days post event
 - Log hours based on date/year the recording was watched
 - Post 90 days ended January 23
- 2023 Annual Meeting
 - Will be changing recording watch length to the calendar year for AT hours

Will change this conflicting policy for 2023 Annual Meeting



Phishing Issues

- Scam we heard of in 2021 & 2022:
 - Directors email addresses were on website and scammers were emailing under the name of directors to others in the chapter asking for information or funds.
 - Gift card scam
 - Bank account access
 - “I need a favor” scam
- OPTIONS:
 - Let your members know that you will not ask for these things via TMN emails
 - Put directors email list behind password protected page, or on an external share drive
 - Add forms for contacting chapter & use CAPTCHA option
 - Send out directors' email list to chapter members once in external email at beginning of year
 - How else?
- When in doubt – call person emailing!
- How does your public audience contact your chapter for information?



April has been a busy Month!

- April – National Volunteer Recognition Month
- Saturday April 22nd – Earth Day
- April 16th – 22nd 2023 – National Volunteer Week
- April 28th – May 1st – City Nature Challenge
 - May 2nd – 7th - Identification Period
- Did you add anything to your plans?

A green background graphic for the 2023 City Nature Challenge. On the left is a detailed illustration of a butterfly with yellow and black wings and blue spots. On the right is a hand holding a magnifying glass. In the center, text describes the two parts of the challenge.

The 2023 City Nature Challenge takes place in 2 parts

April 28 – May 1
Taking pictures of wild plants and animals.

May 2 – May 7
Identifying what was found.

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

Since 1997

There were 718 new members trained in 2022 and more than 16,330 members have been trained to date.

Members contributed 515,454 hours of service to the TMN Program in 2022 and more than 6.38 million hours to date. In 2022, TMN Members contributed more service hours than any other program year!

MISSION

The Texas Master Naturalist Program's 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.

T E X A S



ABOUT

What makes the work of a Master Naturalist so important is that they are not only individuals who love nature and offer their time, but are also trained naturalists with specialized knowledge of different ecosystems, species, habitats, and environmental demands. Our skilled volunteers work with communities and organizations across 48 chapters covering 213 counties to implement youth outreach programs, help operate parks, nature centers, natural areas, and lead local natural resource conservation efforts.

OTHER PROGRAM IMPACTS

Reached over 289,969 youth, adults, and private landowners in 2022 and more than 6.864 million people to date.

Service hours in 2022 were valued at \$11.85 million and more than \$146.80 million since the program's inception.

Developed or maintained 62 NEW miles of trail in 2022 and more than 2,296+ miles of trail to date.

Added 40 acres under TMN stewardship and management projects in 2022 and made an impact on more than 233,943 acres of Texas to date.

Commander Kjell Lindgren, also a TMN volunteer, took our patch and pin to space on the ISS as part of NASA's Crew-4.



SPONSORS

The Texas Master Naturalist program is sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.



<http://txmn.tamu.edu>

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

Since 1997

2023 is our State Program's 25th Anniversary Year! Come join us and celebrate your accomplishments during any of these upcoming program activities to contribute even more to our 25th Anniversary Report published next year!



25TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECT

Help us share your story and favorite parts of being a Texas Master Naturalist. Join our 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project by submitting your videos, stories, or photos. Your contribution to this project will help tell the story of the program with more than just impact numbers and volunteer service hours. It's the people, the heart of our program, that we want to hear from, learn about, and recognize the spirit of in this 25th year and the next 25 years going forward.



2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Get excited for our Texas Master Naturalist 2023 Annual Meeting – to be held Thursday, Oct. 12th through Sunday, Oct. 15th at the southernmost point of Texas' South Plains ecoregion, in McAllen, Texas. The Annual Meeting is a chance to get all of your advanced training in for the year in one weekend, meet other Master Naturalists and learn about replicable TMN projects from around the state.



HELP US CONTINUE TO BUILD THE TMN PROGRAM



The mission of the Texas Master Naturalist Endowment is to further enhance the Texas Master Naturalist Program, its chapters and volunteers, now and into the future, for the benefit of natural resource education, conservation and stewardship.

TMN LICENSE PLATE

Show off your support of the Texas Master Naturalist program, your membership, and commitment to conservation education through volunteer service all over Texas, and beyond! By purchasing a Texas Master Naturalist license plate, you will be directly providing financial support back to our program and its conservation and stewardship of Texas' natural resources. ANYONE can purchase this plate and \$22 of each \$30 annual plate fee comes directly back to the Texas Master Naturalist Program for continuing our mission.



<http://txmn.tamu.edu>

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST



25th

ANNIVERSARY

TMN Program 25th Anniversary!

- Logo created by Audrey Taulli
- Hosts the 11 major Ecoregions of Texas
- Hosts **TMN recertification pin species** (most of them) in their ecoregions associated
 - Species stories and pin history coming soon!
- Image will be shared on website for TMN chapters to use for their 25th anniversary celebrations!
- Working on a pop-up merchandise shop with shirts, stickers and more!



TMN Program 25th Anniversary!

- To celebrate our 25th Anniversary this year, we are starting a storytelling project to highlight our wonderful TMN members and their conservation work across the state.
- What made you want to become a TMN member? Have a favorite TMN in-the-field memory? What has been your most meaningful project, community outreach, or conservation event?
- We'd love to hear your stories and share them!
- <https://txmn.tamu.edu/25th-anniversary-storytelling-project/>



Virtual Volunteer Fair

JOIN US!
MAY 2-3, 2023

TEXAS MASTER
NATURALIST

VIRTUAL
VOLUNTEER FAIR



May 2nd and 3rd, 2023

Register to Attend now:

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/virtual-volunteer-fair-2023/>

Agenda and Catalog of Projects on our website now!

Virtual Volunteer Fair Agenda

Tuesday, May 2nd

- 9:00 AM – 9:15 AM Introduction
- 9:15 AM – 9:30 AM **Butterfly Monitoring** – *Irmi Willcockson, Gulf Coast Chapter President, Texas Butterfly Monitoring Network Co-Chair*
- 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM **Time to Restore: Connecting People, Plants, and Pollinators** – *Samantha Brewer, Volunteer Engagement Coordinator*
- 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM **Armchair Botanist: Mapping the Plants of Texas** – *Ashley Bordelon, Herbarium Collections Manager*
- 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM **Capturing Conservation: Researching Conservation Organizations, Projects, & Issues by Texas Ecoregion** – *Taylor Keys, Program Director*
- 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM **Plants of Texas Rangelands Virtual Herbarium** – *Megan Clayton, Professor & Extension Range Specialist*
- 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **Woody Plant Encroachment in Grasslands: Teaching by RAP 'ping** – *Erika Sullivan, Master Student*
- 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM **Review of Knowledge for Species Potentially Impacted by Wind Energy Development in the Gulf of Mexico** – *Rachel Lange, NRS-IV Habitat Assessment Biologist*
- 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM Conclusion & Wrap Up

Wednesday, May 3rd

- 9:00 AM – 9:15 AM Introduction
- 9:15 AM – 9:30 AM **Eclipse Educators!** – *Dorian Janney, Education and Outreach Coordinator*
- 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM **Macroinvertebrate Guide and Student Worksheet** – *Melissa Felty (Alderson), Conservation Education Manager*
- 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM **Texas Aquatic Science TEKS Alignment** – *Melissa Felty (Alderson), Conservation Education Manager*
- 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM **Virtual Tour of Texas: Flora and Fauna of Every Ecoregion** – *Taylor Keys, Program Director*
- 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM **Discovering Bigtooth Maple Canyons: The Hunt to Map a Unique Texas Habitat** – *Amie Treuer-Kuehn, Ecologist*
- 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **Natural History & Environment of Jackson Plantation Historic Site** – *Katelyn Landry, Program & Education Coordinator*
- 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM **Seasonal trifold pamphlets for Cooper Lake State Park Complex** – *Alicia O'Connor, Park Interpreter*
- 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM Conclusion & Wrap Up

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

#TMNTuesdays



#TMNTuesdays for 2023

- What topics would you like to see?
- Second Tuesday of Each Month at Noon cst
- 1 Hour Advanced Training
- Watch Live or Recording
- Speakers & Topics Announced Monthly
- Purposefully done. . .

~~January 10~~

~~February 14~~

~~March 14~~

~~April 11~~

May 9

June 13

July 11 *Joint Presidents Meeting

August 8

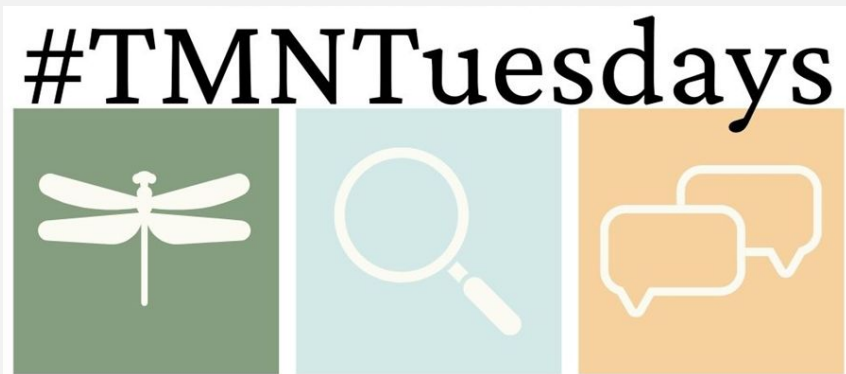
September 12

October 3rd – Project Fair Presentations

***shifted up a week!**

November 14

December 12 *Joint Presidents Meeting



UPDATED #TMNTuesdays FAQs

- Where do I need to register for the #TMNTuesdays?
 - **NEW for 2023** – Register for the whole series with one page! Register for the entire years worth of webinars or do it one month at a time.
- How do I get my #TMNTuesdays link?
 - With the year long webinar series, the event link was emailed to you with your initial registration approval.
 - TIP: Save those emails to your calendar!
 - New: an updated registration reminder emails will be sent the day prior and morning of the webinar!
 - TIP: Save those to your calendar or create a calendar appointment.
- Where did the 2021 and 2022 #TMNTuesdays webinar recordings go?
 - We've moved these to the YouTube Channel – linked directly from their button on the #TMNTuesdays website.



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

#TMNTuesdays



May 9th 2023 – 12:00pm

Roving Interpretation: Making Casual Connections that Matter

Most interpretive opportunities are casual contacts with people on the trails or hot spots in the wild. We'll talk about some tools, tips and tricks to help make those contacts meaningful. We'll also talk briefly about how you can help Texas State Parks celebrate 100 years!

Sneak Peek of Upcoming Months:

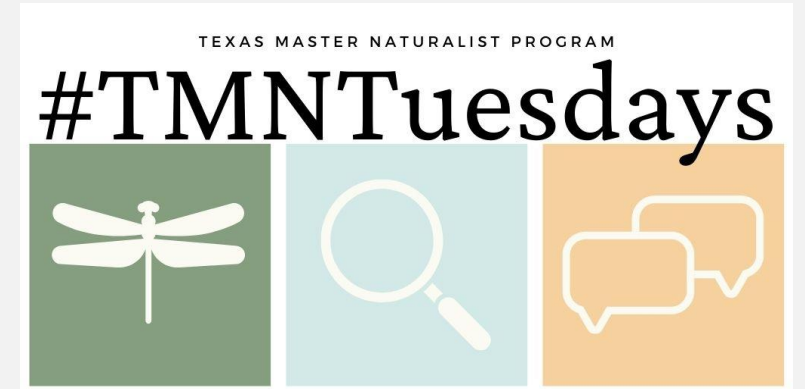
June - Plants 

July - Eclipse 

August - Fish 

September - Birds 

October - Project Fair 



2023 Basic Training

Kelley will be sending out a request for Fall training Class information to be posted on our website:

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2022/11/14/2023-basic-training-classes/>



Texas Master Naturalist 2023 Annual Meeting

October 12-15 | McAllen, Texas

- Timeline
- Call for Presentations
- Website Update
- Lodging
- Skeleton Agenda
- Sponsorship

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/>



Countdown Timeline

- **May 15, 2023** - Call for Proposals Deadline
 - Get your presentation proposal submitted before our May 15th deadline!
- **July 2023** - Agenda Launches
 - We hope to share the full agenda for the 2023 Annual Meeting the first week of July.
- **August 2023** - Registration Opens
 - Registration for the 2023 Annual Meeting will open the first week of August.
- **August 31** – Early Registration ENDS
 - Price increase to ‘Standard Registration’
- **September 15** – Contests Close **early this year*
 - Advisors Award, Photo, Art & Media, Video Contest and Project Fair
- **September 29, 2023** – In Person Registration Closes
 - Registration for the 2023 Annual Meeting closes!
 - **October 3, 2023** - #TMNTuesday – Chapter Project Fair Presentations
 - Join our monthly TMNTuesday webinar to hear this year’s entries for the Chapter Project Fair.



ANNUAL MEETING
2023

Santa Ana
National
Wildlife Refuge

@alht.studio

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

October 12-15



McAllen,
Texas

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
2023 ANNUAL MEETING



Call for Presentations

- Seeking presentations on TMN focused topics
- 1-, 2-, 3- and 4-hour concurrent advanced training sessions
- Submission website open now!
- Deadline May 15th
- **Help us:** Share the call for presentations with speakers you'd like to hear! Or those you've heard before but other TMNs would enjoy hearing from too!

Skeleton Agenda

- Will have a longer day Thursday and Sunday this year.
- Travel Considerations:
 - Come early and explore the region!
 - Plan to stay a few days longer too!

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
2023 ANNUAL MEETING



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM SKELETON AGENDA

Thursday
10/12

Pre-Event Field Sessions

Chapter Leadership Luncheon

Afternoon Concurrent Advanced Training Sessions

Welcome Dinner

Friday
10/13

Field Sessions

Concurrent Advanced Training Sessions

Keynote Address

Saturday
10/14

Annular Solar Eclipse

All Day Off-Site Conference Location

Annual Awards Reception & Dinner

Sunday
10/15

Post-Event Field Sessions

Contest Awards

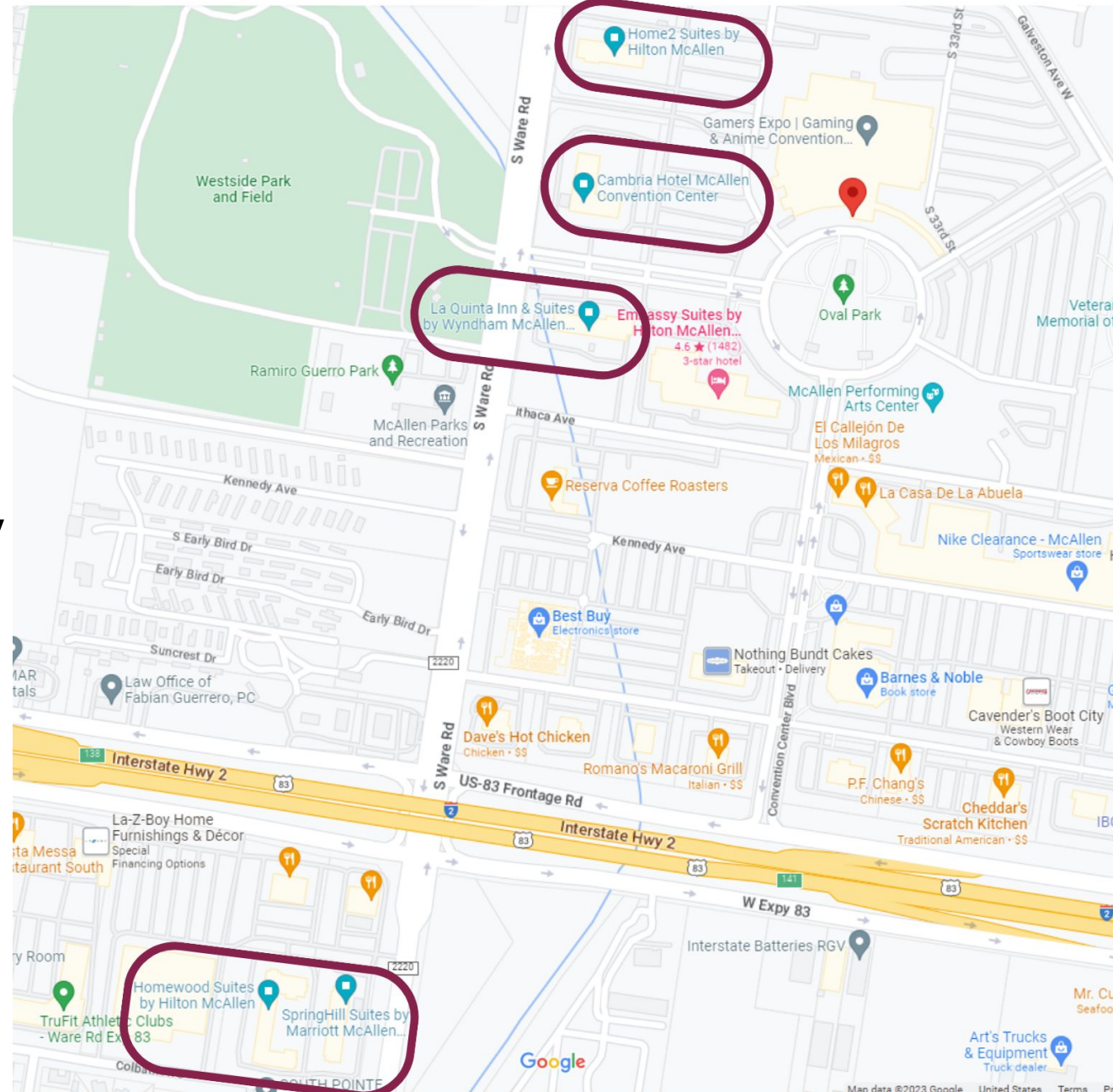
Morning Concurrent Advanced Training Sessions

Conference Wrap up by Noon!

LODGING

Lodging

- Five Hotels with Room Blocks for TMNs!
- Rates \$100-139
- Room Blocks links are Open
- Some hotels offering same rate 3 days pre & post event – come early and stay late!



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
2023 ANNUAL MEETING



October 12-15
McAllen, Texas

Save the Date
Wildlife Refuge

Contests & Awards

- **Pre-Annual Meeting Entries** – all due by **5pm Friday September 15th**
 - **Chapter Advisor Awards**
 - Nominate your chapter's advisor(s) to be recognized
 - **Chapter Project Fair**
 - Submit your chapter project for our virtual fair!
 - **Video Contest**
 - Videos of 1 minute to 3 minutes
- **Photo, Art & Media Contest**
 - Seeking host Chapter!
 - Entries to be submitted online between September 1st-30th
 - Note: Photos & Media must be taken somewhere in Texas and within the current year: 2023



Looking for the TMN t-shirts off your back :-)

We are working toward having another heirloom quilt made of TMN t-shirts from the past 25 years.

- Does your chapter have a past anniversary t-shirt
- Does your chapter have a personalized shirt?

Please send whatever you would like to be considered for the project to **by August 5th**

Michelle M. Haggerty
TMN State Program Coordinator
309 Sidney Baker South
Kerrville, TX 78028



Sponsorship

- All sponsorships received special recognition through conference communication, fliers, announcements, and programs.
- Sponsors could make a general contribution to support and sponsor the TMN Annual Meeting at any of the following levels with recognition at each level as given:

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

BE A SPONSOR

All sponsorships will receive special recognition through conference communication, flyers, announcements, and programs as follows:

Friend - \$150

- Posted on Annual Meeting website

Ecologist - \$300

- All Friend level recognition, plus:
- Posted on conference hallway signs

Steward - \$500

- All Ecologist level recognition, plus:
- Posted on Annual Meeting app
- Recognition given during awards ceremony

Conservationist - \$1,000

- All Steward level recognition, plus:
- Complimentary Vendor Booth (optional)

Guardian - \$3,000

- All Conservationist level recognition, plus:
- Reserved table at Annual Meeting awards dinner
- Inclusion of collateral materials in attendee registration bags

Naturalist - \$5,000+

- All Conservationist level recognition as given above, plus:
- Organization highlight page on website



Other Chapter Resources



The Mission

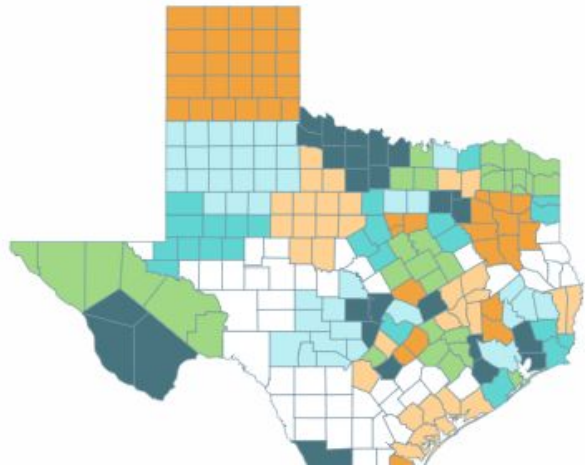
The Texas Master Naturalist Program's mission is to develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Texas.



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. In fact, a short supply of dedicated and well-informed volunteers is often cited as a limiting factor for community-based conservation efforts.

ALL EVENTS >

Find Your Chapter



State Website

➔ **NATURALIST NEWS**

[HTTPS://TXMN.TAMU.EDU/NEWS/](https://txmn.tamu.edu/news/)

State office will be sharing & posting state level offered advanced trainings or upcoming events. All events added are **not automatically approved** for AT, please check with your local chapter first.

➔ **EVENTS CALENDAR**

[HTTPS://TXMN.TAMU.EDU/EVENTS/](https://txmn.tamu.edu/events/)

Don't forget about our TMN State Email Listserv!
<https://txmn.tamu.edu/contact/>

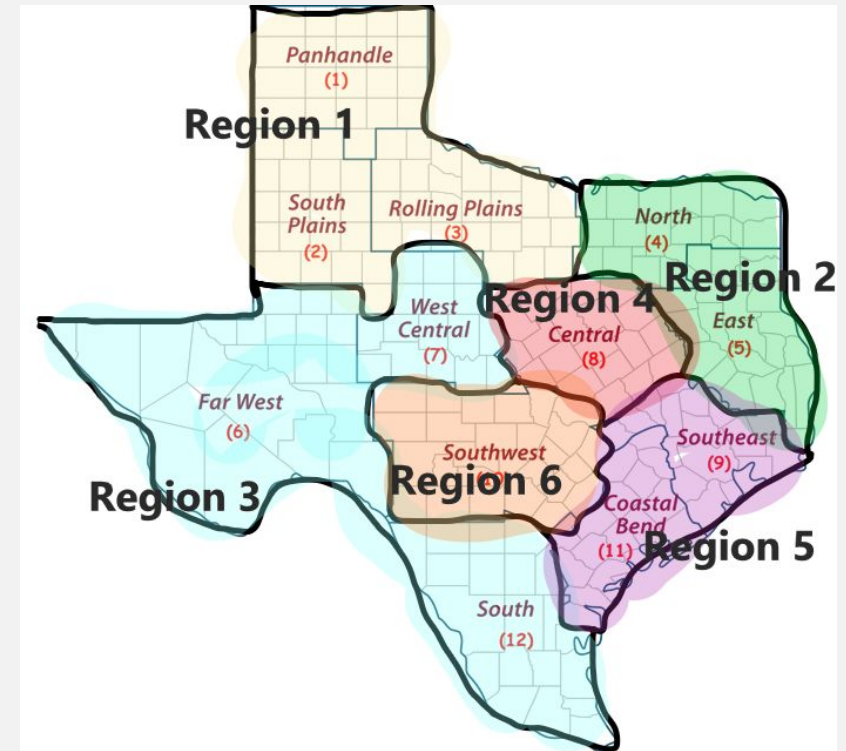
Pins Ordering

- **Recertification Pins & Milestone Pins Ordering System!**
- Ordering Form –
<https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-supplies/#pins>
- Will send out recertification & milestone pins **monthly**.
- **All order requests via website collected each month & mailed to chapter at beginning of following month.**
 - ***Exception – September/October – Hand delivering at Annual Meeting or mailing in October**
- Note – all milestone pins 4,000hr + mailed once a month as needed.



Regional WebEx Accounts

- Keeping these for 2023!
- Michelle still manages WebEx account recording storage load. . .
 - Don't forget to download and then delete any recordings on platform.
- Reminder that avatar/profile picture and WebEx account Name – does NOT change
- CHECK the CALENDAR before setting new meetings



WordPress Web Accessibility

- Join our AgriLife Extension Team with the Web Accessibility WordPress Training
- May 2nd at 12:00pm
- Via Google Meet
- [Tx.ag/TXMNwordpress](https://tx.ag/TXMNwordpress)

The poster features a background image of a group of children playing in a park, overlaid with a blue tint. At the top right, there is a dark red rectangular box containing the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension logo. The text on the poster is centered and reads: 'YOU'RE INVITED' in a small font, followed by 'WEB ACCESSIBILITY' in large, bold, white letters, and 'WORDPRESS Q&A SESSION' in a slightly smaller white font. Below this, the date '04 • 04 • 23' is displayed in a yellow-green color. Underneath the date, the time '12:00 PM to 12:45 PM via Microsoft Teams' is written in a small white font. At the bottom, the URL 'tx.ag/TXMNwordpress' is provided in a white font.

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

YOU'RE INVITED

WEB
ACCESSIBILITY
WORDPRESS Q&A SESSION

04 • 04 • 23

12:00 PM to 12:45 PM via Microsoft Teams

tx.ag/TXMNwordpress



AgriLife Learn Store

NEW items & shirts coming in ~~February~~ March 2023 . . .

<https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/>

TMN Merchandise

Pop Up Store

- Closed Sunday – thank you for ordering. Items will be shipped out mid-May
- Will host another gear shop this summer with Annual Meeting logo and 25th Anniversary logo items!

AgriLife Learn

- Restocking Columbia Shirts
- Restocked Lanyards
- <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/>



HOW TO



Click Here

ORDER



Thanks for your Support!

TMN License Plate

- Can be ordered on myplates.com
- FAQ on our website

- **\$30** for non-personalized OR **\$70** for personalized
- \$22 of each plate sold goes back to **TMN Program**
- <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmn-license-plate/>

- Quarterly Reports from DMV



Show us your bumper!





TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
ENDOWMENT

*The mission of the Texas Master Naturalist Endowment is to further enhance the Texas Master Naturalist Program, its chapters and volunteers, now and into the future, for the benefit of natural resource **education, conservation and stewardship.***

Started in 2016

Currently @ ~\$100,000

- Individual or Chapter Gifts
- Employer Gift Matching
- Estate Planning

<https://masternaturalistendowment.org/>

To give directly, follow the link:

<http://give.am/TexasMasterNaturalist>



THANK YOU
to all who
have given!

Presidents Corner

- Don't sign MOA's, MOU's or contracts without review & approval of TMN State Office.
-
- Let us know about grants & awards you win!
- What questions do you have for the chapter presidents on the call now?
- Any others?



Calendar Check

May

- 2-3 – Virtual Volunteer Fair
- 3 – WordPress Training
- 9 – TMNTuesday
- 30 – Presidents Meeting

Presidents Meetings

- ~~January 31~~
- ~~February 28~~
- ~~March 28~~
- ~~April 25~~
- May 30
- June 27
- July 11 *Joint TMN Tuesday
- August 29
- September 26
- October *Annual Meeting
- November 28
- December 12 *Joint TMN Tuesday

The End

