

June 27th Chapter Presidents & Advisors Meeting

- Introduce yourself & your chapter in the Chat Room
- Share video (if your bandwidth allows)
- Michelle & Mary Pearl will be monitoring the chat room
- Will be recording the meeting
- Will share slides, chat room and notes

- We'll get started at **12:00pm**
- Volunteer Note Taker – _____

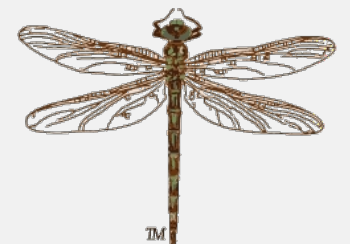


June 27th
Chapter Presidents & Advisors
Monthly Meeting



Agenda

- **2023 Planning**
 - Governing Documents
 - 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project
 - TMNTuesdays
 - Basic Training Fall Sessions
 - Annual Meeting
 - TMN Program Awards Nominations and Applications
- **Resources**
 - Website
 - WordPress training
 - TMN Merchandise
 - License Plate
 - Endowment
- **Roundtable & Calendar Check**



Governing Docs Update

Bylaws- All Chapters have completed adoption or are in process (just a few)!!!

COH- Roughly half of our chapters have fully completed their COH documents. If you haven't already, please let us know when your COH adoption status changes - target date for these is this year.

Remaining Bylaws adoption status:

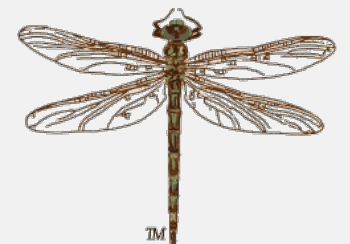
Alamo Area - in process

Cypress Basin - in process

Heart of Texas - in process

Longleaf Ridge - in process

Trans Pecos - in process



25th Anniversary Storytelling Project



Celebrate twenty-five years of
volunteerism, conservation,
education, and outreach in 2023 by
sharing your favorite TMN stories!

T E X A S

Master
Naturalist™



Scan the QR code to get started!

TMN Program 25th Anniversary!

- To celebrate our 25th Anniversary this year, we started 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/>



25th Anniversary Storytelling Project

TMN 25TH ANNIVERSARY



When I first learned about the Texas Master Naturalist group, it was not at all what I was expecting, it was much more. When I joined the Texas Master Naturalist group, I found my true calling and people whom I could relate to. Nature has always been the thing I love the most, and I love to go out each day and volunteer and enjoy teaching others about the local wildlife. However, I also love taking photos of nature and wildlife. I became a graduate of the class of 2016 and have never looked back. If it was not for the Texas Master Naturalist group, I have no idea where I would be now. I found my true love for nature but also for videography and photography. I am now at the University of Texas in Arlington studying photography and documentary with an emphasis on wildlife.

This program really changed my perception on my home area and the places I had been visiting all my life but didn't know much about. I enjoy learning about the vast eco-regions and love traveling to see how the areas all interconnect. I enjoy going out each day whether it is for a BioBlitz, community day, or out in a wildflower restoration area I can never get enough. Since joining the program, each day is a day for wildlife adventure.



Storytelling PROJECT

TMN 25TH ANNIVERSARY



I joined the Master Naturalist program in the Spring of 2017 when I was a junior in high school, and I credit the program for completely changing the way I looked at the Chihuahuan Desert that I grew up in. I was surprised to learn just how many unique ecosystems (and the associated plants and animals) can be found here. Ranging from mountain habitats to wetlands, I was able to explore more than I could have ever imagined. The best part of all being a Master Naturalist has been taking family and friends to these same sites and seeing their astonishment that these marvelous habitats are in their own backyard. Volunteering with the Master Naturalists even led to my first internship with Texas Parks and Wildlife working with local populations of burrowing owls! As a college student who now works in research and extension, I have been able to draw on my experiences as a Master Naturalist to direct new outreach efforts!



STEPHEN STRESOW,
TRANS-PECOS
CHAPTER



Storytelling
PROJECT

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

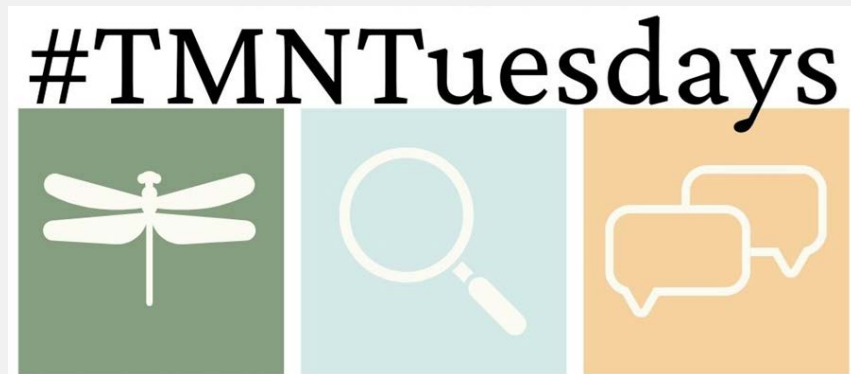
September 12

October 3rd – Project Fair Presentations

***shifted up a week!**

November 14

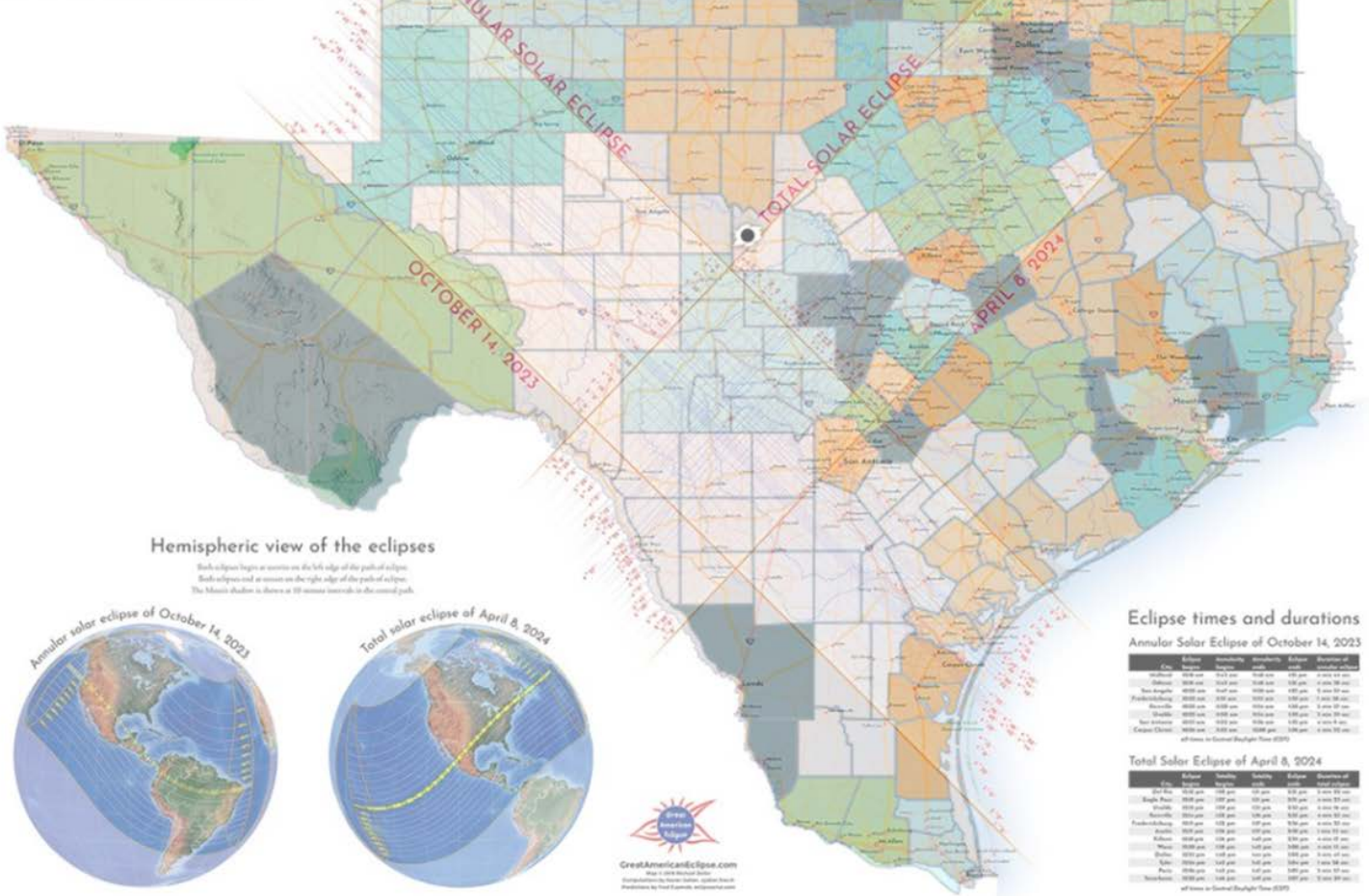
December 12 *Joint Presidents Meeting



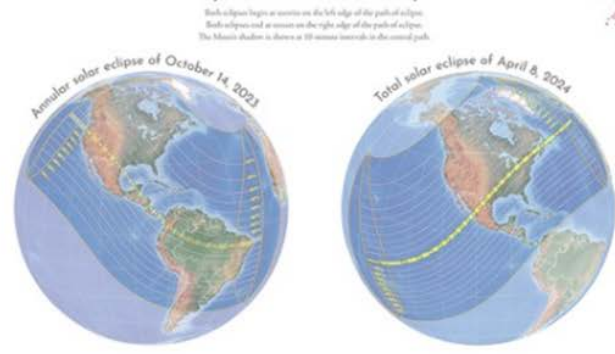
OCTOBER 14
2023
★
APRIL 8
2024
2 GREAT TEXAN ECLIPSES

Two solar eclipses cross Texas in 8 months! This is a rare and exceptional circumstance for any particular spot on Earth. Consequently, Texas will be a magnet for eclipse chasers and millions of people see the total solar eclipse of August 23, 2017 which crossed the USA from Oregon to South Carolina. Nearly everyone who was residing in 2017 agrees that it was a peak life experience and the most beautiful sight you can see in the sky. Time is money and the October 14, 2023, an annular solar eclipse begins over the Pacific Ocean and reaches the USA at Chgoan. After passing through California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico the path of annular solar eclipse crosses Texas. People near the middle of the path of annular solar eclipse will see the thinnest view of the Sun as a red ring for nearly five minutes.

On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse first touches the Pacific coast of Mexico at Mazatlan. After crossing Mexico the total solar eclipse first crosses Texas at Eagle Pass. People near the middle of the path of the total solar eclipse will enjoy a maximum duration of just over three minutes, nearly twice the duration of annular solar eclipse of August 23, 2017.



Hemispheric view of the eclipses



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

#TMNTuesdays

**July 11th 2023 –
12:00pm
Joint
#TMNTuesdays +
Presidents Meeting
NASA, GLOBE, Eclipse, oh my!**

2023 Basic Training

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

- *Keep in mind Fall training classes coming up and application periods open now*

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



Welcome to our newest developing Chapter!

Brush y Canyons Chapter

- based out of Uvalde
- includes Kinney, Medina & Uvalde Counties
- currently accepting applications for their first class to start late July
 - Share the news with friends and family in that area!
 - They can complete an online application here:
<https://tpwd.samaritan.com/recruiter/1450/OpportunityDetails/225128/Brush-Y-Canyons-Master-Naturalist-Application/>

Opportunity Details

Not yet a TPWD volunteer?
[Opportunity Search](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Log in](#)

Brush Y Canyons Master Naturalist Application

← Back to results

T E X A S

Master Naturalist.

Print

View map

Sign Up

Description Location Contact Info

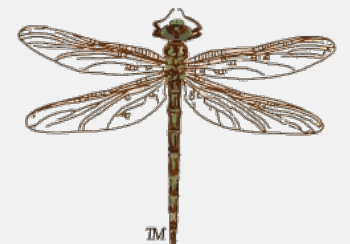
Sponsoring Program: Brush Y Canyons

The Mission of the Brush Y Canyons Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists is to develop a group of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within our communities. We are a new chapter, currently accepting applications for our Charter Class.

Our service area is Uvalde, Kinney and Medina Counties. Meetings and training sessions will be held at Garner State Park, El Progreso Memorial Library and possibly other locations, as well.

Our list of Partner Organizations to date is:
Garner State Park, Kickapoo Cavern State Park, El Progreso Memorial Library, Uvalde National Fish Hatchery, Nueces River Authority and Fort Clark Springs.

** Note: this will be Chapter #49*



Welcome Wendy Anderson, TNT Biologist!

Wendy Anderson, Texas Nature Trackers Biologist

- she's a TMN member too! (Capital Area Chapter)
- previous work developing the TEAM tool.
- Passionate about all things conservation!
- Special interest in grasslands
- Professionally trained Botanist
- Studied Biology, environmental science and public affairs
- Spanish Speaking

In her new TNT role:

- based out of Austin
- job focus = northern half of the state
- **Ready to assist TMN Chapters with their fall training class needs covering Citizen/Community Science!**



Wendy Anderson

Texas Nature Trackers Biologist
Wildlife Division - Wildlife Diversity Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
O: 512-389-8074

Wendy.Anderson@tpwd.texas.gov

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 2023~~ — ~~Call for Proposals Deadline~~
 - ~~Get your presentation proposal submitted before our **extended** deadline of **June 9th!**~~
- **July 2023** - Agenda Preview Launches
 - We hope to share the full agenda preview 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

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 PROGRAM SKELETON AGENDA

Thursday

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!

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
2023 ANNUAL MEETING



October 12-15
McAllen, Texas

Texas Master Naturalist
Wildlife Refuge

Agenda Preview

Thursday

South Texas Conservation Issues
Community Science 101
Outreach and Education
Chapter Project Highlights
Herpetology and Entomology
Ornithology: Birds of Prey
Aquatic Systems
Coastal Ecology
Laws and Ethics
Range Management
Photography And Birds
Interpretation and Training

Friday

South Texas Conservation Issues
Community Science / Bats
Outreach and Education
Camera Trapping
Birds / Entomology
Youth Programming / Aquatic Systems
Monarchs / Plant Ecology
Range and Wildlife Management
Mammals / Ethics
Ecosystem Level / Plant Ecology
Native Plants
Conservation Communication

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

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Keynote Address

Saturday
10/14

Annular Solar Eclipse

All Day Off-Site Conference Location

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Sunday
10/15

Post-Event Field Sessions

Contest Awards

Morning Concurrent Advanced Training Sessions

Conference Wrap up by Noon!

Agenda Highlights

- Roundtable Sessions
 - Junior Master Naturalist
 - New Training Class Directors
- Conservation Grant Writing Session
- Texas Waters Day
- Ocelot Presentations
- 20+ Field Sessions
- Starting Wednesday morning through Sunday morning
- Coastal Ecology
- Birds of the RGV
- Mothing
- Historical Sites
- Thornscrub Tour



Registration

- Plan to open registration first week of August
- Will have Early Registration pricing until August 31st
- Standard Registration September 1st - September 29th

- Registration Prices - Working on this!
- Hoping to have final prices to release with agenda early next week.

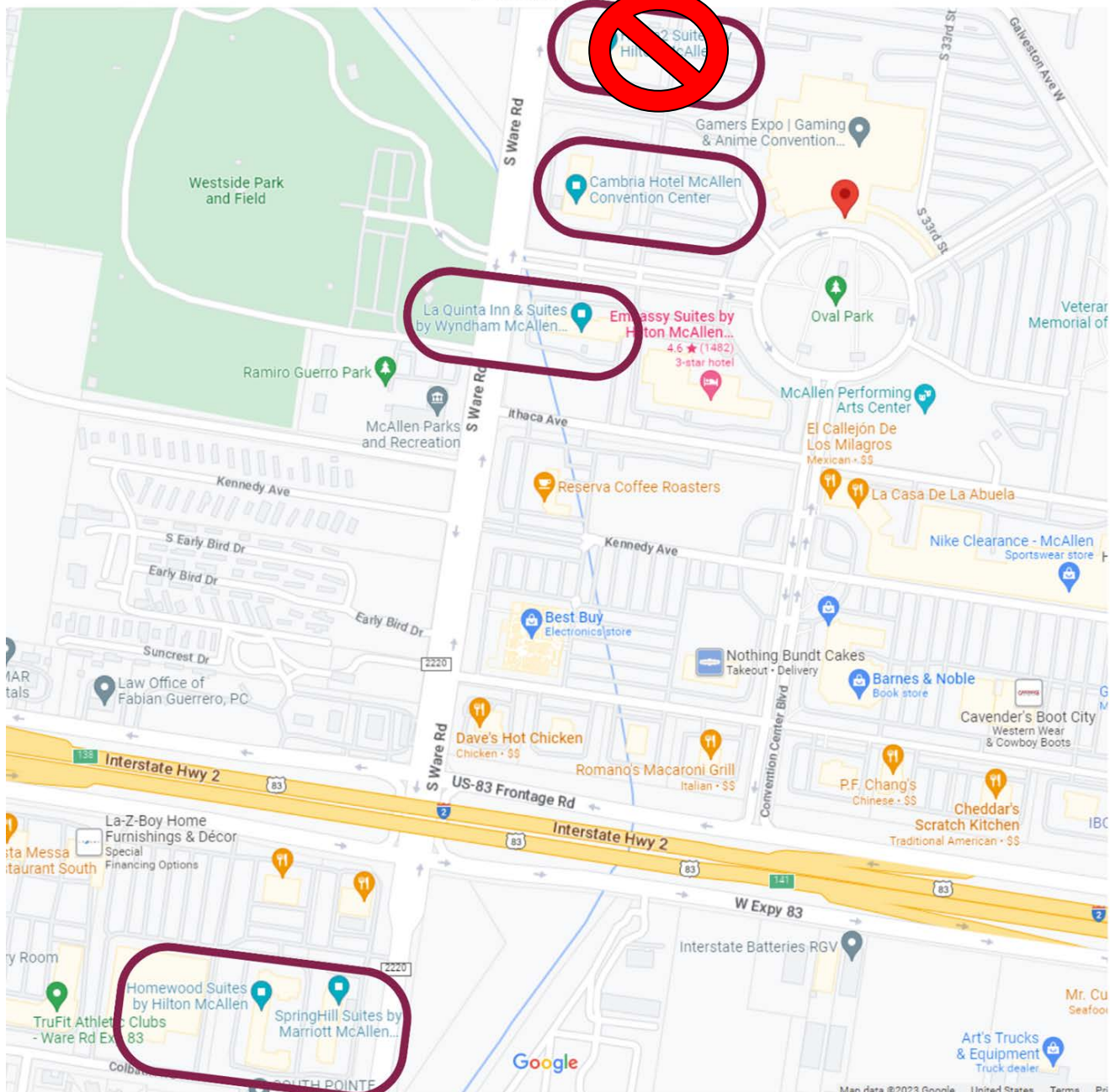
- Virtual Registration - pending and may consider after August
- IF we are able to host virtual registration - it will be keynote and awards only.



LODGING

Lodging

- Five Hotels with Room Blocks for TMNs!
- Rates \$100-139 (all include breakfast!)
- Room Blocks links are Open
 - Make your reservations now
- Some hotels offering same rate 3 days pre & post event – come early and stay late!



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST
2023 ANNUAL MEETING



Transportation

- Are looking into a discussion board to allow attendees to connect for ride sharing.
- Self serve discussion board
- Because we will not be able to provide field session transportation - we are also looking into field session transportation discussion boards for meeting up.

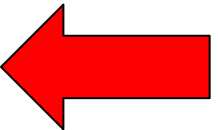


Contests & Awards

- **Pre-Annual Meeting Entries** – all due by **5pm Friday September 15th**

Contests Open Now

- **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 opening soon**
 - Rio Grande Valley and South Texas Border Chapter hosting!
 - Entries to be submitted online between **August 15th - September 15th**
 - Note: Photos & Media must be taken somewhere in Texas and within the current year: 2023



Chapter Advisor Award

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2023-chapter-advisor-awards/>

The Texas Master Naturalist Program presents the **Chapter Advisor Award** to outstanding advisors and/or teams of advisors each year. The goal of the awards program is to encourage and recognize the exceptional work and support of local Texas Master Naturalist Chapter Advisors.

The Chapter Advisor Team category was established to recognize the exceptional support of TMN chapter Advisors working in partnership to support a chapter, just as the TMN program is supported by a partnership between Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service at the statewide level.

Applications are due by **September 15th, 2023.**



2022 TMN Chapter Advisor Award Winner



Kara Matheney

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Gideon Lincecum Chapter Advisor

- *"dedicated to empowering our chapter"*
- *"She has a talent for identifying the resources that we need"*
- *"Kara takes every opportunity to champion the TMN program"*
- *"Kara has an excellent relationship with our board and general membership."*

Chapter Project Fair

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2023-chapter-project-fair/>



Teach	Teach one nature class/month to underserved kids
Staff	Staff TMN exhibits at 4 non eco-centric events
Give	Give 4 presentations about TMN and conservation to law enforcement
Invite	Invite a minority leadership organization for a private eco-tour on the ivory bill
Expand	Expand social media presence

First Place:
\$800 Project Grant

Sabine-Neches Chapter
Beyond the Choir Project

The Texas Master Naturalist Program holds this competition during our Annual Meeting each year to share and award the premier projects of the TMN Program. Our chapter members continually list this fair as a favorite way to learn about projects other chapters are doing and how they may be able to replicate such projects in their areas.

[View past Project Fair entries and winners.](#)

Criteria & Judging

Each Chapter will provide a short written paragraph describing the project by **September 15, 2023**. A pre-selected panel of judges will join the live 20 minute presentation of the Project Fair during our October [#TMNTuesday Speaker Session](#) on **October 3rd, 2023** using the judging criteria below.

Awards will be in the form of monetary project grants based on place level and availability of funds to the winning chapters which are intended to further support the winning projects or new project implementations of the chapters' choice.



Chapter Video Contest

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2023-video-contest/>

Release the director in YOU! Each year, the Texas Master Naturalist Program hosts a video contest to showcase the “behind the scenes” works that go on within your chapter. We want you to share your experience as a trainee, your experience as a TMN volunteer, or a highlight of a Chapter project, event, partnership effort, or anniversary year.

Videos should be a minimum of 1 minute 30 seconds and a maximum of 3 minutes. Uploads should be either formatted as .mp4, .mov, .wmv, or other YouTube-ready format.

Video Contest submissions will be accepted until **September 15th, 2023**. Entries will be reviewed and top videos will be announced and awarded at our 2023 Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony.



1st Place - Hays County – TMNs at work with the Wild About Nature Project

Photo, Art & Media Contest

LINK COMING SOON!

Entry Submission - **August 15, 2023 12:00AM through September 15, 2023, 11:59PM**

Categories

- Individual member submissions categories:

- Photo –
 - Plants and Fungi
 - Wildlife: Birds
 - Wildlife: Insects and arachnids
 - Wildlife: Reptiles and Amphibians
 - Wildlife: Other
 - Chapters at work/play
 - Scenic
 - Macro
 - Digitally Enhanced Photos

- Art –
 - Paintings or Drawings
 - Sculptures, Carvings, & Ceramics
 - Sewing or Stitchery

- Chapter submissions categories –
 - Newsletter
 - Scrapbooks
 - Brochures



Digitally Enhanced
Betsy Cross
Hays County
“Night of the Flower Moon”

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 **by August 5th**

Ship to:

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



Thank you to our current sponsors

Ecologist

Cradle of Texas Chapter



Steward

Alamo Area Chapter
Blackland Prairie Chapter
Coastal Prairie Chapter
Cross Timbers Chapter
Hays County Chapter



Conservationist



Naturalist



**Our Texas
Our Future**



Vendors

**Vendor Booth - \$300 commercial
\$150 non-profit**

- Seeking vendors to share their naturalist related goods, artwork, projects, plants or educational materials.

Rio Grande Valley and South Texas Chapter hosting vendor search - help us source vendors!

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

BE A VENDOR

We are once again hosting our event with the opportunity to invite a few key vendors and exhibitors with naturalist related goods, artwork, projects, plants, educational materials, and outreach from partnership organizations. The vendor booths will be located in the main conference reception area at the McAllen Convention Center.

There will be ample time throughout the conference for attendees to browse the vendor areas, with breaks and socials scheduled to be held in the vendor space. We kindly ask that all vendors donate an item for the Silent Auction. The money raised from the silent auction will be used towards scholarship funds for Master Naturalists expressing a need to be able to attend our conference the following year.

Vendor Booth Space Information:

- Vendor setup will be on **Thursday, October 12th from 8:00am – 12:00pm**, with take down and move out by **1:00pm on Sunday, October 15th**. Vendors will be responsible for their own move in, set up, take down, and move out.
- Vendors will receive **one 6' table and two chairs**. Additional tables may be available if needed, potentially at an additional cost.
- Electricity and other display items can be discussed if needed (potentially at an additional cost). Wi-Fi will be available in the conference space for all attendees, hardline and electric cord charges may be extra.
- Please have all vendor applications emailed to Mary Pearl Meuth by **5pm on September 15th, 2023**.

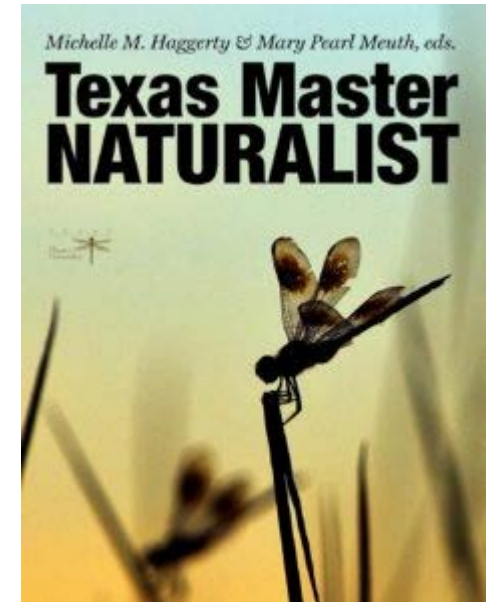
[HTTP://TXMN.TAMU.EDU](http://txmn.tamu.edu)

TMN Curriculum Bulk Orders at Annual Meeting

- **BULK Curriculum Orders** for Annual Meeting pickup available once again!

Will send out order form in mid-August.

- Deadline will be end of September
- Please designate who will be picking up these books (heavy!)



MASTER NATURALIST LOGO STORE

Pop Up Store with TMN logo items, 25th Anniversary and Annual Meeting logo items!

Timeline:

Opening August 15th

Closes August 31st

Shipped to you PRIOR to the Annual Meeting

Items:

- Soft Shell jacket
- T-Shirts
- Polos
- What else?



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.

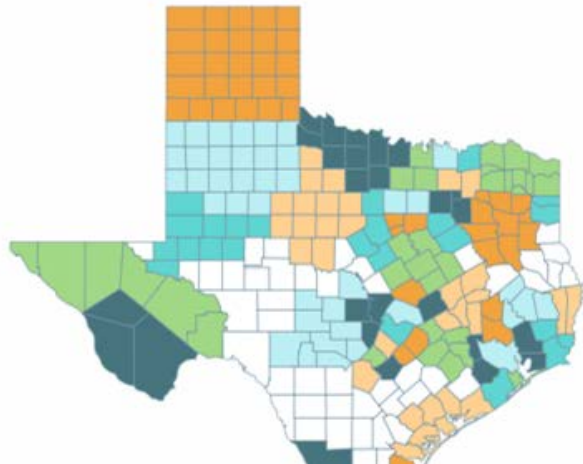


Many communities and organizations rely on such citizen volunteers for implementing youth education programs; for operating parks, nature centers, and natural areas; and for providing leadership in local natural resource conservation efforts. In fact, a short supply of dedicated and well-informed volunteers 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/>

Update on Pins

Reminder:

- **Recertification Pins & Milestone Pins Ordering System!**
- Ordering Form – <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-supplies/#pins>
- Will send out recertification & milestone pins **monthly**.
 - Note some staff vacations coming up
- **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 – 4,000 hr/PVSA pins are all on backorder –including orders that were already in process from April's order.**



WordPress Web Accessibility

- Join our AgriLife Extension Team with the Web Accessibility WordPress Training
- Skipping July's
- August 1st at 12:00pm ←
- [Via Google Meet](#)
- [Tx.ag/TXMNwordpress](https://tx.ag/TXMNwordpress)



Meeting Owls

Have these available still!

Use the form online to reserve:

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/meeting-owl-loaner-program/>



TMN Merchandise

Pop Up Store

- Will host another gear shop this summer with Annual Meeting logo and 25th Anniversary logo items!

Opening Mid to Late July!

AgriLife Learn

- Restocked Columbia Shirts
- Restocked Lanyards
- Restocked Tablecloths

- <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



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!

Calendar Check

June

- 6 – WordPress Training
- 13 – TMNTuesday
- 27 – 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

Presidents Corner

- Hill Country Chapter
 - YMCA partner project won TPWD Co-Op Grant with HCMN volunteers assisting
- Bluestem Chapter
 - Conservation Day 2023 Impact Results —>
- Balcones Canyonlands Chapter
 - Whole Foods Market Community Giving Project - Pollinator Garden grant - \$5,000



According to the Texas Education Agency, 79% (1,434 of 1,810) fifth grade students in Grayson County public schools did not master science Texas Essential Knowledge and Skill (TEKS) objectives administered on the 2021-2022 STARR assessment. Furthermore, 66% (1,201 of 1,810) did not meet grade level TEKS for 5th grade science and 27% (489 of 1,810) were below approaching grade level for 5th grade science TEKS.

During March and April of 2023, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension of Grayson County provided 215 free educational hours to 11 schools within the county for the Conservation Day program. Public and private schools were able to select conservation topics which fit their school needs including differentiation of soil types, water filtration, stream table, food webs, water cycle, butterfly migration, and wildlife/fishery regulations.

As part of Conservation Day, four AgriLife Professionals, along with 20 AgriLife volunteers from Denison FFA, the Bluestem Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist, and North Texas Chapter of Master Gardeners, presented 61 sessions to 1,171 students in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. AgriLife Extension volunteers contributed 130.5 hours over 6 days of programming, providing \$3,908.60 in direct support to this educational program.

Food Webs

100% (638 of 638) of students understood plants get energy from the sun.

99% (638 of 638) of students understood all plants and animals are important for a healthy ecosystem.

97% (616 of 638) of students understood animals that eat other animals are called predators.

Stream Table

98% (608 of 617) of students understood water conservation is important for everyone.

95% (585 of 617) of students understood removal of soil by water or other factors is called erosion.

93% (577 of 617) of students understood when soil, oil, and pesticides runoff in water it is called pollution.

Wildlife & Fisheries

100% (397 of 397) of students understood humans need wildlife and fishing guidelines to protect natural resources.

100% (397 of 397) of students understood fish must have a mate to grow their population.

99% (392 of 397) of students understood wildlife and fishing guidelines are established to keep healthy populations of animals.

Butterfly Migration

95% (605 of 638) of students understood butterflies roost at night in trees.

92% (605 of 638) of students understood Eastern Monarch butterflies migrate to warm places to lay their eggs.

84% (539 of 638) of students understood the main source of energy for butterflies is nectar.

Soil Particles

99% (612 of 617) of students understood soil is made up of particles including sand, silt, and clay.

91% (563 of 617) of students understood clay is a soil particle which sticks together when wet.

81% (502 of 617) of students understood water can best be used by plants when all soil particles are present.

Water Filtration

100% (63 of 63) of students understood everyone is responsible for protecting soil and groundwater.

90% (57 of 63) of students understood soil helps to filter water.

76% (48 of 63) of students understood water should filter through soil very slowly.

Water Cycles

98% (627 of 638) of students understood water drops take a different journey.

72% (459 of 638) of students understood water returns to the clouds through evaporation.

71% (456 of 638) of students understood water can be stuck in parts of the water cycle and not usable by humans.

Overall Program Results

97% (617 of 638) of students strongly agreed to agreed they learned something new at Conservation Day.

95% (599 of 638) of students strongly agreed to agreed they were more aware of conservation concepts after attending Conservation Day.

93% (594 of 638) of students strongly agreed to agreed the sessions were fun at Conservation Day.

27% (173 of 638) of students strongly agreed to agreed they were interested in a conservation type career, while 56% (359 of 638) of students were neutral.

54% (638 of 1,171) of students that attended Conservation Day responded to the post evaluation

Results generated from Gunter Elem. (3rd grade), B. McDaniel Intermediate (5th grade), Howe Elem. (4th grade), Whitesboro Intermediate (5th grade), and Collinsville Elem. (5th grade)

The Water Filtration session response is lower due to only two schools providing data.



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?



The End

