August 29th 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 and notes
- We'll get started at 12:00pm
- Volunteer Note Taker –



August 29th Chapter Presidents & Advisors Monthly Meeting



Agenda

- 25th Anniversary Storytelling Project
- TMNTuesdays
- Basic Training Fall Sessions
- Annual Meeting
 - o Agenda
 - o El Sauz Field Day
 - Registration
 - Lodging
 - Transportation
 - Slack
 - Contest & Awards
 - o Sponsor
 - Vendor
 - Curriculum Orders
 - o Milestone Hours
 - Memorials
 - o Chapter Roll Call
 - o Pins Ordering
 - o Bringing Home Stuff

- · End of the Year Succession
- Website
- WordPress training
- WebEx Accounts
- TMN Merchandise
- License Plate
- Endowment
- Roundtable & Calendar Check



25th Anniversary Storytelling Project

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



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.

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JorytellingPROJECT

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!



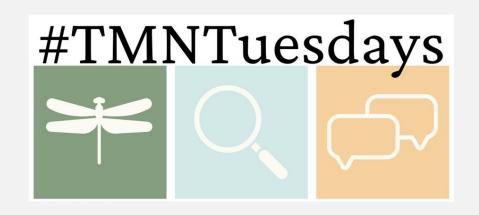
STEPHEN STRESOW, TRANS-PECOS CHAPTER



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

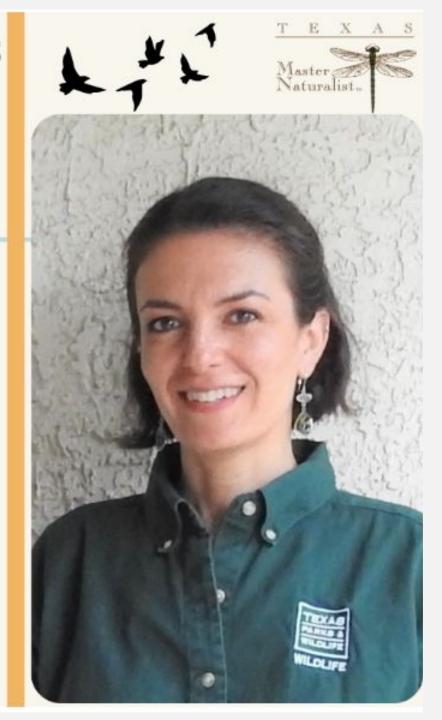
#TMNTuesdays



Speaker: Tania Homayoun

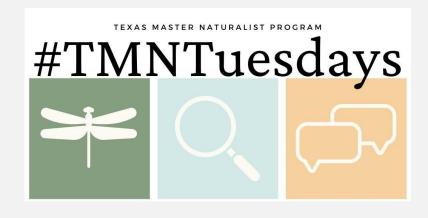
"Safer Skies for Migrating Birds"

SAVE THE DATE: September 12th, 12-1pm



Chapter Project Fair Presentations

- NOTE the different time!
- Currently holding the time block of 9:00am – 1:00pm to schedule presentations
- 20-minute presentations, including 5 minutes of Q&A
- Submission Deadline September 15th!



October 3rd 2023 roughly 9:00 - 1:00pm

2023 TMN Project Fair Presentations

Presented by chapters entering the Project Fair Contest

Interested in being a judge?

2023 Basic Training

Updates to training Class information to be posted on our website:

- (scroll all the way down to the bottom for the form.
- Keep in mind Winter training classes coming up and application periods open now
- Potential trainees ALWAYS want to know when your next training class is being planned

https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2023-bas ic-training-classes/



Texas Master Naturalist 2023 Annual Meeting

October 12-15 | McAllen, Texas

- Early Bird Registration ends
 Thursday (Prices increase after that)
- Lodging
- Agenda
 - Saturday Field Day
- Sponsorships
- Vendors

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



Countdown Timeline

- •August 2023 Registration Opened
- •August 31 Early Registration ENDS
 - Price increase to 'Standard Registration'
- •September 15 Contests Close *early this year
 - Advisors Award, Video Contest and Project Fair
 - Photo, Art & Media ends September 18
- •September 29, 2023 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.



Agenda Overview

- Chapter Leadership Reception
 - (aka Presidents Meeting)
- Thursday October 12th 4:30pm 6:00pm in the Ballroom
- Please make sure you are registered for this session for a headcount

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM SKELETON AGENDA



HTTP://TXMN.TAMU.EDU

Eclipse Field Day at El Sauz Ranch

A once in a lifetime event! Today's Annual Meeting is going off site and outdoors! We'll head to the East Foundation's El Sauz Ranch to view the Annular Solar Eclipse, eat lunch, listen to speakers, and host field-based advanced training sessions. The El Sauz Ranch hosts a unique diversity of landscapes and land management practices with active sand dunes, thornscrub brush, ocelots, an active cattle herd, university research projects, burn management plans, and so much more. Learn with us with boots on the ground!



What to Expect

A day spent in the field outdoors! We'll watch the eclipse, eat lunch and host field stations to visit. Restrooms, food, and water provided.

Depart MCC at 8:00am - Return at 4:30pm

What to Wear and Bring

TMN shirts or gear!
Refillable Water Bottle
Sunscreen and Bug Spray
Hat and/or Sunglasses
Snacks if wanted
Boots or Closed-toed Shoes
Weather Gear *if needed
Cameras and/or Binoculars
Portable Devices

Eclipse 101

Eclipse safety glasses will be provided, but bring any additional safe viewing devices you'd like. We'll also have telescopes on hand.

https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/#Eclipse



Registration

TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM

2023 Annual Meeting

Registration

Early Registration
Closes August 31st

Early Full Event Registration - \$400.00

Early Two Day (Thurs & Fri or Fri & Sat) - \$375.00

Early One Day (Thurs or Fri or Sat) - \$210.00

Open September 1st –
September 29th

Full Event Registration - \$450.00

Two Day (Thurs & Fri or Fri & Sat) - \$425.00

One Day (Thurs or Fri or Sat) - \$260.00

Guest Registration Add-Ons

Guest Meals Only Pass - \$300.00 Keynote Dinner Only - \$75.00



 THURSDAY this week Early Registration closes



Registration

Registration Options

```
•Early Registration Closes August 31st
•Early - Full Event Registration - $365.00
•Early - Two Day (Friday and Saturday only) - $340.00
•Early - One Day (Friday OR Saturday only) - $175.00
•Standard Registration - Open September 1st - September 29th
•Standard - Full Event Registration - $390.00
•Standard - Two Day (Friday and Saturday only) - $375.00
•Standard - One Day (Friday OR Saturday only) - $200.00
```

·Virtual Options

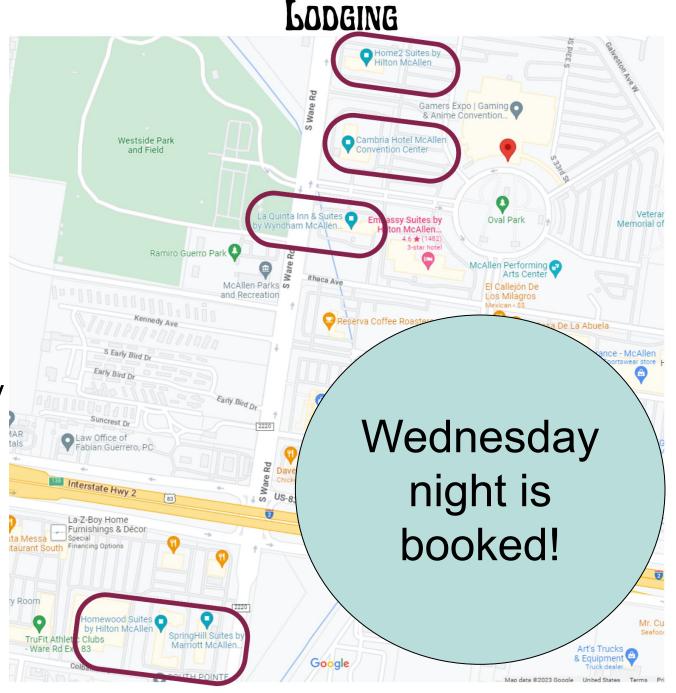
- ·Virtual Access **Now September 30** \$ 100.00
- ·Late Virtual Access **October 1 October 23** \$ 125.00



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!





Transportation

- We have a Slack discussion board to allow attendees to connect for ride sharing.
- Will be creating field session channels for private rideshare discussions





Slack Communication

- Available for all registrants
- Channels on transportation, lodging, field sessions, and more!
- Tutorial on using Slack:

https://youtu.be/6wjmH5qL3Ms







Contests & Awards

• Pre-Annual Meeting Entries – 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

- Rio Grande Valley and South Texas Border Chapter hosting!
- Entries to be submitted online between August 18th September 18th
- 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

Chapter Project Fair

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

Objectives for 2022

Invite

Expand



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.





Photo, Art & Media Contest

https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2023-annual-meeting-photo-art-media-contest/

Entry Submission - deadline September 18, 2023, 11:59PM

Updated

with new

'old' system!

Categories

 Individual member submissions categories:

Photo –

Plants and Fungi

Wildlife: Birds

Wildlife: Insects a

Wildlife: Reptiles

• Wildlife: Other

Chapters at work

Scenic

Macro

Digitally Enhanced F

Art –

Paintings or Drawings

Sculptures, Carvings, & Ceramics

Sewing or Stitchery

ter submissions categories –

'\$letter

books

lires





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

Balcones Canyonlands Chapter Big Country Chapter Cradle of Texas Chapter East Texas Chapter

Indian Trail Chapter South Plains Chapter **Shackelford Living Trust**



Steward

Alamo Area Chapter **Blackland Prairie Chapter** Capital Area Chapter Coastal Prairie Chapter **Cross Timbers Chapter Good Water Chapter**

Hays County Chapter Heart of Texas Chapter Heartwood Chapter North Texas Chapter Sabine Neches Chapter South Texas Border Chapter



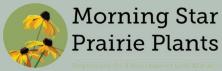
Conservationist

Harv Peterson. **Heart of Texas Chapter**











Naturalist





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

SILENT AUCTION

Rio Grande Valley and South Texas Border Chapter hosting

Asking for Donations from Chapters

- Regional representations of your chapters ecoregion
- Naturalist items
- Travel packages
- Hand crafted items
- Themed baskets

Item Drop Off – Thursday October 20th 1pm – 6pm Auction Open until – Saturday 6:00pm Accepting cash, checks, and cards!

https://txmn.tamu.edu/2023-annual-meeting/#silent-auction





TMN Curriculum Bulk Orders at Annual Meeting

•BULK Curriculum Orders for Annual Meeting pickup available once again!

Order form sent out mid-August.

*sent to all presidents and new class directors

- Deadline is Tuesday October 3rd
- Please designate who will be picking up these books (heavy!)

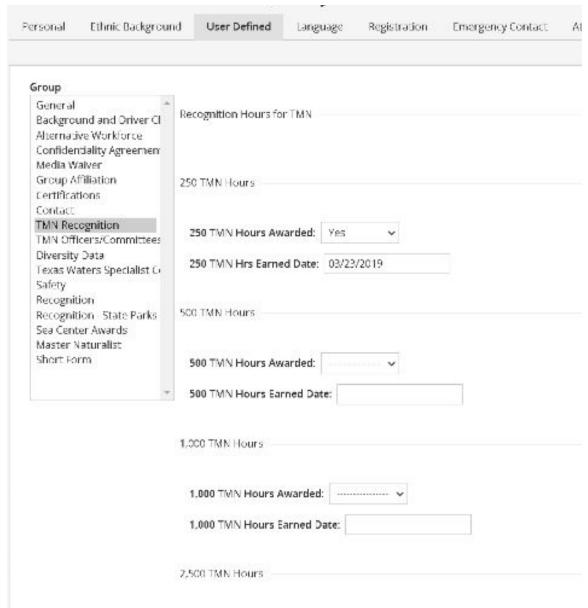




Member Awards and Recognition at the

Annual Meeting

- Milestones of Members Registered for the annual meeting are recognized Saturday evening.
- Please ensure awards for your members are updated in VMS by SEPTEMBER 29th
 - (VMS Admins see: "User defined tab > TMN Recognition Group)
 - NOTE: Milestones recognized at the annual meeting must have been reached within the past year, October 14th, 2022 through September 29th, 2023.



Chapter Memorials Request



Please share any chapter memorials of members passed since the last Annual Meeting.

Email Michelle Haggerty with name, chapter and photos mmhaggerty@tamu.edu

Would like to have this by September 29th



ANNUAL CHAPTER ROLL CALL

Donna Cole's Photo Request

To be used in scrolling ppt video during meals Friday and Saturday.

Deadline: September 29th or sooner!

Transfer Photos to Donna via DropBox, Google Photos or Google Drive

Chapter Presidents or Historians – please designate ONE person to send TEN photos from your chapter.

Format:

Original .jpg files only

- No PowerPoint presentations, no websites or online newsletters with photos, no "thumbnails"
- Please ensure what you send only .jpg files at full resolution, not compressed! (Cropping is fine.)
- o Captions are fine if they are embedded in the photo
- Please make sure the photo is already rotated correctly so the orientation doesn't have to be changed.
- Remember: If you view the photo at full-size on your computer monitor and it looks pixilated/grainy/blurry/fuzzy it will not look good in the show and will be left out.

Subject: Anything that represents your chapter is great, but we <u>really want to see your chapter members at work in the outdoors</u>.

Delivery= Dropbox/Google Photos/Google Drive Google Photos or Google Drive sharing are the preferred methods.

Questions? Email: donna@donna2112.com

Fall Pins & Certificate Orders

Reminder:

- Recertification Pins & Milestone Pins Ordering System!
- Ordering Form –
 https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/chapter-supplies/#pins
- All order requests via website collected each month & mailed to chapter at beginning of following month.
 - *Exception End of September/October Hand delivering at Annual Meeting or mailing in October
 - These orders will be given to chapter presidents at the Chapter Presidents & Advisors leadership meeting
- NOTE 4,000 hr/PVSA pins are all on backorder –including orders that were already in process from April's order.

Chapter 'Care Packages' to take home from the Annual Meeting

We will have a few items for you/your chapter to take home from the annual meeting:

- Your Recertification Pins & Milestone Pins Order for the remainder of the year
- TMN Project Signs
- Something NEW for your chapter (size will be 3 ft long x 1 ft x 1 ft)
- Other small items
- Anything you/your chapter wants to pick up from the TMN Swap Shop
- · Curriculum (if you are taking advantage of the bulk order)
- Silent Auction wins!
- NOTE Leave vehicle space or arrange getting items back with other members.

Other Chapter Resources

End of Year Succession Planning

Coming up soon . . .

Elections

- Many Chapters planning nominations and elections
 - Your leadership sets the tone and pace for the year.

Chapter Leadership Retreats

Chapters with Board Retreats - successful

- -which chapters host these?
- -what do you include on your agenda?

Don't forget to enter new leadership in VMS

-Mark in Directors List

Group At Large Board Member Officer List: Background and Driver Cl ☐ Vice President ☐ Treasurer ☐ Advisor Alternative Workforce Confidentiality Agreemen Media Waiver ☐ Immediate Past President Advanced Training Director Group Affiliation ☐ Membership Director □ Volunteer Service Projects Director Director List: ☐ New Class Director TMN Recognition New Class Representative Communications Director State Chapter Representative Diversity Data Texas Waters Specialist C VMS List: VMS Admin VMS LBE VMS ReadOnly Recognition - State Parks Committee Member of: Activities Sea Center Awards Master Naturalist Short Form Leadership/Service History: State Chapter Representative 2020 President 2021

Incoming 2024 Chapter Presidents invited to November 28th Presidents & Advisors Meeting



Texas Master Naturalist Program



Home About ▼ Events Naturalist News For Chapters ▼ 2023 Annual Meeting #TMNTuesdays

Q

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 >



State Website



NATURALIST 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.



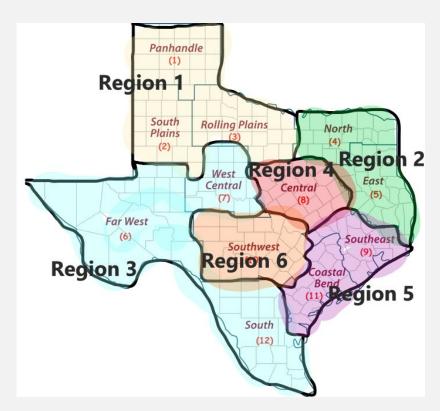
EVENTS CALENDAR

HTTPS://TXMN.TAMU.EDU/EVENTS/

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

Slimming Down on Regional WebEx Accounts

- Discontinuing Region 1 & 2 due to non use.
- Evaluating other Regions for continuing in 2024
- ** Don't forget to download and then delete any recordings on platform. (Michelle will delete recordings older than 1 month by the 5th of each month)
- 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
- September 5th at 12:00pm
- Via Teams
- Tx.ag/TXMNwordpress



TEXAS MASTER NATURALIST

FALL POP UP STORE!



TMN APPAREL SITE OPEN UNTIL AUGUST 31ST!

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

Closes August 31st

Shipped to you PRIOR to the Annual Meeting

Items:

- -Soft Shell jacket
- -T-Shirts
- -Polos



HOW TO



TMN License Plate

Click Here



- 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
- 566 total sold as of Q2 2023

Thanks for your Support!





















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



Calendar Check

September

- 5 WordPress Training
- 12 TMNTuesday
- 26 Presidents Meeting

& All the Annual Meeting deadlines!

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

Deadlines before the Annual Meeting

Early Registration Closes - August 31st
Hotel Blocks Closing - September 11 - 29th *varies by property!
Contest Entries Due - September 15th
Photo Art & Media Entries Due - September 18th

Registration Closes - September 29th Milestone Hours Reported - September 29th Chapter Memorial - September 29th Chapter Roll Call - September 29th Pins & Certificates - September 29th

Curriculum Book Order - October 3rd

Presidents Corner

- 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

