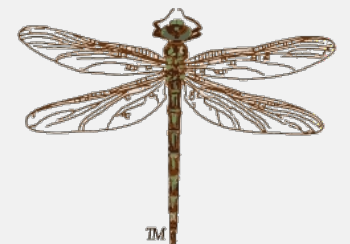


# March 26 Chapter Presidents & Advisors Meeting

- Introduce yourself & your chapter in the Chat Room
- Share video (if your bandwidth allows)
- Michelle, Mary Pearl and Hannah 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 – \_\_\_\_\_



March 26th  
Chapter Presidents & Advisors  
Monthly Meeting



# Agenda

- **2024 Planning**
  - TMN Training Survey
  - TMN Curriculum Survey
  - Pins Ordering
  - TMNTuesdays
  - Spring Training
  - April 2024
  - Virtual Volunteer Fair
  - Annual Meeting
- **Chapter Resources**
  - State Website
  - Regional WebEx
  - WordPress
  - Owl Loaners
  - TMN Merchandise
  - License Plate
  - TMN Endowment
- **Roundtable & Calendar Check**



# WHO YOU GONNA' CALL?



## Website

Chapter Policy Question

Elections/Voting Question

Events Registration

Meeting Recordings

TMN Listserv

Annual Meeting information

TMN Curriculum -> **TAMU Press**

TMN Gear -> **AgriLife Learn**

## Michelle & Mary Pearl

Chapter Management Issue

Discipline Action/Incident Report

Advanced Policy Question

## Hannah Ferguson

Chapter Training Resources

TMN Brand and Logo Questions

Chapter – State Office Communication

## VMS Help Desk

Request for New Account & Training

VMS Reports

<https://texasmasternaturalist.freshdesk.com/support/home/>

## AgriLife First Call

Chapter Website Issue

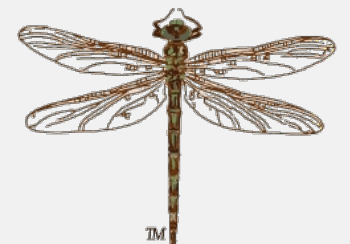
# 2024 Planning



# TMN Training Survey

## **Training Director Round Table: April 3rd at 10AM**

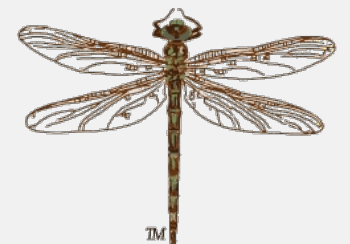
- **GOAL:** To understand how chapters are currently formatting initial training classes so we can provide relevant resources and curriculum updates.
- Open to Chapter Presidents and Training Directors—The meeting will be recorded and added to the website.
- Discussion will center around the survey goals, development/questions, resulting resources, and timeline.
- **REMINDER:** Our program was built to train VOLUNTEERS – we're not just a training program.



# TMN Training Survey

## **EXAMPLE Survey Questions:**

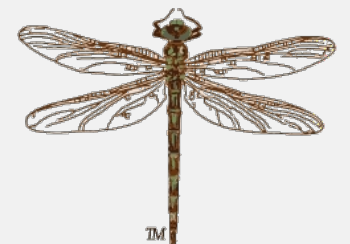
1. When do you hold your new member training? (Season, day(s) of week, time of day, etc.)
2. Training Classroom format (in person, etc.)
3. Cost of training/application fees and what your chapter provides for those fees
4. Is your chapter set up as a non-profit organization or not
5. Number of classroom/field sessions, timing, length and structure
6. Schedule/syllabus timing, length and structure
7. How the TMN Curriculum topics are addressed through classroom and field session topics



# TMN Training Survey

## **Questions we have for you:**

- How would a master list of speakers and their subject area benefit you?
- What training materials would benefit you?
- What ideas do you have for collaborating with other chapters on trainings or regional training opportunities?
- What do you want to know about other chapters' training classes?

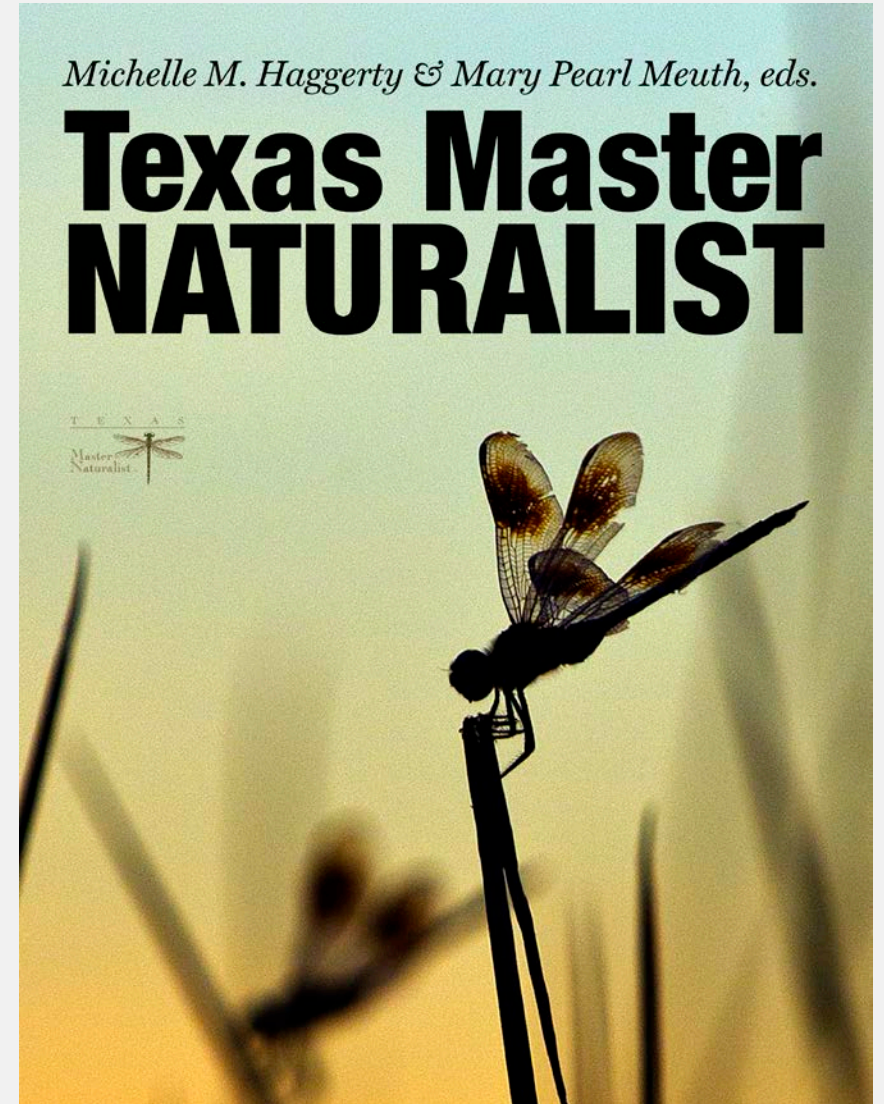




# TMN Curriculum Survey

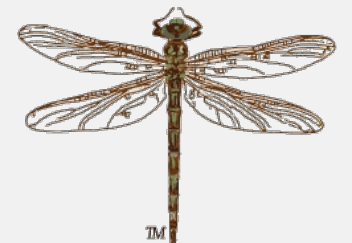
**We are starting the project to review, update and print a second edition of our TMN Statewide Curriculum through TAMU Press! And we need your help!**

- Multi-year project
- An email with two surveys will be sent soon
  - **One helps us learn how the book is being used to help answer formatting questions**
  - **The second helps us collect errors/content updates**



# Pins Ordering

- **NEW Recertification Pins & Milestone Pins Ordering System!**
- Orders for Certification **certificates, 250-hr, 500-hr, 1,000-hr, 2,500-hr, Friends, current year re-certification**, are available through our AgriLife Learn store – <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/>
- To view the pins on the AgriLife Learn store, chapters will create an entitled “Chapter Name” account that will be given permissions to view these specific items. Once logged in, search “master naturalist pins” to order.
- Orders for **4,000-hour(PVSA), 5,000 hour, 10,000-hour pins and up**, are filled by Michelle Haggerty ([mmhaggerty@tamu.edu](mailto:mmhaggerty@tamu.edu)).
  - <https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/4000-above-pins/>



Filters

Clear All

Category

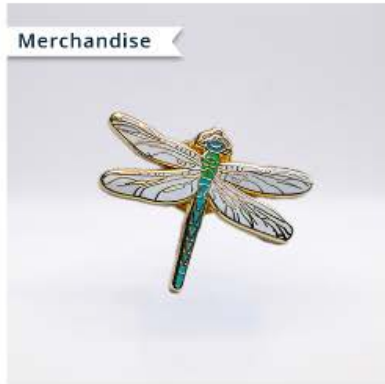
All Categories

- Browse by Category (385)
- Courses (180)
- Publications (177)
- Merchandise (91)
- Extension Staff Only (70)
- CDA Renewal (3)
- Observation and Assessment (3)
- Pre-Service (5)
- Child Growth and Development (10)
- Junior Master Gardener (25)

Category ▾

- Animals and Livestock (72)
- Business Operations (23)
- COVID Response (1)
- Child Care (112)

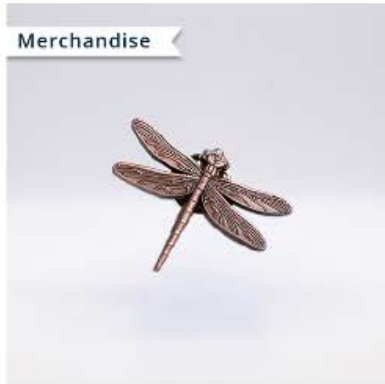
Merchandise



Texas Master Naturalist Initial Certification  
**\$0.00**

VIEW OPTIONS

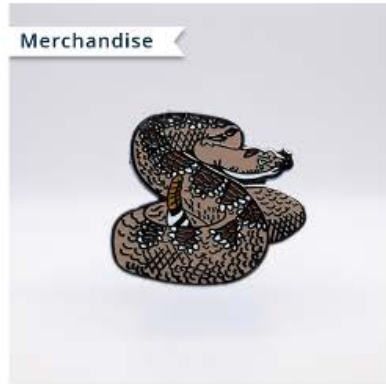
Merchandise



Texas Master Naturalist Other Pins  
**\$0.00**

VIEW OPTIONS

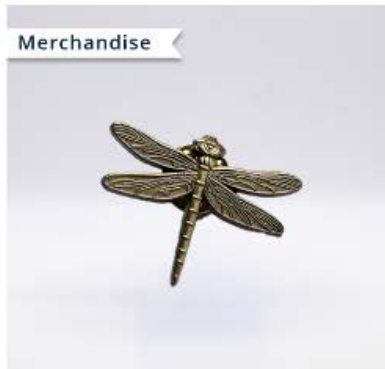
Merchandise



Texas Master Naturalist Annual Recertification Pins  
**\$0.00**

VIEW OPTIONS

Merchandise



# #TMNTuesday 2024

~~January 9th – State of the Program~~

~~\*January 23rd – TNT Mini Series~~

~~\*February 6th – TNT Mini Series~~

~~February 13th~~

~~March 5th (shifted a week)~~

April 9th - Virtual Volunteer Fair

May 14th

June 11th

July 9th \*Joint #TMNTuesday/Presidents Mtg

August 13th

September 10th

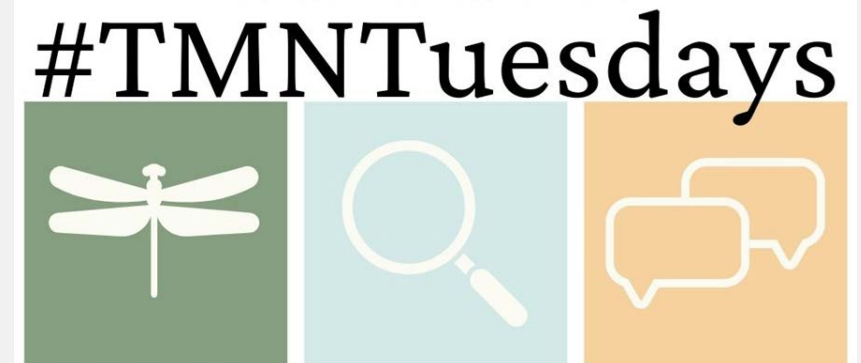
October 8th - TMN Project Fair Competition

November 12th \*Joint #TMNTuesday+Presidents Mtg

December 10th \*Joint #TMNTuesday+Presidents Mtg

- Second Tuesday of Each Month at Noon cst
- Up to 1 Hour Advanced Training (sometimes more)
- Watch Live or Recorded
- Speakers & Topics Announced Monthly
- \*Some additional special #TMNTuesdays added in 2024

**What topics would you like to see?**



# 2024 #TMNTuesdays

---

**January 9**                      **May 14**  
**February 13**                **June 11**  
**March 5\***                      **July 9**  
\*first week of the month  
**April 9**                        **August 13**

**September 10**  
**October 8**  
**November 12**  
**December 10**



T E X A S





TEXAS MASTER  
NATURALIST  
**VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER FAIR**

**TUESDAY APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> 10:00AM – 1:15PM**

**As an attending Texas Master Naturalist what can I expect?**

Get ready to volunteer!

Our fifth Virtual Volunteer Fair with a series of 15-minute sessions highlighting projects by a variety of partner conservation agencies and organizations.

Sessions will be recorded and uploaded to our website post-event for those who cannot attend the live presentations.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/virtual-volunteer-fair-2024/>

# VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER FAIR 2024

## Virtual Volunteer Fair Agenda

- 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM Introduction
- 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM **Texas Children in Nature Network Virtual Volunteer Opportunities** – *Alice Jansen, Texas Children in Nature Network*
- 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **Bridging Communities: Translating LEAP Program Promotional Material for Education Outreach in the Gulf Coast Region** – *Alicia Fontenot, Texas Children in Nature Network*
- 10:45 AM – 11:00 AM **Pack for Adventure: Volunteer Event to Prepare LEAP Backpacks** – *Jennifer Larios, Texas Children in Nature Network*
- 11:00 AM – 11:15 AM **Armchair Botanist: Mapping the Plants of Texas** – *Tiana Rehman, Botanical Research Institute of Texas*
- 11:15 AM – 11:30 AM **Warnock Herbarium Updates** – *Sally Baulch, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department*
- 11:30 AM – 11:45 AM BREAK
- 11:45 AM – 12:00 PM **1 Million Acres of Native Plants** – *Sandy Tibbs, Native Flora Seeds*
- 12:00 PM – 12:15 PM **Agents of Nature – A Discovery Challenge** – *Marla Layne, Blackland Prairie Raptor Center*
- 12:15 PM – 12:30 PM **Seasonal Interest Articles on the Coastal Prairie** – *Mary Anne Piacentini, Coastal Prairie Conservancy*
- 12:30 PM – 12:45 PM **Photographers Needed: Help Bring the Coastal Prairie to Life!** – *Mary Anne Piacentini, Coastal Prairie Conservancy*
- 12:45 PM – 1:00 PM **Spanish Translation of Regional Wildlife and Nature Guides** – *Marisa Oliva, Texas Children in Nature Network*
- 1:00 PM – 1:15 PM Conclusion & Wrap Up

Projects Not Presented During Virtual Volunteer Fair

**Time to Restore: Connecting People, Plants, and Pollinators** – *Erin Posthumus, USA National Phenology Network/Nature's Notebook*

**Monarch Larva Monitoring Project** – *Wendy Caldwell, Monarch Joint Venture*

# TMNTuesdays FAQs

- **Are 2023 TMNTuesdays available for 2024 AT hours?**
  - No. Only calendar year TMNTuesdays can be counted for AT. But you can watch them for your own education/entertainment!
- **Do I have to be a Texas Master Naturalist member to attend a #TMNTuesday?**
  - No! These are open to the public – all are welcome to attend. Each person will need to register via the WebEx registration link listed for the series or that month.
- **Will the #TMNTuesday events be recorded?**
  - Yes! These are always recorded and shared to the TMN website by the following day of each month.
- **Do I need to register for the #TMNTuesday each month?**
  - Register for the whole year's series with one page - <https://txmn.tamu.edu/tmntuesdays/> !
- **How long after I watch a #TMNTuesday video can I log my AT hours?**
  - In order to stay within the 45-Day rule for logging AT hours, you will need to log your hours at most 45 days after watching the video. Because you can view the video after the live event, please report the day you view the video, not the original date the video aired.
- **Do the TNT miniseries count for AT hours?**
  - Yes, these may be counted in the same manner as TMNTuesday webinars – watched live or recorded!



# TMNTuesday Topics

- What do you want to hear?
- What training topics does your membership need more AT provided on?
- Think chapter management and leadership presentation topics too!



Joseph Connors, South Texas Border Chapter

# 2024 New Training Class info

## **Update your Chapter's 2024 info via the Basic Training Class information form**

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 ALL 2024 training classes coming up and application periods open throughout this year*
- *Potential trainees ALWAYS want to know when your next training class is being planned.. Or how they can get on the list*

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/blog/2024-basic-training-classes/>

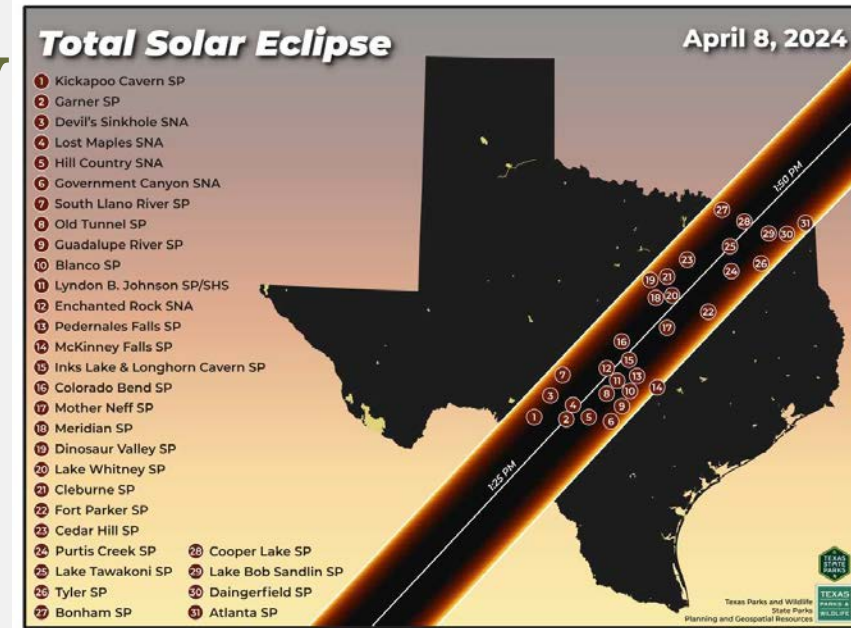


VOLUNTEER



# April is a busy Month!

- April – National Volunteer Recognition Month
- April 3rd – Training Director Round Table
- April 8<sup>th</sup> – Total Solar Eclipse
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – TMN Virtual Volunteer Fair
- Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Earth Day
- April 21<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 – National Volunteer Week
- April 26<sup>th</sup> – April 29<sup>th</sup> – City Nature Challenge
  - April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup> - Identification Period
- What are your Chapter Plans?



## The 2024 CNC takes place in 2 parts

1

**April 26 – April 29, 2024**

Taking pictures of wild plants and animals.

2

**April 30 – May 5, 2024**

Identifying what was found.



**SAVE THE  
DATE!**

**OCTOBER 24 – 27<sup>TH</sup> 2024**

Don't forget - plan around these dates with your Chapter trainings, events, etc.

# COUNTDOWN TIMELINE

- **May 15, 2024** - Call for Proposals Deadline
  - Get your presentation proposal submitted before our May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline!
- **July 2024** - Agenda Launches
  - We hope to share the full agenda for the 2024 Annual Meeting the first week of July.
- **August 2024** - Registration Opens
  - Registration for the 2024 Annual Meeting will open the first week of August.
- **August 31, 2024** – Early Registration ENDS
  - Price increase to ‘Standard Registration’
- **September 15, 2024** – Contests Close
  - Advisors Award, Photo, Art & Media, Video Contest and Project Fair
- **September 20, 2024** – In Person Registration Closes
  - Registration for the 2024 Annual Meeting closes!
- **October 8, 2024** - #TMNTuesday – Chapter Project Fair Presentations
  - Join our monthly TMNTuesday webinar to hear this year’s entries for the Chapter Project Fair.



# JUNIOR MASTER NATURALIST



## **Is there a statewide Junior Master Naturalist program?**

We currently **do not** have a statewide Junior Master Naturalist **program** due to a lack of funding.

However, some chapters have developed their own Junior Master Naturalist **projects** and can be contacted for assistance in developing a project for your chapter.

## **Which chapters have a Junior Master Naturalist project? And who can I contact?**

A full list of all chapters with Junior projects or youth education/outreach events will be assembled and posted to our website for resource sharing.

<https://txmn.tamu.edu/junior-master-naturalist/>

**\*not live yet, but will be soon**

# JUNIOR MASTER NATURALIST



## **What is the history of the Junior Master Naturalist interest?**

Interest has been in building a youth facing program since the beginning of the TMN adult program. Various projects have been taken throughout the 25-year history of the program – including:

- visiting sabbatical professor who developed curriculum resources,
- interns who have built resource toolboxes,
- contracted help to write program proposals using formal surveys,
- writing grant letters when funding opportunities are present,
- Annual Meeting roundtables and workshop groups,
- and more . . . .

A formal survey and resource gathering project was last done in 2016 and 2012. At that time - 59% of Master Naturalist chapters' work with youth, targeting youth in early elementary (80%), older elementary (73%) and middle school (60%). Only 13.3% of these efforts involve high school age youth. Most programs consist of monthly or short-term intensive programs. Events take place in public schools, city or county parks, state parks, and to a lesser extent, in private schools, boy and girl scouts, and other venues.

# JUNIOR MASTER NATURALIST



## **Why is forming a statewide Junior Master Naturalist program important?**

To establish consistency for the program, through consistent branding, messaging, and curriculum across the program.

To build sustainable resources for chapters when member/volunteer leads change

To develop resources for chapters, including program guidelines, curriculum and youth protection standards

Developing programs for youth is different -

To develop liability considerations and youth programming safety resources



# JUNIOR MASTER NATURALIST



## **Next Steps**

The next steps for developing a Junior Master Naturalist Program would be to fund a full-time position dedicated to developing resources and a full program.

This position would build a JMN resource toolbox and curricula, finalize JMN guidelines with inputs from current youth programs within the TMN program, pilot test training, and then refine and expand the JMN program.

Our goal is to build financial resources (such as through the Texas Master Naturalist Endowment) or seek other support opportunities for these financial resource needed.



# 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.

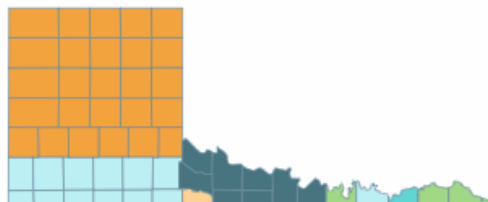
Many communities and organizations rely on such citizen volunteers for implementing youth education programs; for operating parks, nature centers, and natural areas; and for providing leadership in local natural resource conservation efforts. In fact, a short supply of dedicated and well-informed volunteers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



ALL EVENTS

## Find Your Chapter

Scroll or hover over a county to view the chapter operating in that county. Click on a county to go to that chapter's web page.



# OUR STATE WEBSITE

[WWW.TXMN.TAMU.EDU](http://WWW.TXMN.TAMU.EDU)

NATURALIST NEWS:

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

EVENTS CALENDAR:

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

TMN STATE EMAIL LISTSERV:

[HTTPS://TXMN.TAMU.EDU/CHAPTER-RESOURCES/EMAIL-LISTSERV](https://txmn.tamu.edu/chapter-resources/email-listserv)

The TMN State Office (and sometimes other members) share & post information and trainings to each of these resources. Events added **are not automatically approved** for AT, please check with and have your local chapter review and approve first.

## Other Quick Links on the Website:

VMS Help Desk-

<https://txmn.org/help>

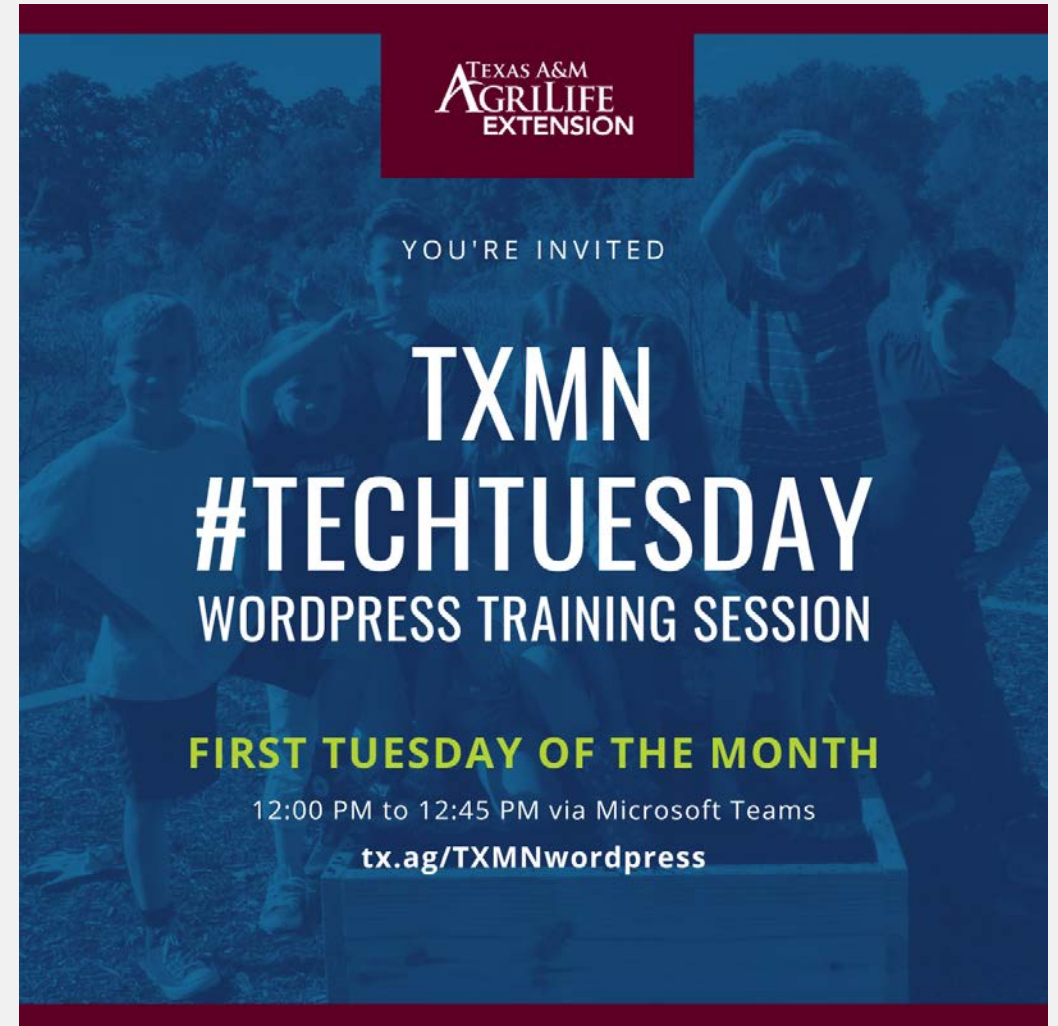
Chapter Documents Page

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

# TMN WordPress Website Trainings

- AgriLife IT Staff changeover. . . .
- TXMNTech Tuesdays
  - First Tuesday of the month
  - 12:00 – 12:45pm
  - Hosted via Teams
- Back on!

**April 2nd at  
12:00pm**



# TMN VMS Updates

**Nothing changing for our users' view at this time. Proceed with entering hours as normal**

- New Account Manager
- Re-Build Project Manager
- Updated Software will enable new features

All work happening behind the scenes at this time getting our data ready to be moved over into an offline testing phase. (WILL NOT affect current system)

- Our VMS Team will be involved in testing the re-build
- We will have training sessions for VMS admins, members when the time comes (estimated LATE fall)
- As fields and data are being readied, may see some anomalies—Report those to the help desk

Hours on or before Dec 15, 2023 may not be entered	
You have until the end of	To enter Hours worked on
Today	Dec 15, 2023
Feb 02, 2024	Dec 19, 2023
Feb 16, 2024	Jan 02, 2024
Mar 01, 2024	Jan 16, 2024
Mar 15, 2024	Today
Hours on or after Jan 31, 2024 may not be entered	

# TMN Displays—Check your panels!

**“Become”** and **“Explore”** panels make a set

- Contact Michelle for shipping instructions



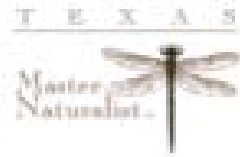


# AgriLife Learn Store

NEW items & shirts are in stock now!!

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

HOW TO



*Click Here*

ORDER



*Thanks for your Support!*

# TMN License Plate

- Can be ordered on [myplates.com](https://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
- 647 total sold as of Q1 2024
- Need to get to 800





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 @ ~\$125,000

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

<https://masternaturalistendowment.org/>

To give directly, follow the link:

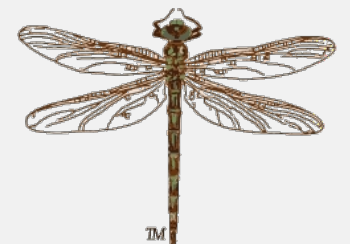
<http://give.am/TexasMasterNaturalist>



THANK YOU  
to all who  
have given!

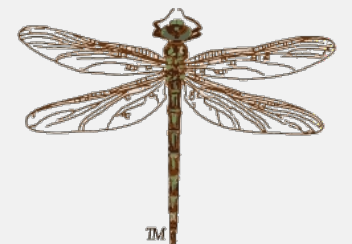
# Presidents Questions to Michelle

- Who has won/been successful with the TPWD Coop Grant?
- BAT project VMS question
- “Being paid to volunteer”
- TechTuesday – how to log in VMS?



# Presidents Corner

- Don't sign contracts (Over \$5,000) 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

## April

- 3 – Training Director Round Table
- 9 – TMNTuesday
- 30 – Chapter Presidents

## Presidents Meetings

- ~~January 30~~
- ~~February 27~~
- ~~March 26~~
- April 30
- May 28
- June 25
- July 9 \*Joint TMN Tuesday
- August 27
- September 24
- October - \*Annual Meeting (23-25th)
- November 12 \*Joint TMN Tuesday
- December 10 \*Joint TMN Tuesday



## **Michelle Haggerty**

Texas Master Naturalist  
State Coordinator

979-587-2627

[mmhaggerty@tamu.edu](mailto:mmhaggerty@tamu.edu)



## **Mary Pearl Meuth**

Texas Master Naturalist  
Assistant State Coordinator

727-366-1144

[marypearl.meuth@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:marypearl.meuth@ag.tamu.edu)



## **Hannah Ferguson**

Texas Master Naturalist  
TMN Program Support  
Specialist

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[hannah.ferguson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:hannah.ferguson@ag.tamu.edu)

**<http://txmn.tamu.edu>**

# The End

