T E X A S

Master Naturalist™

Sunday, April 19, 2026

Dear Texas Master Naturalists,

As we enter **into National Volunteer Recognition Day** on April 19 and **National Volunteer Week**, April 19 – 25, we want to take a moment to celebrate YOU. Spring for the Texas Master Naturalist Program always comes with such vibrant energy and a busy season of conservation and stewardship activities! April and National Volunteer week are true testaments to your dedication and passion for our natural resources. This month, as part of **Global Volunteer Month** and **National Volunteer Week**, we want to pause and express our deepest gratitude for everything you do as a Texas Master Naturalist volunteer to steward, protect, and conserve our natural resources.

This year's theme for Global Volunteer Month is "Your Year to Volunteer," encouraging everyone to discover joy and purpose through volunteering. We hope you have taken a moment to read our National Volunteer Month individual story highlights and hear straight from a few of our incredible volunteers who have discovered the joy of showing up for their communities through service. You, our incredible volunteers, are at the heart of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. Your commitment is awe-inspiring and reaches far beyond the events, workshops, and projects in which you participate. You are the catalysts of change and the ambassadors for nature in communities across our great state of Texas.

Throughout this month, we invite you to celebrate the joy and purpose found through volunteering with the TMN Program—whether through local events, social media shout-outs, or simply reflecting on the difference you make. From Earth Day on April 22 to Arbor Day on April 24 and the City Nature Challenge starting on April 24, there are so many opportunities to be a part of the movement and continue making an impact. Know that we are cheering you on and sharing your stories across our social media platforms. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram as we highlight the exceptional work you're doing.

The numbers are staggering, and yet they only scratch the surface of the true impact you've had. In 2025 alone, Texas Master Naturalists contributed in monumental ways—completing service projects, forming vital conservation partnerships, changing landscapes, and educating communities. Our 2025 Annual Report will further showcase the incredible contributions of you and your fellow Master Naturalists and Chapters statewide. We encourage you to share these resources and stories with your friends, family, and colleagues, as they illustrate the powerful and lasting legacy of your work and invite them to sing your praises and join the movement with you.

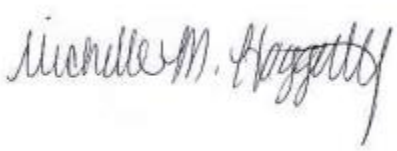
As a part of the Texas Master Naturalist family, you are helping to shape the future of our state's largest conservation movement. You wear your program badges and certification pins with pride because it represents more than just your service; it represents your commitment to something larger than yourself. Through your hard work, you have transformed landscapes and inspired countless others to care about and protect our natural resources.

Our two state agency sponsors, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, share in our deep appreciation for the power of your volunteerism. Together, we know that the need for conservation and stewardship has never been more urgent. It is because of you that we can look toward the future with hope and optimism.

So, during this National Volunteer Week and all of April, know that you are seen, you are valued, and you are celebrated. The work you do is changing the world, and it's an honor to be part of this movement with you. Thank you for all you do. You make everything possible.

We appreciate you, we celebrate you, and we can't wait to see all that we will accomplish together in the years to come.

With heartfelt thanks,



Michelle Haggerty Mary Pearl Meuth Hannah Ferguson