

## **Certification Requirements**

To become a Certified Missouri Master Naturalist, a trainee must complete the following:

- The state committee approved curriculum with a minimum of forty hours of combined field and classroom instruction.
- A *minimum* of eight contact hours of approved advanced training.
- A *minimum* of forty hours of approved volunteer service.

## **Certification**

Volunteers have a maximum of fifteen consecutive months, or less, from the first training session to complete the above requirements and become certified as a Master Naturalist. Volunteers can begin to earn volunteer service hours while they are enrolled in the initial training. Certified volunteers will receive a name badge, a state award of certification, and a color dragonfly pin.

If volunteers do not finish the above requirements in the fifteen-month allotment, they will remain Master Naturalist interns for the next twelve month time period, during which time they may complete the requirements and become certified within the next year.

## **Recertification – this is on a calendar year**

To *retain* the title of Certified Missouri Master Naturalist during each subsequent year, volunteers must complete a minimum of eight hours of approved advanced training per year and provide a minimum of forty hours of approved volunteer service. If a volunteer completes an additional eight hours of approved advanced training and forty hours of volunteer service in the same year they received their initial certification they can be considered recertified and receive that current years recertification pin.

Every year that volunteers successfully recertify, they receive a specially designed pin that is available for that year only. These pins are limited editions; each is only available during a given year.

## **Milestone Pins**

Milestone hours are accumulative since the time a volunteer gets started with the program. These pins are awarded after 250, 500, 1000, 2500 and 5000 service hours are completed.