



Your key to discovering the Natural Missouri

Sixth Annual State Conference and Advanced Training

Living on the Edge *Explore and Discover Great Environments* September 23-25, 2011 Joplin, Missouri

Dear Missouri Master Naturalist,

July 2011

Citizens in the Joplin area truly have been living life on the edge these past few months. So it is with great determination and excitement that the Chert Glades Master Naturalists invite you to join them for what is guaranteed to be exceptional weekend to **explore and discover the great environments** of the southwest edge of the state during the sixth annual Missouri Master Naturalist State Conference and Advanced Training. Everyone involved in the Master Naturalist program is invited to attend. This includes those certified, working on certification, in training, chapter advisors, honorary members, and your local chapter partners.

Conference headquarters are at the Holiday Inn with field sessions at nearby Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Water Woods Conservation Area, Diamond Grove Prairie, and the Old Cabin Shop in Carthage. Four pre-conference workshops on Friday will get you started on a full weekend of advance training. Saturday and Sunday offer an array of sessions with everything from amphibians, bats and caves, to mussels, neo-tropical's and ore. There's something to capture everyone's interest. John Two-Hawks, Lakota musician and orator, will provide us an exquisite and inspirational presentation on Saturday evening and there's a special surprise guest joining us for the opening session on Friday.

The always popular early morning birding excursions, silent auction and photography contest are also on the agenda. This is a great opportunity to meet other Master Naturalists from across the state, visit with the friends you've made through the program, and share new ideas. You can complete your annual advanced training requirement, hear about projects your peers are engaged in, and make new acquaintances, all at the same time.

Come spend a weekend filled with fun, exploration, discoveries, relaxation and learning. At the same time you can show your support for the Joplin community and help the Chert Glades Master Naturalists celebrate a fantastic annual conference.

For more information and conference insights go to www.monaturalist.org

See you there!

Members of the Chert Glades Master Naturalist Chapters

Syd Hime
Master Naturalist State Program Coordinator
Missouri Department of Conservation

Bob Pierce
Master Naturalist State Program Coordinator
University of Missouri Extension

Registration deadline is September 2, 2011



A partnership of the Missouri Department of Conservation and University of Missouri Extension



Living on the Edge

Explore and Discover Great Environments

September 23-25, 2011

Conference Location

The Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center in Joplin, Missouri will serve as the conference headquarters. Conveniently located at the intersection of I-44 and US 71 the hotel features an array of amenities including an indoor pool, day spa, gym, internet access, non-smoking rooms, and a full hot breakfast for guests staying on-site. Some sessions will be held off-site at locations ranging from a ten to twenty minute drive from Joplin. Car-pooling will be encouraged for all off-site sessions.

Accommodations

Holiday Inn – A block of rooms have been reserved through **August 24, 2011**. Room reservations must be made directly with the hotel. Registration for the conference **does not** reserve a hotel room. Room rate is \$89 per night and includes a full hot breakfast

Holiday Inn
3615 S. Range Line Road
Joplin, Missouri
(417) 782-1000

Camping – There are three campgrounds in the Joplin area offering an array of accommodations from tent camping to sites with full hook-ups. Reservations and fees are the participant's responsibility.

Joplin KOA
4359 Hwy 43
Joplin, MO 64804
(417) 623-2246

Shoal Creek RV Park and Campground
6821 Gateway Dr.
Joplin, MO 64804
(417) 621-0807

Zan's Creekside Campground
2480 Coyote Dr.
Joplin, MO 64804
(417) 782-0441

What to Bring

Dress for the weekend is casual. Bring the appropriate field gear for your preferred advanced training sessions. Don't forget your notepad, bug spray, sunscreen, water bottle, binoculars, camera, comfortable field shoes, and rain gear.

Scholarships

The Master Naturalist program will provide a scholarship to each chapter to cover the registration cost for one full registration (does not include lodging) for an attending member. The scholarship recipient must be a certified Master Naturalist, or actively working on certification and active with their chapter. Recipients are selected and approved by the chapter board. To apply contact your chapter President. Once approved scholarship recipients should contact Syd Hime, (573) 522-4115 extension 3370 or syd.hime@mdc.mo.gov, for further registration instructions. All scholarship recipients must register prior to the September 2, 2011 deadline.

Registration Fees

Activities will be held over three days. You can register for one, two, or all three days. Lodging is not included in the registration fee. Participants are responsible for making their own lodging arrangements. Please note some sessions have additional fees as indicated in the session description and on the registration form.

Registration deadline is September 2, 2011

	Registration Fee
Full Registration Includes pre-conference workshops and all activities listed for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Some sessions have an additional fee as indicated on the registration form.	\$70
Friday Only Includes all Friday pre-conference workshops (some have an additional fee), evening activities at the Holiday Inn and a light dinner.	\$20
Saturday Only Includes the daybreak birding excursion, your choice of two half-day sessions or one full-day session, snacks, lunch, activities at the Holiday Inn, evening dinner and keynote program.	\$45
Sunday Only Includes the daybreak birding excursion, your choice of one half-day session, snacks and closing session at the Holiday Inn.	\$15
Guest Registration	
Friday Includes all Friday pre-conference workshops (some have an additional fee), evening activities at the Holiday Inn and a light dinner.	\$20
Saturday Includes the Saturday evening dinner and keynote program.....	\$30

Registration deadline is September 2, 2011

Online or onsite registration is not available

Cancellation policy: If you cancel your registration, with notification, on or before September 9, 2011 you will receive a full refund. Fees will not be refunded to registrants who do not attend or do not notify Syd Hime, state program coordinator at (573) 522-4115 extension 3370 or syd.hime@mdc.mo.gov of their cancellation.

Conference Features

Pre-Conference Workshops

Living on the Edge invites you to **E**xplore and **D**iscover the **G**reat **E**nvironments of southwest Missouri. Start your adventure by participating in one of this year's great pre-conference workshops. If history is your interest you'll find the workshop at George Washington Carver National Monument to be fascinating. The workshop at Neosha National Fish Hatchery will satisfy those with a bent toward fisheries. Prairie State Park may be the choice for those with wanderlust for the wild and the Project WET workshop at Walter Woods Conservation Area will appeal to those of you with an interest in environmental education. All four offer an opportunity to pick-up additional advanced training while discovering or re-discovering a Missouri treasure. Further details can be found under the conference schedule. To participate check the appropriate box on the registration form.

John Two-Hawks Keynote Program

John Two-Hawks is a Grammy and Emmy nominated, Platinum Award winning musician whose music has been featured in movies, HBO films, the History Channel, and countless other national and international media outlets. Two-Hawks is a phenomenal musician who plays dozens of instruments, and incorporates them all into a powerful, one-of-a-kind music which transcends genre and reaches out to souls all over the world with a profound healing touch. He is truly in a class by himself, and his ability to pour the ancient healing spirit out of his flute and incredible voice is unmatched. True to his Lakota ethnic and cultural heritage Two-Hawks is gracious and eloquent, and yet remains a fiery advocate for Indigenous human and civil rights.

Guest Activities

If you are being accompanied this weekend by a spouse, family member or friend they're invited to join a few of the conference activities that perhaps will inspire them to become a Master Naturalist. Guests can join you for a Friday afternoon pre-conference workshop and the Friday evening activities at the Holiday Inn. They are also welcome to join us for the Saturday evening dinner and keynote program. To sign up a guest check the appropriate box on the registration form.

Commemorative Conference T-Shirt

It's a commemorative conference T-shirt sale! This short sleeve, 100% cotton, "verga gold" colored shirt will feature the Missouri Master Naturalist logo on the front left chest and a unique full-color *Living on the Edge* design on the back. Available in adult sizes small to XL for \$14 and sizes 2XL-3XL for \$16 these shirts only can be purchased with a conference registration. Shirts will **not** be for sale at the conference. Mark your order on the registration form and take advantage of this one-time, great offer.



Silent Auction

From atlats and bracelets to walking sticks and zithers the silent auction will offer a plethora of “can’t live without” naturalist treasures for your shopping pleasure. This extremely popular conference feature has been known to create some friendly competitive action among bidders. Located at the Holiday Inn the auction will be open Friday and Saturday with the final bidding ending on Saturday evening. Bring an item or two to add to the auction and bring your checkbook as well, there’s sure to be a treasure just for you! Check in your items at the registration table. Proceeds from the auction help fund scholarships for future conference attendees.

Photography Contest

Show off your photographic skills and the natural beauty of Missouri by entering your favorite photographs in this contest. Each participant can enter up to **two "8x10", white matted (2 ¼"), unframed**, photos in any combination of the three categories. All photographs must be taken in Missouri and not previously submitted in past Master Naturalist photography contests. Winners in each category will be selected by Noppadol Paothong, Missouri Department of Conservation Staff Photographer, and conference participants will vote for the “People’s Choice” award. Check in your contest entries at the registration table.

Contest categories are:

1. Missouri’s Landscapes
2. Missouri Up-Close (macro)
3. Missouri’s Wildlife

Chapter Exhibits

Each Missouri Master Naturalist chapter is encouraged to bring an exhibit showcasing their chapter activities and accomplishments. The exhibits will be on display at the Holiday Inn and can be set up between 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23. If you are bringing an exhibit please have a chapter representative contact Syd Hime, State Program Coordinator at (573) 522-4115 extension 3370 or syd.hime@mdc.mo.gov.

Chapter Accomplishments

Friday evening Master Naturalist chapter and program accomplishments from the past year will be featured in the opening session. Many phenomenal activities and exemplary events have been taking place across the state. This will be your opportunity to see what other chapters have been doing, get some new ideas, and make note of activities you want to find out more about as you visit with fellow Master Naturalists throughout the conference.

Conference Schedule At-A-Glance

Friday, September 23

Pre-conference Workshops

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Project WET, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin

George Washington Carver National Monument, Diamond

Neosho National Fish Hatchery, Neosho

Prairie State Park, Mindenmines

Holiday Inn, Joplin

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Registration (*all conference attendees are required to check in at registration*)

Social and Light Dinner

Opening Welcome and Surprise Guest

Saturday, September 24 – *all activities originate at the Holiday Inn*

6:30 – 8:00 a.m.

Birding Excursion

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Registration (*all conference attendees are required to check in at registration*)

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

All-Day Advanced Training Session

- An Ozark Float Trip

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Half-Day Morning Advanced Training Sessions

- Basic Muzzleloading – *Carpool departs Holiday Inn at 8:00 a.m.*
- Bats: Wind, Wings, and White-Nose Syndrome
- Butterflies' Lives
- Caves, Caving, and Cavefish
- Nature Photography
- Southwest Missouri's Natural Communities: Forests and Glades
- Tri-State Ore: Creation to Exploitation and Beyond
- Vocal and Valued Amphibians

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Half-Day Afternoon Advanced Training Sessions

- Finding Your Way With GPS and Geocaching
- Introduction to Fly Tying and Fishing
- Mussel Madness
- Southwest Missouri's Natural Communities: Prairies
- The Nuts and Bolts of Prairie and Grassland Restoration and Is Your Home a Safe Harbor - For Whom?
- Unlock Your Potential – Keys to Understanding and Providing Better Interpretation
- What Does It Take To Get Pollinated Around Here?

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Social, Dinner, and final Silent Auction bidding

7:30 p.m.

Silent Auction closes

7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Keynote Program John Two-Hawks

Sunday, September 25 - *all activities originate at the Holiday Inn*

6:30 – 8:00 a.m.

Birding Excursion

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Half-Day Advanced Training Sessions

- Birds of Prey
- Chert Resources Valued by Ancient People of the Joplin Area
- Conservation Education in a Trunk
- Feathers, Nests, and Eggs
- Missouri's Tropical Connection
- Natives not Invasives

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Closing

Conference Schedule

Friday Afternoon Pre-Conference Workshops

Be adventurous on your way to experiencing Life on the Edge. Take a detour, travel a new road, discover a new place at one of these fun and educational workshops. Guests are welcome.

Project WET

Erica Cox: Missouri Project WET Coordinator, Missouri State University

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is an internationally acclaimed curriculum and activity guide with a focus on water education. This 517-page guide contains 91 multidisciplinary water-related activities for students in grades K to 12. The guide features cross-reference and planning charts, a glossary and background material on activity development and field testing. Workshop participants will receive hands-on instruction in conducting these activities that can be used in both formal and informal education settings as well as gain ideas for developing water-education events. Participants will receive a copy of the activity guide as well as a wealth of other water education resources.

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Walter Woods Conservation Area

Fee: \$15 for Master Naturalist, \$25 for guests

What to bring: A sack lunch

George Washington Carver National Monument

National Parks Service Staff

George Washington Carver believed that all of life's problems could be solved through nature. The 240 acres within this national monument preserve the land of Dr. Carver's birth as well as his legacy as a great scientist, educator, and valiant humanitarian. Come and experience the newly renovated visitor's center, including the Carver Museum, the Discovery Center, science-lab, and one-room schoolhouse. Participants will be given a guided tour of the visitor's center and park grounds which includes a ¾ mile nature trail through woodland and prairie landscapes. You will also learn about control of invasive species in the park, and the park's creative use of volunteers. In addition, early arrivals (by 12:30 p.m.) are invited to observe and take inspiration from a "PEEPS Day" morning education event on the grounds as presented by a longstanding alliance of local conservation agencies promoting quality environmental education to area students.

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Diamond, Newton County

Neosho National Fish Hatchery

David Hendrix, Hatchery Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Melissa Cheung, Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Established in 1888, the Neosho National Fish Hatchery is the nation's oldest operating federal fish hatchery. Over 130 species of cold, cool, and warm water fish have been produced at the hatchery since it was established. The current focus is on paddlefish and lake sturgeon restoration, pallid sturgeon recovery, production of rainbow trout for mitigation, and native mussel propagation. The staff at the hatchery also protects the endangered Ozark cavefish in one of the springs that supplies the hatchery with water. A new visitor center, which includes a 2,500-gallon aquarium, opened its doors to the public in December 2010, and is certified Gold under the LEED rating system. Come experience the new, environmentally-friendly facility, discover its history, learn about the research, and get a behind the scenes tour of the hatchery.

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Neosho, Newton County

Prairie State Park

Dana Hoisington: Naturalist, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Prairie has long been an important part of the southwest Missouri landscape. Tallgrass prairie once covered more than a third of the State, but today, less than one percent remains, much of it preserved at Prairie State Park. Come and experience what settlers might have seen as they headed west, and learn how Native Americans utilized bison for everything from brushes, canteens, and clothing, to tools, religious symbols, and pigments in a special program, *Bison: the General Store of the Plains*. There will be time to explore the Visitor's Center and glean ideas for your own interpretive projects, as well as hike with a naturalist to explore the prairie in all its fall glory and share the beauty of this imperiled landscape.

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Mindenmines, Barton County

Friday Evening Activities – Holiday Inn

4:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Registration

Pick up your conference registration and information materials. Check in your silent auction items and photography contest entries. Get settled in and spend some time previewing the silent auction and enjoying the photography contest entries.

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Social Gathering and Dinner

Get acquainted with Master Naturalists from across the state. Greet old friends and meet new friends! A light dinner will be provided.

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Opening Welcome

Let's get started with a warm *Life on the Edge* welcome and an overview of the conference activities. A "year in review" presentation will highlight what Master Naturalists have been doing across the state and how this program has continued to expand and grow in 2011.

Saturday Early Birds

6:00 – 8:00 a.m.

Birding Excursion – Meet at the Holiday Inn Lobby

Join the Chert Glade Master Naturalists members for this early morning wake up with the birds.

Saturday Registration

7:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Holiday Inn Lobby



Saturday Advanced Training Sessions

Carpooling for all off-site sessions depart from the Holiday Inn

Saturday All-Day Session 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

An Ozark Float Trip – Departs from Holiday Inn

Kevin Badgley: Interpretive Center Manager, Missouri Department of Conservation

Jeff Cantrell: Conservation Education Consultant, Missouri Department of Conservation

The Ozark region is renowned for its shallow, scenic float streams. This unforgettable experience will introduce you to floating as it is done in the edge of the Ozarks. You'll learn about a variety of watershed issues, management practices, native flora and fauna, monitoring activities, and riparian corridor protection as you experience one of the Ozarks finest recreation resources. Be sure to wear shoes with a protective sole as you'll be exploring gravel bars and enjoying lunch streamside. Session is dependent on water levels and weather conditions. Minimal canoe experience required.

Limit 20 people

Saturday Half-Day Morning Sessions: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Basic Muzzleloading –Departs 8:00 a.m., Carthage

Bob Sheldon Jr.: Co-owner, Old Cabin Shop

Black Powder and muzzleloaders have been around much longer than the United States has been a country. For over 600 years, muzzleloaders have tamed wilderness, won wars, and sustained life. Today muzzleloading is an active outdoor skill, part of our cultural history, and a distinctive hunting option. Learn about the history and details of this firearm and participate in a hands-on black powder demonstration where you will be able to prepare, use and fire muzzleloaders on a black powder range.

Limit 20 people

Bats: Wind, Wings, and White-Nose Syndrome – Holiday Inn

Dr. Lynn W. Robbins: Department of Biology, Missouri State University

Creatures of myth and misinformation, bats are vital to healthy ecosystems as predators, pollinators and seed dispersers. They rank among the worlds most diverse and fascinating mammals, yet few people know anything about them. Learn about bats in general and bats of Missouri in particular as you explore both good news and bad news for bat populations resulting from development of green energy. In addition find out about the cause, progress, and possible options concerning the mysterious "White-nose syndrome" that currently threatens Missouri's bat populations.

Butterflies' Lives – Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Dr. Chris Barnhar:, Department of Biology, Missouri State University

Learn about the life histories of butterflies, skippers, and moths. These loveliest of insects appeal to everyone young and old. They capture the attention and curiosity of artists, ecologists, gardeners, photographers, teachers and students. Study the diversity of Lepidoptera and how they live and interact with other life-forms. Learn how to find, photograph, preserve, and propagate them. With net in hand you'll roam Wildcat Glades to sharpen both practical handling and identification skills.

Limit 20 people

Caves, Caving, and Cavefish: Shedding light on a blind predator and Missouri's darkest habitat

Holiday Inn

Blake Stephens: Karst Conservation Consultant, Ozark Regional Land Trust; Lead Researcher for the Cavefish Project, Missouri State University

Known as "The Cave State" Missouri is home to over 6,300 caves. These cool, damp, dark underground shelters are more than just holes in the ground! Learn all about the elusive, blind cavefish of southwest Missouri and the shallow, fragile groundwater environment it inhabits. Discover the ins and outs of caving, and how you can get involved in helping conservation organizations protect these fragile habitats.

Nature Photography – Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Noppadol Paothong: Staff Photographer, Missouri Department of Conservation

Wildlife photography has been a passion of Nop's for many years. As a staff photographer for MDC he travels the state capturing the unique beauty, scenic vistas, and often rare wildlife action that makes Missouri a beckon for outdoor enthusiasts. In this session he'll share the techniques that make his photographs so spectacular including photo editing processes. Bring along some of your favorite images and receive some professional critique that will help improve your photography skills.

Limit 30 people

Southwest Missouri's Natural Communities: Forests and Glades –Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Mike Leahy: Natural Areas Coordinator, Missouri Department of Conservation

Explore the unique micro-wilderness of Wildcat Glades Natural Area and surrounding forest system and develop an understanding of how natural communities are structured and restored. Discover chert glades found nowhere else in the world and examine the relationship between the geology, soils, and plant and animal communities found there. Learn how to identify dominant and characteristic native plants, insects and birds, their habitat affinities and life histories.

Tri-State Ore: Creation to Exploitation and Beyond – Holiday Inn

Dr. John Knapp: Physical Sciences, Missouri Southern State University

Brad Belk: Director, Joplin Museum Complex

The Tri-State district of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma was one of the foremost mining areas of the world. Ore discoveries were responsible for settlement and establishment of towns and cities of this area. Discover the story of the Tri-State boom, how minerals were mined and the life of a miner. You will learn how ore deposits formed originally and how to identify common Missouri minerals and rocks. You'll examine the end of the mining era, the toll taken on the environment, and the human health and the social problems associated with cleanup and abandonment of entire towns.

Vocal and Valued Amphibians – Holiday Inn

Kate Kelly: Science Assistant, Missouri Department of Conservation

Toads and frogs provide food for a wide variety of animals, are important indicators of habitat health, and make lively music with their peeps, trills, whistles, grunts and snores. Find out all about the melodic amphibians of Missouri and explore their life histories, distributions, and habitats, as well as how and why changes in their populations are being monitored to track environmental health. Learn to recognize the frogs and toads in your neighborhood by ear and start to collect frog songs in your head! Impress yourself with success on a fun frog call quiz. (Don't let birders have all the fun!)

Saturday Half-Day Afternoon Sessions: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Finding Your Way with GPS and Geocaching – Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Tom Danner, Kelly Coiner: Chert Glades Master Naturalists

Discover how to create and enjoy the adventure of a high tech treasure hunt using global position systems (GPS). You'll get familiar with the basics of using GPS and how to geocache which combines GPS navigational skills with outdoor exercise and appreciation of nature. Discover how to treasure hunt for caches the Earth has already stored, and how to connect others to those special places. Your new found knowledge will be put to use while you experience a geocaching adventure in Wildcat Glades. If you have a GPS device or mobile phone with GPS, please bring it with you.

Introduction to Fly Tying and Fishing - Walter Woods Conservation Area

Silas Gray, Steve and Waymeth Werrie: MAKO Fly Fishers

Izaak Walton called fly fishing "The Contemplative Man's Recreation." Learn how a fly rod differs from conventional fishing equipment, about the different types of fly rods, lines and flies and test your casting skills. The value of fly tying will be discussed, a variety of tying techniques will be shared and then you'll put your fly tying skills to work as you create your own lure. The session will end with some onsite fishing with the goal of reeling in a bluegill, bass, or trout on your newly tied fly.

Note: A valid Missouri fishing license is required for fishing.

Mussel Madness – Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Dr. Robert "Kip" Heth: Biology Department, Missouri Southern State University

Mussels are a vital and diverse, yet often ignored, part of our waterways. They tell us if our water is clean enough for people and livestock to drink. They can live longer than most humans. They have been an important component of the fashion industry and they are an importance food source for a wide range of wildlife. Unfortunately they are seriously threatened by stream alterations and invading exotic mussels. In this session you will learn all about freshwater mussels and pea clams, their habitats and unique lifecycles, the challenges they face, and the invasive species that threaten them. You'll spend some time exploring a Shoal Creek gravel bar for shells and learn to key out specimens collected. Be prepared to get your feet wet!

Limit 20 people

Southwest Missouri's Natural Communities: Prairies – Departs from Holiday Inn

Mike Leahy: Natural Areas Coordinator, Missouri Department of Conservation

Explore one of gems of Missouri's natural communities: Diamond Grove Prairie. This remnant tallgrass prairie contains abundant prairie dropseed, little bluestem, Indian grass, a palette of showy wildflowers and a full suite of grassland birds. Learn about the relationship between geology, soils, and the plant and animal communities and explore the unique mima mounds. Learn how to identify dominant and characteristic native plants and observe insects and birds, their habitat affinities and life histories

The Nuts and Bolts of Prairie and Grassland Restoration and Is Your Home a Safe Harbor—For Whom?

Holiday Inn

Dr. James R Jackson, Dr. Dorothy Bay: Biology Department, Missouri Southern State University

In this two-part session you'll learn about grassland restoration practices and how to create wildlife habitat on a small scale. Utilizing examples of prairie restoration research at Prairie State Park, George Carver National Monument and Crackly Hill Country Park in Gloucestershire, England the aspects of grassland restoration that will be covered include: restoration objectives, determination of current condition, development of management techniques, and evaluating success. Applying these aspects to a smaller scale you'll learn about the importance of making whatever acreage, yard, or windowsill you have available into a place that will invite interesting wildlife, and repel undesirables. Learn how to use native plants to their best advantage while saving on time, energy, and water.

Unlock Your Potential – Keys to Understanding and Providing Better Interpretation – Walter Woods

Conservation Area

Cyndi Cogbill: Public Service Assistant, Missouri Department of Conservation

Chanda Williams: Naturalist

Do you ever work with school children or the general public; answer questions; staff an information booth; help out at a public event; or develop a poster, brochure, display, or program? If you answered yes to any part of the question, this is the session to attend. Through examples and activities you will learn about the art of interpretation, sharpen your presentation skills, and build your confidence in working with the public.

What Does It Take To Get Pollinated Around Here? – Wildcat Glades Conservation Center

Mike Arduser: Natural History Biologist, Missouri Department of Conservation

Pollination is central to all human beings, livestock, and wildlife. Plant pollination by insects is one of the most widespread and important ecosystem services and is essential in both natural and agricultural landscapes. Learn about the many types of pollinators and the array of ecosystem services they provide. A short hike will allow you to observe these fascinating specimens in action.

Limit 20 people

Sunday Early Birds

6:00 – 8:00 a.m. Birding Excursion - Meet at the Holiday Inn Lobby

Join the Chert Glade Master Naturalists members for this early morning wake up with the birds.

Sunday Advanced Training Sessions

Sunday Half-Day Morning Sessions: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Birds of Prey – Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Delia Lister: Director, Nature Reach, Pittsburg State University

How many feathers does an owl have? How fast does a hawk fly? How do you tell the difference between a hawk and an eagle in flight? If you have ever been stumped by these questions and are looking for answers, then this is the session for you. With the help of a few live raptors and some teaching specimens, you'll discover successful techniques for presenting a raptor program, how falconry birds differ from educational program birds, identification tips, laws associated with raptors, and conservation biology. Bring along your binoculars, and be prepared for a possible short hike to sharpen your raptor identification skills.

Chert Resources Valued by Ancient People of the Joplin Area – Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center

Jack H. Ray: Research Archaeologist, Center for Archeological Research, Missouri State University

Pre-Columbian Indians used local chert resources to make spear points, arrow points, scrapers, knives, and other chipped-stone tools for more than 12,000 years prior to the arrival of Europeans and metal implements. Chert still helps to define the area by underpinning our unique and rare landscapes. Learn how to identify these chert resources, including in-field exploration at Silver Creek Glade. A flint-knapping demonstration will show how Pre-Columbian Indians made their chipped-stone tools.

Conservation Education In A Trunk – Holiday Inn

Carl and Janet Haworth: Springfield Plateau Master Naturalists

In response to overwhelming requests for presentations to schools and youth groups the Springfield Plateau Master Naturalists have developed several “education in a trunk” programs to meet these needs. Learn about the training the volunteers received for instructing these programs, and the process they have in place from initial contact request, to the presentation and follow-up. Discover what is included in these trunks that instruct youth on Missouri animals and conservation. Discuss ideas on how your chapter can duplicate these efforts with existing MDC resource trunks or create your own.

Feathers, Nests and Eggs – Holiday Inn

Joyce Haynes: Author and Chert Glades Master Naturalist

Explore the dynamics and aesthetics of Missouri birds with this lively and creative interactive session. If you’ve ever wondered what kind of bird made the nest on your front porch, or in nearby shrubbery, chances are you will find out when viewing the many and varied nests in this collection. You’ll be amazed by avian architectural abilities as you are challenged with making your own nest. Discover why some eggs are round and others are conical as you consider Haynes’ own hand-made collection of Missouri bird egg replicas. Magnify feathers to see their intricate structure. You’ll find a new passion and appreciation for birds from this sampling of diversity and beauty.

Missouri's Tropical Connection: Stopovers, layovers and direct flights – Holiday Inn

Jeff Cantrell: Education Consultant, Missouri Department of Conservation,

It is autumn and Missouri Master Naturalists are bidding "bon voyage" to over half of our summer birds. Many are heading toward warmer climates and a life of tropical foods and colorful neighbors. But there will be no red carpet laid out for them, and in general, their life is not easy. Come learn about these fascinating birds, their wayfarer lifestyle and how you can contribute to conservation efforts.

Natives not Invasives – Holiday Inn

Syd Hime: Volunteer and Interpretive Programs Coordinator, Missouri Department of Conservation

Many of the popular landscape plants available in today’s market are already or have the potential to become invasive. As such they displace our native plants, decrease wildlife habitat and increase your landscape maintenance. Some of these plants may already be in your yard! Find out what horticulture escapees are of concern and what native species are a good alternative. Get tips for using native plants in your landscape including site design, plant selection, and maintenance. When you leave this session you’ll have a whole new way of looking at your landscape.

Sixth Annual Missouri Master Naturalist State Conference and Advanced Training Registration Form

Use this form to register for the Missouri Master Naturalist State Conference and Advanced Training September 23-25, 2011 in Joplin. Submit your registration by mail to the contact below. Please submit a separate registration for each Master Naturalist. **Registrations will not be accepted after September 2, 2011.** For questions about registration contact Syd Hime, MDC, (573) 522-4115 ext 3370 or syd.hime@mdc.mo.gov

Please print legibly.

Name: _____ (As you wish it to appear on your name badge)
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone Number w/area code: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Master Naturalist Chapter: _____
Guest(s) Name: _____

Registration:

Check full registration if you are attending all three days, or check any combination of days.

Option	Fee	Total
Full Registration (all activities Friday – Sunday)	\$70	
Friday Only Registration	\$20	
Saturday Only Registration	\$45	
Sunday Only Registration	\$15	
Friday Pre-conference Project WET Master Naturalist	\$15	
Guest Activities		
Friday Guest: includes pre-conference workshop (some have an extra fee) , dinner and evening activities at the Holiday Inn	\$20	
Friday Pre-conference Project WET Guest	\$25	
Saturday Guest (includes dinner and keynote presentation)	\$30	
Commemorative T-Shirt		
Life on the Edge conference T-shirt – indicate quantities for each size ordered		
SM MED LG XL	\$14	
2XL 3XL	\$16	
Total Amount Included		

Mail this registration form with check to:
 Master Naturalist Annual Conference
 Attention: Syd Hime
 Missouri Department of Conservation
 P.O. Box 180
 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Make checks payable to:
 Missouri University Extension
 Amount enclosed: _____

Be sure to complete the next page!

Session Selection: Please indicate your session selection for each day you are attending. Sessions will have a minimum and maximum capacity. Every attempt will be made to give you your first or second choice for Saturday and Sunday's sessions. In the event these choices are already full when your registration is received you will be given your third choice or be placed in another open session. If a session does not achieve its minimum capacity it will be cancelled. A registration confirmation with your assigned sessions will be sent to you two weeks prior to the conference.

Friday Afternoon Pre-Conference Workshops (select one only)

If guests are joining you for one of these workshops please indicate the total number attending.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Project WET (\$15 MNs, \$25 Guests) | <input type="checkbox"/> Neosho National Fish Hatchery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> George Washington Carver National Monument | <input type="checkbox"/> Prairie State Park |

Saturday Advanced Training Sessions

Please indicate your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for these sessions. Your 1st choice can be one morning session and one afternoon session or the full-day session. Please be sure to select three choices. Failing to do so may delay the processing of your registration.

Full-Day

- An Ozark Float Trip

Morning

- Basic Muzzleloading
 Bats: Wind, Wings, and White Nose Syndrome
 Butterflies' Lives
 Caves, Caving and Cavefish
 Nature Photography
 Natural Communities: Forests and Glades
 Tri-State Ore: Creation to Exploitation and Beyond
 Vocal and Valued Amphibians

Afternoon

- Finding Your Way With GPS
 Introduction to Fly Tying and Fishing
 Mussel Madness
 Natural Communities: Prairies
 Prairie and Grassland Restoration
 Is Your Home A Safe Harbor?
 Unlock Your Potential
 What's It Take to Get Pollinated?

Sunday Advanced Training Sessions

Please indicate your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for these half-day sessions. Please be sure to select three choices. Failing to do so may delay the processing of your registration.

Morning

- Birds of Prey
 Chert Resources Valued by Ancient People in the Joplin Area
 Conservation Education In A Trunk
 Feathers, Nests, and Eggs
 Missouri's Tropical Connection: Stopovers, Layovers, and Direct Flights
 Natives not Invasives!
-