



## *Missouri Master Naturalist*

*A summary of program impacts and achievements during 2014*

***Robert A. Pierce II***

Extension Associate Professor  
and State Wildlife Specialist  
University of Missouri

***Syd Hime***

Volunteer and Interpretive Programs Coordinator  
Missouri Department of Conservation

*“The mission of the Missouri Master Naturalist program is to engage Missourians in the stewardship of the state’s natural resources through science-based education and community service.”*

## Introduction

The Missouri Master Naturalist program results from a partnership created in 2004 between the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and University of Missouri Extension. These two organizations are the sponsors of the program at the state level. Within MU Extension, the Missouri Master Naturalist Program has the distinction of being recognized as a named and branded educational program. The MU School of Natural Resources serves as the academic home for the program.

The program is jointly administered by state coordinators that represent the MDC and MU Extension. The state program coordinators provide leadership in conducting the overall program and facilitate the development of training and chapter development with Chapter Advisors representing both organizations as interest is generated within a local community.

Partnerships created at the community level are an integral part in the development of a Missouri Master Naturalist program and organization of a chapter. These partnerships serve to provide volunteers with learning experiences and opportunities for community service. Local partners may include a variety of entities such as state, federal and municipal government agencies; businesses; private, nonprofit organizations; and others that value the educational and service objectives that are within the scope of the program.

## Program Objectives

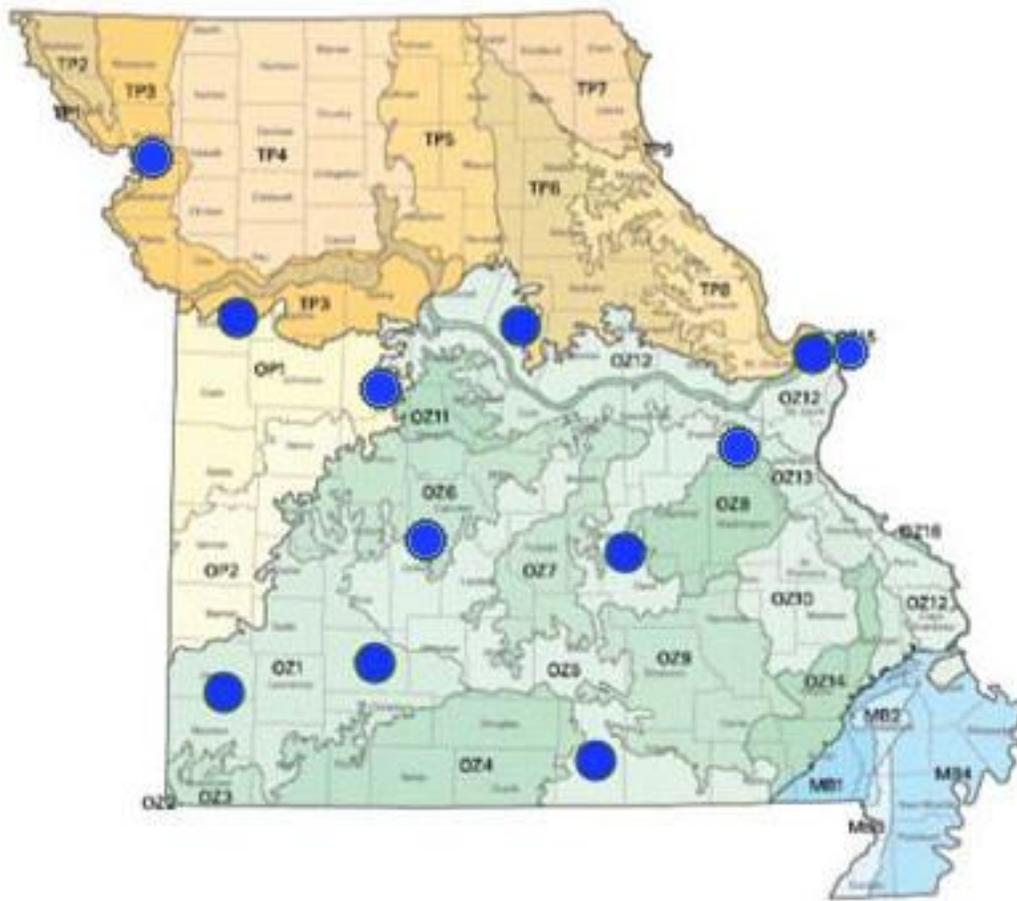
1. Improve public understanding of natural resource ecology and management by developing a pool of local knowledge that can be used to enhance and expand educational efforts within local communities
2. Enhance existing natural resources education and outreach activities by providing natural resources training at the local level, thereby developing a team of dedicated and informed volunteers
3. Develop a self-sufficient Missouri Master Naturalist volunteer network through the Chapter-based program.

An increasing number of communities and organizations across the state have relied on these skilled volunteers to implement natural resource educational programs for adults and youth audiences, for the expertise of these volunteers in implementing a variety of conservation projects, 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.



*Missouri Master Naturalists are actively involved in conducting conservation and education projects throughout the state.*

## Missouri Master Naturalist Chapters



Boone's Lick: <http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/columbia/index.html>

Chert Glades: <http://www.chertglades.org>

Confluence: <http://mmnconfluence.org>

Great Rivers: <http://masternaturalist.saint-louis.mo.us>

Hi Lonesome: <http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/colecamp>

Lake of the Ozarks: <http://lakeozarkmasternaturalist.com>

Loess Hills: <http://loesshills.wordpress.com>

Meramec Hills: <http://meramechills.org>

Miramiguo: <http://www.miramiguo.org>

Osage Trails: <http://osagetrails.com>

Ozarks: To be developed

Springfield Plateau: <http://springfieldmasternaturalist.com>

# Highlights of Chapter Volunteer Service Projects

## Boone's Lick Chapter, Columbia

<http://extension.missouri.edu/boone/masternaturalist.aspx>

### Partners

Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park  
Friends of the Big Muddy National Wildlife Refuge  
Missouri Audubon Society, Columbia Chapter  
Greenbelt Land Trust of Missouri  
Missouri River Communities Network  
Missouri River Relief  
MU Bradford Research Center  
Missouri River Bird Observatory  
City of Columbia, Aquatic Restoration Project and TreeKeepers  
University of Missouri Raptor Rehabilitation Program  
Ozark Trail Association

### *Highlights of selected volunteer service projects*

- Columbia Earth Day education booth
- Prairie restoration and native plant seed collection projects on Prairie Fork Conservation Area
- Butterfly and pollinator exhibits at University of Missouri South Farm Showcase
- Raptor rehabilitation project at the University of Missouri
- Bird monitoring surveys and counts
- Help Save Pallid Sturgeon programs
- Missouri Stream Team projects
- Band With Nature: Columbia Public Schools (second graders)

The Chapter participated in the MU South Farm Showcase. This family-oriented event showcases the farm's 1,452 acres, laboratories and ongoing research. The Chapter set up an informative display on Monarch butterflies and pollinators. Live butterflies raised by one of the members were a big hit with participants.



*Volunteers participated in numerous Missouri River conservation events. The Chapter also conducted educational projects with youth at Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area, at the MU South Farm Showcase and with Columbia Schools.*

## Chert Glades Chapter, Joplin

<http://www.chertglades.org>

### Partners

Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center  
Prairie State Park  
Neosho National Fish Hatchery  
Missouri Prairie Foundation  
George Washington Carver National Monument  
Ozark Regional Land Trust (ORLT)  
Ozark Gateway Audubon Chapter  
Cities of Joplin, Neosho, Webb City, Carthage,  
Stella  
MAKO Fly Fishers  
Joplin Parks and Recreation Department  
Association of Missouri Interpreters

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Habitat management activities conducted at MDC conservation areas
- Joplin tree planting in tornado devastated areas
- Educational projects at Wildcat Glades Nature Center, George Washington Carver National Historic Site, Roaring River and Prairie State Parks
- Shoal Creek water festival
- Project Feeder Watch
- North American Amphibian Monitoring Project
- Harvest wildflower seeds at Wood Prairie
- Naturescaping and rain garden demonstrations
- Kellogg Lake Kid's Fishing Day, Carthage
- Restoration project at Reddings Mill Bridge
- Numerous stream clean-up projects
- Stream Team No. 3714 water quality monitoring
- Monarch butterfly educational projects in which over 450 packets of native milkweed seeds collected by volunteers were distributed.
- An educational booth at Carver Prairie Day highlighted monarchs with several demonstrations and crafts.
- Eagle Days at Stella is a signature outreach program for the Chapter. Over 1500 people attend the event. Chapter members help with eagle viewing and educational activities.



*Volunteers conducted numerous outreach activities including native prairie restoration projects, developed educational booths at water festivals and at Carver Prairie Days.*

## Confluence Chapter, St. Charles

<http://mmnconfluence.org>

### Partners

Forest ReLeaf of Missouri  
Lewis and Clark Boathouse and Nature Center  
Litzsinger Ecology Center  
Missouri Botanical Garden  
Missouri Bluebird Society  
Missouri Forest Keepers  
Missouri River Relief  
Missouri Native Plant Society  
North American Butterfly Association  
Friends of LaBarque Creek  
Greenway Network  
St. Charles County Parks  
St. Louis Audubon Society  
Shaw Nature Reserve  
DNR/MDC Stream Team  
Weldon Springs  
Interpretive Center  
Wentzville Parks  
World Bird Sanctuary



### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Initiated a multi-year project for the City of Wentzville in Rotary Park. To date the Chapter has conducted wildlife and plant surveys and removal of invasive plants.
- The Confluence Chapter secured an MDC Community Stewardship Grant for conducting a project on the Matson Hill area, which will be a part of St Charles County Parks. The project consisted of controlling sugar maples on 80 acres, installing two vernal ponds, planting oak trees, and removing cedars from 5 acres. Outreach education events were held and an amphibian survey was conducted.
- A Nature Explore Classroom at Towne Park, which was constructed by the Confluence Chapter, continues to be a very popular location for conducting outreach programs for youth. In 2014, the Confluence Chapter presented educational programs for 1,035 youth from the St. Charles County area.
- Conducted native plant landscaping projects in cooperation with the city of O'Fallon.



*Service and outreach educational activities involve native plant restoration and landscaping at state parks, Mattson Hill, stream team activities and numerous volunteer workdays throughout the year.*

## Great Rivers Chapter, St. Louis

<http://masternaturalist.saint-louis.mo.us>



*Great Rivers Chapter projects have included tree planting, bluebird house construction and native prairie restoration activities. Volunteers also participate in numerous workdays with various partners.*

### Partners

Audubon Center at Riverlands, Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, Biodiverse City in St. Louis, GeesePeace of St. Louis, Little Creek Nature Area, Litzsinger Road Ecology Center, River des Peres Watershed Coalition, Brightside, Deer Creek Watershed Alliance, The Open Space Council, Shaw Nature Reserve, St. Charles County Parks, St. Louis Audubon Society, Stewards of Grand Glaize Stream Team Association, The Green Center, World Bird Sanctuary

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Provided Habitat Advisors for the St. Louis Audubon's Bring Conservation Home program.
- Water quality monitoring and Stream Team events were conducted in the Grand Glaize Creek and River Des Peres Watersheds.
- Wildlife management through GeesePeace St. Louis
- Invasive species removal, habitat management, and stream bank stabilization at multiple municipal, county and state parks and on other public and nonprofit properties, including:
  - Little Creek Nature Areas
  - Seibert Park, Manchester
  - Castlewood State Park
  - St. Louis County Parks; Creve Coeur, Queeny, and McDonnell
  - Public areas located within the St. Louis City Southampton Neighborhood
  - Boys Hope Girls Hope
  - Forest Park's Hidden Creek Savanna and Cascades
  - Shaw Nature Reserve
- Conducted both fauna and flora surveys at Hidden Creek Savanna and Seibert Park
- Tree planting, potting, and distribution for Forest ReLeaf
- Ongoing monitoring of an adult pair of Great Horned owls at Forest Park
- Mist net mending for the World Bird Sanctuary

## Hi Lonesome Chapter, Cole Camp

<http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/colecamp>

### Partners

Audubon Society of Missouri  
City of Warsaw  
Cole Camp Chamber of Commerce  
Missouri Prairie Foundation  
Missouri River Bird Observatory  
DNR/MDC Stream Team  
Harry S. Truman State Park

### *Highlights of selected community service projects*

- Conducted Christmas bird count activities.
- Conducted bird surveys with the Missouri River Bird Observatory on area prairies.
- Provided outreach and education activities at Prairie Day, in conjunction with the city of Cole Camp.
- Assisted Missouri River Bird Observatory with the Butterfields Youth Center Nature Day.
- Participated in the Montrose High School Prairie Day at Wah-Kon-tah Prairie.
- Participated in the Eagle Days program in Warsaw.
- Constructed a chimney swift tower adjacent to the City Hall building in Cole Camp.



*Outreach activities are conducted at the annual Prairie Days Festival in Cole Camp.*



*Educational activities were conducted with youth at the Montrose Prairie Day and with numerous school programs in the area.*

## Lake of the Ozarks Chapter, Camdenton

<http://lakeozarkmasternaturalist.com>

### Partners

Ha Ha Tonka State Park  
Ameren UE  
Lake Ozark Watershed Alliance (LOWA)  
Camdenton R-III Schools  
Missouri Department of Transportation, Central District  
MU Allen and Education Farm  
Lake Area Chamber of Commerce  
Lake of the Ozarks Convention and Visitors Bureau  
West Side Chamber of Commerce  
Camden County Farmers Market



### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Continued the Conservation Kids Club with the Camdenton R-III School District.
- Collaborated in conducting the Eagle Days program at Lake of the Ozarks.
- Adopt-a-Highway clean-up and right-of-way management and monitoring
- Conducted water testing activities with the Lakes of Missouri Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program.
- Constructed educational and information bulletin boards in cooperation with community parks.

One of the educational focus areas during the year was to develop projects that encourage youth to get outside and enjoy nature while learning about the environment and wildlife species in the area. The Conservation Kids Club, developed in partnership with Camdenton R-III Schools After-School Program, helps third and fourth grade students, and their parents, discover the wonders of nature. The Chapter has also provided educational assistance for the second Kid's Fishing Derby in conjunction with the Lake West Chamber of Commerce.



*Chapter members are involved in a variety of conservation education projects and programs that are conducted in the community.*



*The Conservation Kids Club provides youth at the Camdenton R-III School with hands-on educational activities.*

## Loess Hills Chapter, St. Joseph

<http://loesshills.wordpress.com>

### Partners

Burroughs Audubon  
Clay and Platte County Parks  
Missouri Prairie Foundation  
Missouri River Relief  
DNR/MDC Stream Team  
Missouri Western State University and Student Chapter  
of the Wildlife Society  
Missouri Native Plant Society  
Missouri Department of Transportation, NW District  
Missouri Department of Social Services, St. Joseph  
City of St. Joseph Parks and Remington Nature Center  
Friends of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge  
Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge  
Mount Mora Cemetery  
The Nature Conservancy; Grand River Grasslands and Dunn  
Ranch

### *Highlight of selected volunteer service projects*

- Loess Hills Chapter interns installed a native plant habitat garden for bees, birds, and pollinators. The garden included a diversity of plants, feeders and, birdhouses.
- Workshops were conducted for teachers and students at the Missouri Division of Youth Services' Riverbend Treatment Center. Instructional packets were developed and presentations conducted on the benefits of native plants.
- Participated in Eagle Days at Smithville Lake and Squaw Creek NWF.
- Conducted tree planting along at Platte Ridge Park to celebrate Platte County's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Participated and helped organize the Audubon Society's Wings Over Weston event.
- Participated in Missouri River Relief's clean-up events at St. Joseph and Weston.
- Began a three-year project with the Missouri Department of Transportation to plant native shrubs and trees along Highway 36 from St. Joseph to Hannibal. A grouping of shrubs or trees will be planted in the right-of-way at five-mile intervals.
- Maintained a rain garden for the City of St. Joseph at Corby Pond Park.
- Assisted with bird banding, bird counts, and a Massasauga rattlesnake surveys at Squaw Creek NWF.
- Assisted with, Herp-O-Rama and Insect-O-Rama public education programs.
- Renovated an archery range for Camp Quality at Camp Farwesta in Stewartsville.



*Chapter members conduct volunteer service at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge and at a variety of locations throughout the community.*

## Meramec Hills Chapter, Rolla

<http://meramechills.org>

### Partners

Audubon Trails Nature Reserve  
Bray Conservation Area  
Camp Brimshire  
Bonebrake Center of Nature and History  
DNR/MDC Stream Team  
Newburgh Children's Museum  
Truman Elementary School



### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Nature workshops were conducted as an outreach educational activity for the community. The nature series was conducted at the Bray Conservation Area, and featured Night Sounds in Nature; learning to identify Ozarks frogs, toads, and nocturnal birds; tree identification using a dichotomous key, developing habitat for bluebirds, and nest box construction.
- Conducted projects at Camp Brim Shire assisting in a season of outdoor educational experiences for local disabled youth and seniors. Activities included trail maintenance, harvesting trees, and establishing native plants.
- Conducted numerous service projects at the Bray Conservation Area.
- The Chapter remains active in helping to maintain natural areas in the community. Over 800 hours were logged by members participating in activities ranging from trail maintenance, litter cleanup and invasive species removal to habitat restoration.
- Members participated in several wildlife surveys and citizen science programs tallying over 600 hours through participation in the CoCoRaHS rainfall data collection, Great Backyard Bird Count, frog call survey, bird banding, the Great Sunflower Project, Hummingbirds at Home, Missouri Forest Keepers, American Woodcock surveys, Spring turtle survey, and feeder counts in collaboration with the Missouri River Bird Observatory.
- The Chapter collaborates with four active Stream Teams. Members logged nearly 300 volunteer hours during 2014 working for the benefit of Missouri waterways.



## Miramiguo Chapter, Washington

<http://www.miramiguo.org>

### Partners

Shaw Nature Reserve  
Meramec State Park  
Onondaga State Park  
St. Louis Audubon Society  
Forest ReLeaf

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Participated in Prairie Days at Shaw Nature Reserve, conducted educational activities and organized a Trading Post that was a popular event during the festival.
- Provided tree planting and restoration for the City of Washington
- Members worked on a land stewardship project at the MDC Jay Henges Shooting Range to remove invasive species and establish native trees as habitat for wildlife.
- Conducted Monarch butterfly awareness and education classes for youth.
- Participated in water quality monitoring activities, conducted education programs at the Washington River Festival.
- Collaborated with Missouri River Relief on conservation projects.
- Members participated in native tree planting activities at Creve Core Park and with Operation Wildlands.
  - Conducted cave tours at Onondaga State Park,
  - Assisted with prescribed burns and wildlife management activities at Meramec State Park.
  - Conducted native seed collections, mast surveys, and invasive species eradication at Shaw Nature Reserve.



*Volunteers established native trees and shrubs at the MDC Jay Henges Shooting Range.*



*Chapter members were involved with water quality monitoring projects and helped conduct training for a new class of Master Naturalist volunteers that graduated during 2014.*

## Osage Trails Chapter, Kansas City

<http://osagetrails.com>

### Partners

Blue River Watershed Association  
Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City  
George Owens Nature Park  
Heartland Tree Alliance,  
Bridging the Gap  
Jackson County Parks and Recreation  
Kansas City Parks and Recreation  
Kansas City WildLands  
Keep Kansas City Beautiful  
Lakeside Nature Center  
Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary  
Missouri River Relief  
Platte Land Trust  
Platte County Parks and Recreation  
Powell Gardens  
Friends of Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- The Osage Trails Chapter, along with the state program, co-hosted a Statewide Master Naturalist Advance Training event. Over 20 training sessions, were offered along with opportunities for networking and celebration. Approximately 875 hours of volunteer service were dedicated to executing the event.
- The Chapter initiated a strategic planning project guided by MU Extension. A “brainstorming meeting” was held to generate ideas to consider for future volunteer service projects. The Chapter is presently in the process of acting on the most favorable projects. The planning process has created the opportunity for the Chapter to be more proactive with partners and generate self-created volunteer service opportunities that meet their needs.
- A variety of volunteer service projects and educational events were conducted with chapter partners and within the community. These included:
  - Eagle Days and bird identification surveys at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge
  - Invasive species control activities at Stilwell Prairie, MDC Nature Centers and Kansas City Wildlands
  - Bird surveys and feeder counts conducted with Burroughs Audubon
  - Native plant community projects and butterfly festival at Powell Gardens
  - Outreach activities and conservation education conducted at the Wings Over Weston event
  - Educational displays at the Earth Day event at Lakeside Nature Center
  - Mourning dove surveys conducted with the Missouri Department of Conservation



*Volunteers established a native plant garden at the George Owens Nature Park*



*Volunteers participate in numerous water quality monitoring and stream team educational events throughout the year.*

## Ozarks Chapter, West Plains

### Partners

Bryant Creek Watershed Project  
West Plains R-7 School District  
City of West Plains  
Ozark Action Head Start Program

### *Highlights of selected volunteer service projects*

- Volunteers participated in the North American Amphibian Monitoring Project, American Woodcock Monitoring Project, Project Feeder Watch and the Great Backyard Bird Count.
- Conducted water quality monitoring and environmental education activities for youth at the Current River.
- Provided leadership for the Ozark Trail Association's Adopt-a-Trail Program.
- Conducted Stream Team Nos. 2562, 2958 and 3480 projects on Bryant Creek



*Chapter members provide volunteer service with the Ozark Trails Association, conduct water quality monitoring activities with the Bryant Creek Watershed Association and on the Current River, and conduct conservation education activities for youth within the community.*

## Springfield Plateau Chapter, Springfield

<http://springfieldmasternaturalist.com>

### Partners

Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, Springfield  
City of Springfield Department of Environmental Services  
Friends of the Garden  
Greater Ozarks Audubon Society  
James River Basin Partnership  
Missouri State University, Springfield  
Missouri Prairie Foundation  
Show-Me Yards and Neighborhoods  
Springfield–Greene County Park Board  
Watershed Committee of the Ozarks  
Wonders of Wildlife Museum

### *Highlights of selected volunteer service projects*

- Volunteers devoted many hours of service at the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks' Watershed Center and Valley Water Mill Park.
- Volunteered at the James River Basin Partnership's Watershed Festivals for 5<sup>th</sup> graders and at their river cleanups.
- Educational assistance was provided to the Butterfly Festival and Young Sprouts events (Friends of the Garden, Springfield–Greene County Park Board, Show-Me Yards and Neighborhoods, City of Springfield Department of Environmental Services).
- Assisted the Audubon Society with bird counts including the annual Christmas bird count.
- Assisted with MDC's Outdoors Days "Bear Aware" educational booth.
- Collected data on migration and habitat types for an American Woodcock project.
- Started planning for a statewide Master Naturalist Advance Training Conference to be held in Springfield in 2015.



*A variety of educational activities were conducted with local partners during the year, including surveys of plant communities, leading a variety of conservation educational events for youth and water quality monitoring and sampling in local streams.*

## A Snapshot of Program Impacts for 2014

- During 2014, **184 volunteers** participated in training conducted by ten chapters.
- Through December 2014, with combined efforts of 12 recognized Chapters, **1,693 volunteers** have been trained as Missouri Master Naturalists since the program was first organized in 2004.
- Over **12,600 hours of advanced training** were obtained by Master Naturalist volunteers.
- A total of **462 volunteers** became **Certified Missouri Master Naturalists** or maintained certification during 2014.
- During 2014, volunteers provided **62,514 hours of community service**.
- Over **323,000 hours of volunteer service** has been provided to local communities since 2004.
- Approximately **125 organizations** have partnered with Master Naturalist chapters at the local level to accomplish natural resource education efforts and service projects within the community.
- The economic impact of Missouri Master Naturalist volunteer service during 2014 is valued at **\$1,578,854<sup>1</sup>**.
- The cumulative economic impact of Missouri Master Naturalist volunteer service is valued at **\$6,733,437<sup>1</sup>**.

<sup>1</sup> The value of volunteer service calculated using Independent Sector's \$22.55 per hour for 2013. The hourly value is based on the average hourly earnings for private nonagricultural workers as determined by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This figure is then increased by 12 percent to estimate fringe benefits. <http://www.independentsector.org>

## Chapter Volunteers, Advanced Training and Service

| Chapter<br>(year established)        | Volunteers trained in 2014<br>(total, # certified in 2014) |                     | Advanced training hours<br>2014 (cumulative) |                 | Volunteer service hours<br>2014 (cumulative) |                  |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------|--|-----------------|--|------------------|
| Ozarks<br>(spring 2004)              | N/A  | (100, 2)            | 46   | (2,711)         | 524  | (15,314)         |
| Boone's Lick<br>(fall 2004)          | 21   | (233, 47)           | 759  | (4,853)         | 4,371  | (32,748)         |
| Chert Glades<br>(spring 2005)        | 18   | (127, 37)           | 1,010  | (5,975)         | 4,434  | (23,327)         |
| Meramec Hills<br>(spring 2005)       | 16   | (142, 31)           | 1,636  | (9,776)         | 5,005  | (30,823)         |
| Confluence<br>(fall 2005)            | 17   | (159, 51)           | 1,005  | (8,521)         | 7,805  | (38,790)         |
| Great Rivers<br>(fall 2007)          | 16   | (133, 37)           | 1,047  | (5,598)         | 6,076  | (25,958)         |
| Springfield Plateau<br>(spring 2006) | N/A  | (117, 66)           | 1,300  | (7,578)         | 7,223  | (37,171)         |
| Osage Trails<br>(fall 2006)          | 27   | (271, 61)           | 1,600  | (9,296)         | 11,800                                       | (52,153)         |
| Hi Lonesome<br>(spring 2008)         | 12   | (88, 15)            | 444  | (3,046)         | 2,983  | (16,783)         |
| Miramiguoa<br>(spring 2009)          | 19   | (109, 12)           | 1,052  | (5,020)         | 5,027  | (21,770)         |
| Lake of the Ozarks<br>(spring 2009)  | 30   | (162, 60)           | 2,194  | (5,140)         | 4,227  | (18,066)         |
| Loess Hills<br>(spring 2011)         | 8  | (52, 23)            | 558  | (2,133)         | 3,039  | (10,346)         |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>184</b>   | <b>(1,693; 442)</b> | <b>12,651</b>                                | <b>(69,647)</b> | <b>62,514</b>                                | <b>(323,249)</b> |

## Additional Program Highlights and Accomplishments

The Missouri Master Naturalist program consists of twelve chapters, each with a cadre of dedicated volunteers and supportive Chapter Advisors that conduct numerous educational and community service projects in collaboration with identified local partners. More detailed information about each chapter and their activities can be accessed through the Missouri Master Naturalist program website at <http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/> and through the individual chapter web links provided in the previous section.

Below are just a few of the programming highlights that contributed to the educational mission of the Missouri Master Naturalist program:

- The Osage Trails Chapter and State Program co-hosted a **statewide Missouri Master Naturalist Advanced Training** event in Kansas City. Over 220 volunteers participated in this three-day advanced training and leadership development weekend.
- In October chapters sent teams of 2-5 members to the **Master Naturalist Leadership Academy** in Jefferson City. The Academy is designed to give chapter leadership team's skills and resources for strengthening their chapter and themselves as volunteers.
- **174 Master Naturalist volunteers** have achieved milestone pins (conducting 250, 500, 1000+ hours of volunteer service) since the inception of the program in 2004.
- The **Missouri Master Naturalist program website**, <http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/>, was redesigned to provide resources for volunteers and general information about the program to Missouri citizens.

## Missouri Master Naturalist Chapter Advisors/Contacts

During 2014, Missouri Master Naturalist Chapter Advisors and contacts, representing MU Extension and the Missouri Department of Conservation, provided leadership and facilitated educational programs and activities to ensure the success of Master Naturalist Chapters.

*Boone's Lick Chapter:*

Kent Shannon – Boone County Extension Center  
Bob Pierce - MU Extension

*Chert Glades Chapter:*

Janet Lafon – Jasper County Extension Center  
Jeff Cantrell and Kevin Badgley – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Confluence Chapter:*

Scott Killpack – St. Charles County Extension Center  
Kevin McCarthy – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Great Rivers Chapter:*

Nathan Brandt – St. Louis County Extension Center  
Colleen Scott – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Hi Lonesome Chapter:*

Gene Schmitz and Connie Mefford– Benton County Extension Center  
Steve Cooper – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Lake of the Ozarks Chapter:*

Jackie Rasmussen – Camden County Extension Center  
Jodi Moulder – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Loess Hills Chapter:*

TJ Peacher – Missouri Department of Conservation  
Tom Fowler and Jim Humphrey – Platte and Andrew County Extension Center

*Meramec Hills Chapter:*

Carol Mahan – Missouri Department of Conservation  
Kathi Mecham – Phelps County Extension Center

*Miramiguo Chapter:*

Matt Herring – Franklin County Extension Center  
Sam Faith – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Osage Trails Chapter:*

Lala Kumar – Jackson County Extension Center  
Stacey Davis – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Ozark Chapter:*

Howell and Oregon County Extension Center – vacant  
Stephanie McKinney – Missouri Department of Conservation

*Springfield Plateau Chapter:*

Jay Barber – Missouri Department of Conservation  
Patrick Byers – Greene County Extension Center

## Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs

A national network has been established for Master Naturalists Programs. The *Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs* (ANROSP) was formed in 2006 to facilitate networking and resource development for member programs with a goal to establish educational programs in all 50 states. The Missouri Master Naturalist Program was one of the founding members. Currently, about 27 states have adopted the Master Naturalist model. Additional information can be obtained by accessing the following website: <http://www.anrosp.org/>



*The Missouri Master Naturalist Program continues to grow and volunteers are conducting outstanding outreach and volunteer service programs within their communities. Thanks for all that you do as a Missouri Master Naturalist volunteer, program advisor and program partner. We celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> year as a statewide adult volunteer educational program during 2014!*



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
**U** Extension