



## *Missouri Master Naturalist*

*A summary of program impacts and achievements during 2016*

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*“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.*



## Highlights of Chapter Volunteer Service Projects

### Boone's Lick Chapter, Columbia

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

**Partners:** MU Bradford Research Center, Care for Creation Community Garden, City of Columbia - Tree Keepers and Columbia Aquatic Restoration Project, Columbia Audubon Society, Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, Columbia office - US Fish & Wildlife Service, Community Collaborative Rain Hail & Snow Network, Department of Natural Resources (DNR)/MDC – Stream Team, Greenbelt Land Trust of Missouri, Missouri River Relief, North Village Arts District, Project Feeder Watch, MU Raptor Rehab Project, Friends of Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, Friends of Big Muddy National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Wild Ones Native Plant Gardens, Missourians for Monarchs

#### *Highlights of selected volunteer service projects*

- Developed a Columbia Earth Day education booth.
- Conducted prairie restoration and native plant seed collection projects at the MDC's Prairie Fork Conservation Area.
- Developed butterfly and pollinator exhibits at University of Missouri South Farm Showcase.
- Participated in raptor rehabilitation projects at the University of Missouri.
- Conducted bird monitoring surveys and counts.
- Participated in Help Save Pallid Sturgeon programs, sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Participated in DNR/MDC Missouri Stream Team projects.
- Conducted "Band With Nature" programs at Columbia Public Schools (second graders).

The Chapter participated in the MU South Farm Showcase. This family-oriented event attracts over 1500 each year. The Chapter set up an informative display on Monarch butterflies and pollinators. Live butterflies raised by one of the members were a very popular attraction with participants.



*Volunteers participated in numerous Missouri River conservation events. The Chapter also conducted educational projects with youth at the MDC's 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  
Missourians for Monarch

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Habitat management activities conducted at MDC conservation areas.
- Conducted tree planting in Joplin.
- Educational projects conducted at Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Nature Center, George Washington Carver National Historic Site, Roaring River and Prairie State Parks.
- Developed butterfly garden at Cunningham Park.
- Participated in native seed mixing day at the Nature Conservancy Wah'Kon-Tah Prairie.
- Harvested wildflower seeds at local prairies.
- Naturescaping and rain garden demonstrations were conducted.
- Kellogg Lake Kid's Fishing Day, Carthage.
- Restoration project at Redings Mill Bridge.
- Participated in DNR/MDC Stream Team # 3714 water quality monitoring.
- Monarch butterfly educational projects were conducted in which over 300 packets of native milkweed seeds were distributed.
- Developed an educational booth at the George Washington Carver Days program highlighting wildlife conservation. Over 1400 people attended this event.
- Eagle Days at Stella is a signature outreach program for the Chapter. Over 1500 people attended the event. Chapter members assisted with eagle viewing and educational activities.



*Participants with spotting scopes at one of our educational exhibits at Eagle Days in Stella.*



*Milkweed seed packets for distribution from our Chapter collection and a monarch waystation developed at Joplin's Cunningham Park.*



*Construction of kiosk with information on glades and plants and wildlife that utilize these habitats.*



*Education booth at the George Washington Carver Day Celebration.*

## 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 Master Gardeners, Missouri Forest Keepers, Missouri River Relief, Missouri Native Plant Society, North American Butterfly Association, Friends of LaBarque Creek, Greenway Network, St. Charles and St. Louis County Parks, St. Louis Audubon Society, Shaw Nature Reserve, DNR/MDC Stream Team, Weldon Springs Interpretive Center, Wentzville Parks, World Bird Sanctuary, Don Danforth Plant Science Center

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Conducted educational tours, plant surveys, oak regeneration, removal of invasive plants and development of vernal ponds at Matson Hill, which is part of St. Charles County Parks.

- Provided leadership in developing a consortium of organizations involved in *Missourians for Monarchs*, an educational effort that combines Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners and Garden Clubs to promote milkweed plantings and pollinator habitat.



- Partnered with Forest ReLeaf to maintain 6 acres.
- Outreach and education was conducted at the Nature Explore classroom at Town Park with over 800 youth and 200 adults participating in programs during 2016.
- Conducted programs for the Wentzville Heritage Elementary School.
- Other educational programs were conducted at Eagle Days at Chain of the Rocks, Wetlands for Kids, and the Maple Sugar Festival.

*Numerous events and projects were conducted that highlighted the importance of habitats for a variety of wildlife including bluebirds, monarchs and pollinators.*



*Service and outreach educational activities involve milkweed propagation and organization of “Missourians for Monarchs”; conducting a Nature Explore Classroom for youth; rain garden development; native plant restoration; landscaping at state parks, including Matson Hill; Stream Team activities and numerous volunteer workdays throughout the year.*

## Great Rivers Chapter, St. Louis

<http://www.greatrivers.org/>



*Projects have included native prairie restoration, milkweed propagation, tree and shrub plantings, and establishing pollinator gardens with local partners. A variety of outreach educational programs were conducted that featured aquatic ecology, native clams and mussels and healthy streams.*

### 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. Louis County Parks, St. Louis Audubon Society, Stewards of Grand Glaize Stream Team, The Green Center, World Bird Sanctuary, Ellisville Park, Webster Groves Park and Kirkwood Park, Missouri River Trails Association

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Milkweed propagation projects and pollinator gardens were established with local partners.
- Water quality monitoring and Stream Team events were conducted in the Grand Glaize Creek and River Des Peres Watersheds.
- Established native prairie demonstrations at the Grow Exhibit with the St. Louis Science Center.
- Conducted both fauna and flora surveys at Hidden Creek Savanna and Seibert Park.
- Conducted tree and shrub planting, potting, and distribution for Forest ReLeaf.
- Conducted training at a Tri-Chapter education event that included bat house construction, bird and native plant identification and native plant seed collection.
- Mist net mending for the World Bird Sanctuary.
- Invasive species removal, habitat management, and stream bank stabilization at multiple municipal, county and state parks, schools and on other public and nonprofit properties, including but not limited to:
  - Claire Gempp Davidson Memorial Conservation Area
  - Seibert Park, in the City of Manchester
  - Bayless Elementary School
  - Steger Middle School
  - Forest Park's Hidden Creek Savanna
  - Shaw Nature Reserve
  - Chesterfield Montessori School

## Hi Lonesome Chapter, Cole Camp

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

### 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

- Hosted a statewide advanced training event in September with 140 Master Naturalists attending.
- Conducted Christmas bird count activities and 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.
- Constructed and placed barn owl nesting boxes out on lands in cooperation with partners.
- Participated in the Eagle Days program in Warsaw.
- Conducted prairie chicken restoration projects and native seed collections on Missouri prairies.



*Outreach and education activities were conducted at the annual Prairie Days Festival in Cole Camp. Numerous educational activities are conducted that focused on prairie restoration and conservation.*



*Barn owl nesting boxes were constructed and placed within the community in cooperation with partners.*



*One of outstanding graduating classes and on a field trip at MDC's Big Buffalo Conservation 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, City of Laurie, Osage Beach City Park

### *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.
- Developed a Big Niangua River “Water Trail” which covers 13.3 miles with community partners and continued to monitor and maintain trail.
- Created Leaf Disposal educational brochures for homeowners on the lake.
- Developed habitats for pollinator and monarchs in collaboration with several city parks and other locations in the community.

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, provides opportunities for youth to participate in a variety of ecology projects of interest.



*Chapter members are involved in a variety of conservation education projects that are conducted in the community, including the development of monarch way stations and pollinator habitats.*



*The Conservation Kids Club provides youth at the Camdenton R-III School with hands-on educational activities, including developing a monarch way station. The Chapter has also developed a river trail on the Big Niangua River.*

## Loess Hills Chapter, St. Joseph

<http://loesshills.wordpress.com>

### Partners:

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



*Volunteers collaborated with The Nature Conservancy at Dunn Ranch and the Missouri Department of Conservation Pawnee Prairie CA in conducting Prairie Day educational activities.*

### **Highlight of selected volunteer service projects**

- Volunteers conducted educational activities at the Wings over Weston program with over 1500 participants learning about bluebirds, hummingbirds and wildlife conservation.
- Volunteers assisted with programs at Eagle Days at the Smithville Lake and Squaw Creek NWR.
- Volunteers organized a Fishing Day at Wallace State Park, with over 150 adults and youth participating.

*Chapter activities include leading a youth educational activity and conducting wildlife surveys with local partners.*



- Helped conduct the second annual Prairie Days at the Nature Conservancy's Dunn Ranch and the MDC's Pawnee Prairie, including birding and native plant hikes and small mammal trapping, with over 160 people participating.
- Continued the three-year project with the Missouri Department of Transportation to plant native shrubs and trees along Highway 36 from St. Joseph to Hannibal.
- Conducted an "Insectorama" for youth with the Remington Nature Center.
- Assisted in conducting breeding bird, fringed orchid and Massasagua rattlesnake projects with MDC.

## Meramec Hills Chapter, Rolla

<http://meramechills.org>

### Partners:

Audubon Trails Nature Reserve, Camp Brimshire, Bonebrake Center of Nature and History, DNR/MDC Stream Team, Newburgh Children's Museum, St. James Park, Truman Elementary School

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Conducted Outdoor Classroom activities for teachers and youth at the Truman Elementary School. An Outdoor Kids Club of 2<sup>nd</sup> graders was also organized with presentations and hands-on learning activities conducted on a variety of nature-related topics.
- Conducted a Discovery Camp with the Bonebrake Center for youth. Educational projects featured nature journaling, snake and tree identification, owls, pond critters, and wildlife tracking.
- Continued the "Sew Native" program at the Pulaski County Extension Center. Each month's class includes a one-hour nature education segment followed by presentation of a quilt block inspired by the day's topic; students take home a pattern and instructions. This year's program featured native trees and wildflowers of Missouri.
- Conducted native plant educational activities and demonstrations in the community. Collaborated with Master Gardeners and Ozark Rivers Audubon in conducting native plant sales.
- Provided 11 hours of advanced training at monthly Chapter meetings as well as during Saturday workshops. Topics included Stream Ecology, Water Quality, and Public Speaking.
- Conducted stewardship projects at the MDC Bray Conservation Area that included glade restoration and celebrating Earth Day with numerous educational activities for adults and youth.



*Volunteers with the Class of 2016 are a welcome addition to the Chapter. A variety of educational activities and events were conducted within the community, including youth education, pollinator garden and tree planting, sew native classes, water quality monitoring and invasive plant removal.*



## Miramiguo Chapter, Washington

<http://www.miramiguo.org>

**Partners:** Shaw Nature Reserve, Meramec, Onondaga, and Robertsville State Parks, St. Louis Audubon Society, Forest ReLeaf, Jay Henges Shooting Range

### *Highlights of selected volunteer service projects*

- Conducted milkweed propagation and Monarch conservation activities.
- Collaborated in the organization of the Tri-County Master Naturalist educational program and field day with over 75 volunteers participating in a variety of conservation events.
- Helped with prescribed burns at State Parks and on private landowner properties.
- Honeysuckle eradication at various locations.
- Trail maintenance at Meramec, Onondaga Cave, and Robertsville Parks.
- Prairie rehabilitation at the MDC's Jay Henges Shooting Range and various private properties.
- Stream team and water quality monitoring activities on Meramec River.
- Native plant garden tours with St. Louis Wild Ones.
- Wetlands for Kids program at the August Busch Conservation Area.
- Cave tours at Onondaga and Meramec State parks.
- Potted trees for Forest ReLeaf.
- Conducted native seed collections and mast surveys at Shaw Nature Reserve.
- Bat conservation and educational activities.
- Constructed and installed bat houses and wood duck nesting boxes.



*Volunteers conducted water quality and Stream Team activities as well as working on the Ozarks Trail.*



*Trail building activities were conducted at Robertsville State Park.*

*Bat houses were constructed for local partners.*



*The Chapter conducted educational activities and programs in the community that featured a variety of topics, including pollinators and Monarchs.*

## 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, Jackson County Parks and Recreation, Kansas City Parks and Recreation, Kansas City WildLands, Keep Kansas City Beautiful, Kemper Outdoor Nature Center, Lakeside Nature Center, Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary, Lincoln University Extension, Missouri River Relief, Bur Oak Woods, Platte County Land Trust, Platte County Parks and Recreation, Powell Gardens, Friends of Squaw, Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Cave Springs, The Nature Conservancy's Dunn Ranch, Missouri Prairie Foundation

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- The Chapter celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year in 2016 with a volunteer recognition program. Over half of the original members still active.
- Our annual 12-in-12 contest – volunteer for 12 partners in 12 months – is now 4 years old, with 20 awardees so far. A founding member proposed this award as a way to encourage people to volunteer for more partners, especially those that get fewer hours.
- A Winter Solstice Hike to celebrate nature during the winter was conducted. An educational booth on the trail was staffed that provided information about Missouri wildlife during the winter months, with 200-400 families attending the event.
- Conducted habitat improvement and conservation educational activities at Lakeside Nature Center, including invasive species removal, rejuvenating pollinator gardens and replanted areas adjacent to watercourse and hiking trails.
- Native seed collection at the Nature Conservancy's Dunn Ranch to support prairie restoration activities across the state.
- Collaborated with the Audubon Society in the Wings over Weston annual activity and developed educational displays for participants.



*The Chapter accepts an Environmental Achievement Award for projects conducted at the Lakeside Nature Center. A variety of conservation projects were conducted during the year with local partners. There were numerous highlights. The 1<sup>st</sup> annual youth bird-a-thon and fundraiser provided opportunities for youth to learn and view birds. A native plant garden was renovated for Operation Breakthrough, an inner-city child care and educational facility.*

## 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  
Springfield Grotto

### Highlights of selected volunteer service projects

- Leadership Development was a continued focus of our Chapter this year, with scholarships presented to members attending the Missouri Green Schools and Environmental Education Conference and an intensive 2-day Leopold Land Ethic Stewardship training hosted by our partner the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks.
- Directed the construction of chimney swift nest towers in cooperation with local partners.
- Educational assistance was provided to the Butterfly Festival and Young Sprouts events with Friends of the Garden, Springfield–Greene County Park Board, Show-Me Yards and Neighborhoods, City of Springfield Department of Environmental Services.
- Members offered a special educational Wildlife Hero program with the Delaware Elementary School, and a “Butterflies and Bees” project - a neighborhood-learning fair was conducted.
- Assisted the Audubon Society with bird counts including the annual Christmas bird count.



*A variety of activities were conducted with local partners during the year, including leading youth conservation programs and educational displays, native plant conservation and education, and water quality monitoring and stream sampling.*



*Native plant and pollinator programs were also conducted during the year.*

## A Snapshot of Program Impacts for 2016

- During 2016, **158 volunteers** participated in training conducted by ten chapters.
- Through December 2016, with combined efforts of 12 recognized Chapters, **2,013 volunteers** have been trained as Missouri Master Naturalists since the program was first organized in 2004.
- Over **12,200 hours of advanced training** were obtained by Master Naturalist volunteers.
- A total of **591 volunteers** became **Certified Missouri Master Naturalists** or maintained certification during 2016.
- During 2016, volunteers provided **66,206 hours of community service**.
- Over **453,000 hours of volunteer service** have 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 2016 is valued at **\$1,746,991<sup>1</sup>**.
- The cumulative economic impact of Missouri Master Naturalist volunteer service is valued at **\$10,138,142<sup>1</sup>**.

<sup>1</sup> The value of volunteer service calculated using Independent Sector's \$23.56 per hour for 2016. 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 increased by 12 percent to estimate fringe benefits. <http://www.independentsector.org>

## Chapter Volunteers, Advanced Training and Service

Chapter (year established)	Volunteers trained in 2016 (total, # certified in 2016)	Advanced training hours 2016 (cumulative)	Volunteer service hours 2016 (cumulative)
Ozarks (spring 2004)	N/A (100, 3)	44 (2,814)	576 (16,474)
Boone's Lick (fall 2004)	24 (281, 59)	1,099 (6,736)	5,270 (42,879)
Chert Glades (spring 2005)	29 (156, 41)	1,065 (7,883)	4,533 (31,026)
Meramec Hills (spring 2005)	27 (169, 40)	2,305 (13,145)	7,248 (43,635)
Confluence * (fall 2005)	19 (184, 80)	838 (10,580)	7,526 (56,981)
Great Rivers * (fall 2007)	13 (167, 83)	1,399 (8,329)	9,438 (42,728)
Springfield Plateau (spring 2006)	N/A (142, 66)	691 (9,228)	5,021 (48,256)
Osage Trails (fall 2006)	29 (321, 68)	1,758 (12,532)	10,675 (72,987)
Hi Lonesome (spring 2008)	N/A (104, 22)	313 (3,890)	1,954 (21,254)
Miramiguoaa * (spring 2009)	3 (123, 39)	748 (7,005)	6,382 (33,200)
Lake of the Ozarks (spring 2009)	14 (195, 40)	1,393 (8,648)	4,313 (27,310)
Loess Hills (spring 2011)	N/A (71, 50)	560 (3,458)	3,270 (16,882)
<b>Total</b>	<b>158 (2,013; 591)</b>	<b>12,213 (94,248)</b>	<b>66,206 (453,612)</b>

\* Chapters conduct joint training

## 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:

- Working with the Department of Conservation's George O. White Nursery Master Naturalist volunteers were instrumental in launching a *Milkweeds for Monarchs* project. Volunteers collected seed from three different species of native milkweed plants and donated the seed to the nursery. The nursery used the seed to propagate milkweed plants to be planted on public lands. Master Naturalist Chapters utilized many of these plants in pollinator plantings they initiated on public lands within their local communities.
- The Hi Lonesome Chapter hosted the **statewide Missouri Master Naturalist Advanced Training** event during 2016. Over 140 volunteers participated in this one-day event conducted in Sedalia, Missouri. Attendees selected two of twelve training sessions to participate in. Sessions included both classroom and field instruction.
- **Over 200 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/>, provides resources for volunteers and general information about the program to Missouri citizens.

## Missouri Master Naturalist Chapter Advisors/Contacts

During 2016, 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:*

Robert Balek – Jasper County Extension Center  
Jeff Cantrell and Kevin Badgley – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Confluence Chapter:*

Rich Hoormann – St. Charles County Extension Center  
Amy Wilkenson – 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 – Benton County Extension Center  
Steve Cooper – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Lake of the Ozarks Chapter:*

Patricia Barrett – 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:*

Moses Ong – 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 and similar 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. The Missouri State Program Coordinators provide ongoing support to the Alliance through program membership, participation at annual meetings, serving on the Alliance Board, and participating in various committees. 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 12<sup>th</sup> year as a statewide adult volunteer educational program during 2016!*



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