

DISCOVER.

Master Naturalist programs enhance people's love of nature with research-based training and community-based volunteer service.



West Virginia Master Naturalist Program Sponsors:

West Virginia
Division of Natural Resources
Wildlife Resources Section
Parks and Recreation Section

Davis and Elkins College

West Virginia University
Extension Service

For more information contact:

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
Wildlife Resources Section
Wildlife Diversity Program
Master Naturalist Coordinator
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www.wvdnr.gov

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WV Division of Natural Resources
Wildlife Resources Section
Wildlife Diversity Program
PO Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241



Learn about West Virginia's Natural Wonders.



AN INITIATIVE OF THE
WEST VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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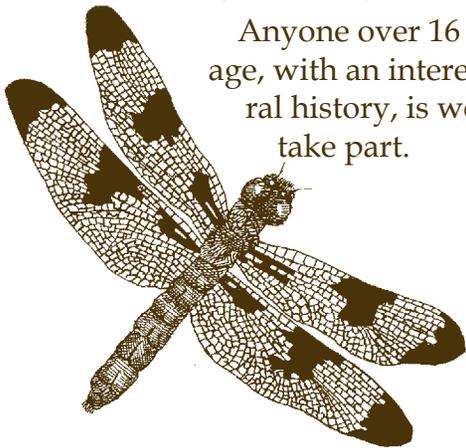
What is the WV Master Naturalist Program?

The West Virginia Master Naturalist Program, through coursework, volunteer opportunities and networking, allows individuals to increase their knowledge and appreciation of the natural world while helping their communities and the environment.

Training is offered in a broad range of specialties in the fields of natural history and environmental education. Topics include mushrooms, wildflowers, insects, snakes, birds, mammals, habitats, weather, geology, fossils, nature interpretation and teaching, and more, all from a West Virginia perspective. Coursework plus volunteer time qualify the trainee for certification as a West Virginia Master Naturalist.

Who can participate?

Anyone over 16 years of age, with an interest in natural history, is welcome to take part.



How can I be certified as a Master Naturalist?

To be certified you must complete 64 hours of classroom and field training (48 hours of core classes and 16 hours of electives). You must also complete 30 hours of volunteer work. To maintain certification, eight hours of training and 16 hours of volunteer time are required each year.

What activities can a Master Naturalist do?

Master naturalists help construct and maintain nature trails, lead interpretive walks at state parks, assist biologists with research, and give presentations to school children and other groups. They will learn the best ways to enhance wildlife habitat and most importantly, how to apply this knowledge and share with others.



How Can I Receive Training?

Master Naturalist classes are hosted by local Master Naturalist chapters that have been formed around the state. To find a chapter near you, check the Master Naturalist website at www.wvdnr.gov/wvmn/index.shtm.

If you are interested in starting a chapter in your area, contact the WV Master Naturalist Coordinator at (304)637-0245 or MNCoordinator@wvdnr.gov.

Core courses include:

Amphibians and Reptiles

Aquatic Habitats

Birds

General Ecology

Habitat Improvement for Wildlife

Insects, Spiders and Such

Mammals

Names, Classification and Identification

Nature Interpretation and Teaching

Recording, Sharing and Preserving

What You Learn

Terrestrial Habitats

Trees, Shrubs and Woody Vines

Weeds and Wildflowers

Wetland Habitat

The West Virginia Master Naturalist program...

- Increases knowledge and appreciation of the natural world.
- Encourages effective environmental stewardship
- Creates a pool of knowledgeable volunteers to educate others and to assist in natural history related projects and research.