



**Missouri Master Naturalist**  
*A summary of program impacts and achievements during 2020*



A Partnership between the Missouri Department of Conservation and Missouri University Extension

*“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 volunteer program results from a partnership created in 2004 between the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and Missouri University Extension (MUE). These two organizations are the sponsors of the program at the state level. Within MUE, 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 MDC and MUE. The state program coordinators provide leadership in conducting the overall program. They also facilitate the coordination of training and chapter development with Chapter Advisors representing both organizations.

Partnerships created at the community level are an integral part of the 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 municipal agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses, government agencies, 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.



*Volunteer service projects continued in 2020 with social distancing practices.*

## A Snapshot of Program Impacts for 2020

Due to the challenges and restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, temporary guidelines were implemented that provided greater flexibility for volunteers to continue their involvement with the Master Naturalist program. The annual 40-hour volunteer service requirement was reduced by 25% to a 30-hour service commitment. The advanced training requirement of eight hours was maintained as Chapter's were able to access virtual programming that volunteers could participate in, and continue to stay engaged with the program.

- During 2020, **85 volunteers** participated in an initial core training course conducted by three Chapters; Lake of the Ozarks, Boone's Lick, and Chert Glades. These training programs had been organized prior to the COVID-19 mandated shutdowns. Volunteers were able to continue with the program through virtual sessions and on-line programming, as well as through other types of educational events conducted by the Chapter Advisors.
- Through December 2020, with combined efforts of 12 recognized Chapters, **2,644 volunteers** have been trained as Missouri Master Naturalists since the program was first organized in 2004.
- Over **11,000 hours of advanced training** were obtained by Master Naturalist volunteers during 2020.
- A total of **777 volunteers** became **Certified Missouri Master Naturalists**, maintained certification or were active members during 2020.
- During 2020, volunteers provided **49,893 hours of community service**.
- Over **715,000 hours of volunteer service** have been provided to local communities since 2004.
- Approximately **135 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 2020 is valued at **\$1,357,090<sup>1</sup>**.
- The cumulative economic impact of Missouri Master Naturalist volunteer service is valued at **\$17,363,568<sup>1</sup>**.

<sup>1</sup> The value of volunteer service calculated using Independent Sector's \$27.20 per hour for 2020. 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>



## Statewide Program Highlights

This was a challenging year for all volunteer programs and Master Naturalists demonstrated their dedication to conservation by creatively adapting and continuing with volunteer service in their local communities and participating in ongoing learning and training. The state program sponsors, MDC and MUE, along with partner organizations offered a variety of virtual learning programs for advance training. Members donned masks and practiced social distancing and completed multiple service projects. There was a lot of invasive species removal, citizen science projects, and habitat work. Chapter's utilized social media to stay in contact with members. Monthly chapter meetings were held outdoors, virtually, and through a combination of both. Certification and milestone awards were distributed by drive-thru awards ceremonies and direct delivery to recipients. Members continued to engage the public through educational outreach on Chapter's Facebook pages, blogs, news articles, radio spots, and exhibits.

Thirty members volunteered to assist with the Department of Conservation's chronic waste disease mandatory sampling in November. Although the Commission changed this to voluntary for hunters, several Master Naturalists did help with sampling. Volunteers assisted with MDC's Resource Science Furbearers Survey by running routes in nine counties. This survey provides population trend information for Missouri's furbearer species. Data has been collected for over 40 years. Four Chapters participated in MDC's Eagle Watch Program by monitoring eagle nests in various counties across the state. A number of photographs submitted by Master Naturalist volunteers were featured in MDC's Natural Events calendar. Several members completed the Master Pollinator Steward and Healthy Yards for Clear Streams training programs sponsored by MU Extension.

Although the health concerns and restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic for the majority of 2020 impacted volunteer activity, as this report shows Missouri Master Naturalist volunteers made significant contributions to conservation throughout the year.

## Missouri Master Naturalist Chapters

Chapters identify with a specific community as their home base however, they serve surrounding communities in a multi-county area.

Boone's Lick, Columbia  
Chert Glades, Joplin  
Confluence St. Charles  
Great Rivers, St. Louis  
Hi Lonesome, Cole Camp  
Lake of the Ozarks, Camdenton

Loess Hills, St. Joseph  
Meramec Hills, Rolla  
Miramigoua, Washington  
Mississippi Hills, Hannibal  
Springfield Plateau, Springfield  
Osage Trails, Kansas City

## Missouri Master Naturalist State Program Coordinators

Syd Hime  
Volunteer and Aquatic Education  
Programs Coordinator  
Missouri Department of Conservation

Robert Pierce  
Extension Associate Professor and  
State Wildlife Specialist  
University of Missouri

## Chapter Volunteer Service Highlights

Boone's Lick Chapter, Columbia  
[www.booneslickmasternaturalist.org](http://www.booneslickmasternaturalist.org)



### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- Chapter members participated in several citizen science projects including milkweed and native plant monitoring, the Missouri Bumble Bee Atlas, and a white oak acorn project.
- Several members assisted MDC resource science staff with the Department's furbearer survey in Boone, Howell, and Linn counties.
- The Chapter continues to be involved in bird conservation with members logging 982 hours for MDC's eagle watch program, bluebird and wood duck nest box monitoring at Prairie Fork Conservation Area (CA), a woodcock count at Rock Bridge State Park, bird surveys at Knob Noster State Park, the Christmas Bird Count, Global Big Day Bird Count, and the Great Backyard Bird Count.
- One Chapter member with an enthusiasm for mosses, created a moss identification walk at MDC's Three Creeks CA. It includes information on a dozen species and members can access it from their cell phones while walking the trails at the CA.
- Work on invasive species removal continued with members spending 662 hours eradicating invasives at Clark's Hill State Historic Site, Rock Bridge State Park, and several other areas.
- The Chapter hosted a presentation from the Missouri invasive species task force that helped fuel their desire to control invasives on the landscape.
- Volunteers continue to maintain native plant gardens at nine public schools and MDC's Eagle Bluff CA.
- The Chapter has an active mentoring program with seasoned members adopting new members and helping guide them through initial certification, capstone projects, and advance training and service opportunities.



*Boone's Lick members participated in several habitat improvement projects and educational discoveries.*

## Chert Glades Chapter, Joplin

[www.chertglades.org](http://www.chertglades.org)

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- In partnership with the Missouri Prairie Foundation (MPF) and the City of Joplin, Chapter members have assisted with prescribed burns and other management activities on prairie remnants at Campbell Parkway and Mercy Park.
- The Chapter hosted two drive-through native plant sales at MDCs Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center.
- Working with the Wildcat Friends group, the Chapter hosted a Shoal Creek Water Festival that was expanded this year to include virtual programs throughout the week.
- Partnering with MDC and the City of Stella, the Chapter conducted the Festival of Eagles event in January. Educational activities and a good population of eagles bring hundreds of visitors to the town of Stella for this event.
- Members hosted a Ghostly Glades Nighttime Nature Walk in the fall with nearly 100 people attending.
- Activities with the Chapters wetland and prairie restoration project at Webb City's wastewater treatment plant continued this year and included several bird surveys, nest box monitoring, milkweed plantings, water quality testing, integrated Monarch monitoring, and planning for a new recreational trail.
- With grant funding from MDC, members continued restoration work at Redings Mill Bridge Glade. Over 500 hours were spent on controlling invasives, planting native shrubs and forbs, and a controlled burn. The Chapter also maintains educational kiosks at the site with rotating exhibits that include information on insects, birds, native plants, and best management practices.
- Several members harvested milkweed seed for MDC and MPF to use in habitat projects.
- Citizen science projects included flora surveys on native prairies, water quality and invertebrate monitoring, and bird surveys.
- The Chapter fosters habitat support in several Joplin parks for Monarchs and other pollinators. These activities also support the Mayors Monarch Pledge program.
- The Chapter was instrumental in gaining the support of Joplin's City Council to add a new grounds supervisor to the Park and Recreation Department's staff and will provide support to this position through members work on pollinator plantings in city parks.



*Glade restoration, pollinator projects, and nature hikes kept Chert Glades members busy in 2020.*



## Confluence Chapter, St Charles

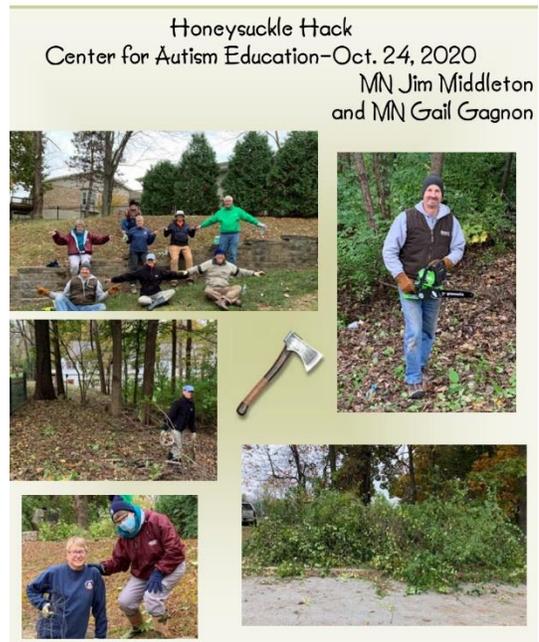
<http://mmnconfluence.org>

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- Chapter members monitor and maintain bluebird nesting boxes at four St. Charles County parks. In 2020 these boxes successfully fledged 206 bluebirds and 20 tree swallows.
- The Chapter helped with MDC Eagle Days at Chain of Rocks. Members help with educational activities and logistics for students from St. Louis metropolitan schools that participate in the event.
- Several members worked on monitoring the health of reptiles and amphibians in a portion of the St. Charles County watershed.
- The Chapter promotes the use of native plants through projects that included the distribution of potted native plants throughout the St. Louis metro area, and by assisting Forest ReLeaf with management of their nursery.
- Chapter members assisted MDC with the Winter in the Woods program at Rockwoods Reservation.
- The Chapter is involved in conducting outdoor education classes with St. Charles County Parks.
- Planning was initiated for a Monarch tagging project members will start in 2021.
- Several members worked on enhancements and maintenance of the Quail Ridge Prairie Demonstration Garden.
- In the fall, members tackled invasive species removal at the Center for Autism Education.



*The Chapter eagerly attacked invasive species, planted a pollinator rain garden at Progress Elementary School, and took a well-deserved break while working at the Quail Ridge native demonstration garden.*



## Great Rivers Chapter, St. Louis

<https://greatrivers.org>

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- Chapter members helped thousands of people enjoy the beauty of the outdoors in winter and learn about eagles while assisting MDC with Eagle Days at the Chain of Rocks Bridge and the Eagle and Ice Festival at the Audubon Center at Riverlands.
- Partnering with the Mississippi River Water Trails Association, members surveyed, cleaned, and restored primitive campsites and boat launches along the National River Trail from pool 24 to pool 26. This included completing six surveys, with each one covering six-ten miles, and work at 13 campsites and boat launches.
- The Chapter assisted MDC and the Rock Hill Fire Department with a prescribed burn of a prairie pollinator garden at Steger-Middle School. Students were on hand to watch the project.
- Members continued restoration work at Spanish Lakes Park clearing bush honeysuckle and making the walking trails more accessible. Approximately three acres were cleared this year, resulting in a three-year total of nine acres being cleared of this invasive honeysuckle.
- A member assisted MDC resource science staff with the Department's furbearer survey in Pike County and with chronic waste disease (CWD) sampling.
- Water quality monitoring was conducted at the City of St. Louis' Carondelet Park. The monitoring helps the City of St. Louis and MDC determine the levels of chlorophyll and suspended solids.
- Chapter members joined the phone team for Wild Bird Rehab during the busy baby bird season.
- The Chapter hosted several advance training programs including bats, caterpillars, fossils, mosses, and purple martins.



*Eagle & Ice Festival*

*Chapter members were involved in a Spanish Lakes habitat restoration project, Mississippi River clean-ups and monitoring, and CWD sampling.*



## Hi Lonesome Chapter, Cole Camp

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

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- The Chapter is active in MDC's eagle watch program monitoring nests in Benton, Henry, and Pettis counties. This year they had 15 active nests that fledged at least 14 young eagles.
- Chapter members maintained native plant gardens at MDC's Clinton office and the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Cole Camp. They also renovated a planting bed in Butterfield Park in Cole Camp and converted it to a native plant garden.
- Two members participated in Audubon's bird-a-thon and raised \$100 for the organization.
- Members conducted discharge and macrobyte surveys at Kahrs-Boger Park in Bahner.
- Chapter members constructed a chimney swift nesting tower and installed it in Ezekial Williams Park adjacent to the high school in Cole Camp.
- Members constructed, installed, and monitored 34 bluebird nesting boxes on MDC's conservation areas within the Blackwater District. All 34 boxes were utilized by bluebirds.
- One Chapter member led several programs on wild edibles for homeschools and families.
- In partnership with MoDOT, the Chapter has adopted a portion of Highway 65 roadside near Cole Camp. They picked up trash and surveyed plant species along their section.
- Citizen science projects included MDC's frog and toad survey, the Great Backyard Bird Count, Global Big Day Bird Count, the Christmas Bird Count, and barn owl nest monitoring.

*The Chapter improved wildlife habitat at Cole Camp city parks with the installation of a chimney swift nesting box and a pollinator garden. They also monitored eagle nests.*



## Lake of the Ozarks Chapter, Camdenton

<http://lakeozarkmasternaturalist.com>

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- In collaboration with local partners, the Chapter hosted Eagle Days in January. Members help with planning and logistics, they conduct educational activities, provide spotting scopes for participants to view eagles, and answer participants questions. Members logged over 400 service hours to support this two-day event.
- Working with the Ozarks Watershed Alliance, Chapter members introduced people to kayaking and paddle boarding by providing free lessons once a month throughout the summer.
- The Chapter maintains an informational kiosk at Laurie City Park. Monthly educational displays inform park visitors about the area's natural resources with topics such as bats, plant identification, and snakes.
- More than 568 hours were spent on stewardship projects that included trail development and maintenance at Bennett Springs, Ha Ha Tonka, and Lake of the Ozarks state parks and enhancement and maintenance of several pollinator gardens in the lake area including MDC's Camdenton office, Laurie Fairgrounds, and the Osage Beach Senior Center.
- The Chapter continues work with the Missouri Caves and Karst Conservancy to clean-up the Goodwin Hollow Sinkhole in Laclede County.
- Chapter members participated in MDC's eagle watch program, donating 257 hours of service monitoring eagle nests in more than four counties in the lake area.
- Members spent nearly 300 hours on citizen science projects including water quality monitoring, the Great Backyard Bird Count, and Cornell Universities FeederWatch.



*Chapter members were involved in water quality monitoring, sinkhole clean up, Eagle Days, and pollinator planting projects.*



## Loess Hills Chapter, St. Joseph

<http://loesshills.wordpress.com>

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- Planning was started for two large Eagle Day events at Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Smithville Lake, however the events had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.
- Several members assisted MDC resource science staff with the Department's furbearer survey in Andrew, Clinton, and Vernon counties.
- In partnership with Friends of Loess Bluffs NWR, the Chapter continued their efforts to plant 10,000 milkweed plants at the refuge within a 10-year timeframe.
- Chapter members conducted monitoring for MDC's eagle watch program and the Missouri Bumble Bee Atlas.
- The Chapter was involved in numerous invasive species removal projects.
- The Chapter completed its move to an online hour tracking system this year.



*Eagle nest monitoring*



*In support of the state's goal to increase pollinator habitat, Loess Hills members have undertaken several large-scale milkweed planting initiatives. Their award celebrations were creatively adapted this year.*



## Meramec Hills Chapter, Rolla

<http://meramechills.org>

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- The Chapter's family-oriented educational program Wonderbugs got off to a good start in March with 25 children and parents attending the first session. Subsequent monthly sessions were moved to a digital platform and families continued to enjoy and benefit from these conservation education programs.
- Chapter members assisted MDCs resource science staff with the Department's furbearer survey in Maries County.
- The Chapter partnered with the local Audubon group to host a native plant sale and education event.
- Chapter members assisted MDC staff with outdoor skills programs at the Bray CA.
- The Chapter's sew native group selected *The Great Rivers* as this year's quilt theme and were able to hold several learn and sew sessions where members learned about Missouri's river resources while creating quilt blocks.
- Citizen science projects included weather monitoring for the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network, Cornell Universities Project FeederWatch, and adding sightings to the eBird system.
- In collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service, students from Missouri University of Science and Technology, and engineer school trainees from Fort Leonard Woods, Chapter members planted 1,200 trees as part of a riparian restoration project along the Big Piney River.

*Hard work, challenging conditions, and a few surprises resulted in a multi-partner riparian restoration project for the Meramec Hills Chapter*



## Miramiguo Chapter, Washington

[www.miramiguo.org](http://www.miramiguo.org)

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- The Chapter organized and conducted ecological restoration and native plant maintenance at MDCs Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center and Caldwell Memorial Wildlife Area, Don Robinson State Park, City of Manchester parks, The College School Campus at Lebarque Creek, and McKee Park in Webster Groves.
- Members support pollinators through their work raising Monarchs, planting milkweed, giving away hundreds of plants at the St. Louis Native Plant Swap and producing a native plant book for the Missouri Monarch and Pollinator Network.
- Several members participated as Miramiguo Stream Team 40165 in water quality activities including trash removal from the Meramec River and Grand Glaize Creek, and clean stream activities on the Bourbeuse River and the River des Peres.
- Chapter members constructed and maintained trails at Don Robinson and Meramec State Parks, and The College School Lebarque Creek Campus. They also planted native trees along Big Berger Creek in Franklin County and at Babler State Park.
- The Chapter assisted with controlled burns at Meramec State Park, and removed honeysuckle from MDCs Jay Henges, Caldwell, and Glassberg areas, and Webster Groves Larsen Park.
- Members participated in Missouri River Relief's annual clean-up in St. Charles.
- The Chapter assisted MDC with Eagle Days at Chain of Rocks Bridge and Winter in the Woods at Rockwoods Reservation.
- Members supported Green Schools Quest with Truman Elementary Students, led interpretive hikes at Meramec State Parks, and hosted educational activities at the Missouri River Festival.
- Partnering with Audubon's Bring Nature Home Program, members assisted citizens in designing backyard wildlife habitat.
- Citizen science projects included ginseng and phenology surveys, a Grand Glaze Creek assessment, wildlife photo tagging at the Tyson Research Center, Missouri Bumble Bee Atlas, the Botanical Garden's seed bank project, Audubon's annual bird count, chloride level monitoring for St. Louis University, water quality monitoring, and soil analysis.



*Chapter members raised hundreds of Monarchs, enjoyed interacting with participants at Eagle Days, and helped in river clean-up efforts.*



**Mississippi Hills Chapter, Hannibal**  
<https://mississippihills.missourimasternaturalist.or>

***Highlights of selected projects:***

- The Chapter continued invasive species removal on Cardiff Hill in Hannibal. This year they began restoring the area by planting a variety of 14 native shrubs and 11 native trees. This project provides a good community demonstration area for using native plants in the landscape.
- Members have been doing a considerable amount of work at Mark Twain Lake including invasive species removal, enhancing and establishing six prairie plots around the Indian Creek access area and the Frank Russell Demonstration Area along the new Environmental Trail, and developing a native seed bank.
- In January several members assisted MDC with the Eagles Day event in Clarksville.
- Chapter members have assisted Hannibal Parks and Recreation with several interpretive programs.
- One member researched and designed a brochure for the Sodalis Nature Preserve, Hannibal's most popular park.
- The Chapter established their own Stream Team this year and will be monitoring Peno Creek in MDC's Ranacker Conservation Area.
- Several members mapped and registered a diverse habitat area around Mark Twain Lake as an Audubon Christmas Bird Count Circle. In the first year of counting for this location participants had a total of 3,000 birds representing 49 different species.



*The Mississippi Hills Chapter was involved in stream monitoring, invasive species removal, trail construction, and educational activities.*

## Osage Trails Chapter, Kansas City

<http://osagetrails.com>

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- Chapter members participated in the Missouri River Bird Observatory Bird Strike KC project by helping to identify buildings in the metro area with a high rate of avian mortality due to bird strikes.
- Members helped maintain native plant and pollinator gardens at Burr Oak Woods Nature Center, George Owens Nature Park, Lakeside Nature Center, and Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary.
- In partnership with the Heartland Tree Alliance, members planted 350 trees in the metro area.
- Working with Kansas City Wildlands, members logged 180 hours removing invasive species and 127 hours collecting and processing native seed.
- The Chapter assisted MDC with education events including naturescaping, owl days, urban woodsmen events, bird banding, and woodcock walks.
- Chapter members assisted with education programs for Kansas City Parks and Recreation, MU Extension, Powell Gardens, Deep Roots Kansas City, and Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary.
- Several members participated in a butterfly survey and planted milkweed at MPFs Snowball Hill Prairie.
- Members partnered with the Platte County Land Trust on an invasive species eradication project at Charlotte Sawyer Natural Area.
- Chapter members are active in MDCs eagle watch program.
- Citizen science projects included regal fritillary survey, monarch larvae monitoring, Project FeederWatch, kestrel monitoring, white oak survey, Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, the North American Butterfly Association butterfly count, and crawfish surveys.
- The Chapter hosted a photography contest and had several outstanding photos submitted by talented members.



*Osage Trails members helped plant and maintain pollinator gardens throughout the metro area and share their natural resource expertise with Kansas City students.*

## Springfield Plateau Chapter, Springfield

[www.springfieldmaster.com](http://www.springfieldmaster.com)

### *Highlights of selected activities:*

- The Chapter continues its partnership with the WOLF school with members providing classroom sessions, virtual programs, and leading field trips.
- In collaboration with Springfield City Utilities, several members have been working on a native plant demonstration planting at the City Utilities Solar Farm. After much preparation plantings were installed this spring and a rain barrel system was added. The site provides educational opportunities for youth and adults.
- The Chapter continued sponsoring MDCs Junior Leader Program by providing training and mentoring This year they stepped up recruitment efforts for teens interested in this volunteer opportunity. The Junior League received numerous requests from schools for presentations.
- Chapter members contributed nearly 200 hours of service to maintaining and enhancing native pollinator gardens at the Lake Springfield Park Boathouse. They also installed 200 milkweed plants at another city park.
- Members were involved with invasive species removal projects, monitoring deer cams, the Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, and several pollinator plantings.
- The Chapter hosted an outdoor education day for members in October with sessions on mushroom identification, microhabitats, tree identification, birding, nature photography, rotten log discoveries, and nature hikes.
- One member received recognition for his photography by winning nine of twenty awards in a photo contest sponsored by the North American Mycological Association.

*In partnership with the City of Springfield the Chapter is involved in several native plant and pollinator garden projects.*



## Training, Volunteer Service, and Active Members for 2020

Chapter & Year Established	Volunteers Completing Initial Training**	Volunteer Service Hours	Advance Training Hours	Active Members
Boone's Lick 2004	32	6,158	1,815	88
Chert Glades 2005	39	1,959	519	78
Meramec Hills 2005	N/A	4,206	930	86
Confluence* 2005	N/A	4,101	646	72
Great Rivers* 2007	N/A	7,877	1,832	113
Springfield Plateau 2006	N/A	5,166	1,232	81
Osage Trails 2006	N/A	7,074	1,396	74
Hi Lonesome 2008	N/A	1,489	248	18
Miramigoua* 2009	N/A	3,808	752	43
Lake of the Ozarks 2009	14	2,339	1,100	49
Loess Hills 2011	N/A	3,069	386	41
Mississippi Hills 2018	N/A	2,647	515	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>49,893</b>	<b>11,371</b>	<b>777</b>

Cumulative statewide volunteer service hours since 2004: 715,012

Cumulative statewide advanced training hours since 2004: 141,303

\*Chapters within the St. Louis region conduct a joint regional initial training. Participants in the course affiliate with one of the three area Chapters: Confluence, Great Rivers, or Miramigoua.

\*\*Chapter Advisors and Chapter leadership have the discretion to decide when they want to conduct an initial training course. Chapters are not required to host an initial training course on an annual basis.

## **Master Naturalist Chapter Partners**

Developing partnerships with local organizations in the community is key to a successful Master Naturalist program and chapter. Local partner organizations provide the Chapter volunteers with training and service opportunities, and resources to support the program. In turn, they benefit from association with the Master Naturalist program and from local service projects that the volunteers perform. Organizations that are recognized as Master Naturalist Chapter Partners also share a mission for natural resource-related outcomes in the community.

### **Boone's Lick Chapter Partners**

Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, Boone County Resource Management, Clark Hill/Norton State Historic Site, City of Columbia, Columbia Audubon Society, Columbia Agriculture Park, Columbia Public Schools, Walnut Grove Cemetery, Greenbelt Land Trust of Missouri, Lakes of Missouri Volunteer Program, Native Plant Society, Wild Ones, Missouri Prairie Foundation, Missouri River Bird Observatory, Missouri River Relief, DNR/MDC Stream Team, Missourians for Monarchs, Prairie Garden Trust, Rock Bridge Memorial State Park, MU Raptor Rehabilitation project, Lincoln University Demonstration Garden

### **Chert Glades Chapter Partners**

Wildcat Glades Friends Group, Prairie State Park, Neosho National Fish Hatchery, Missouri Prairie Foundation, Ozark Regional Land Trust, Ozark Gateway Audubon Society, Joplin Recycle Center, Missourians for Monarchs, MAKO Fly Fishers, Grow Native Nursery, Joplin Parks and Recreation, Franklin Technical Center, Association of Missouri Interpreters, George Washington Carver National Monument, Cities of Joplin, Neosho, Webb City, Centerville, Carthage, Carl Junction and, Stella

### **Confluence Chapter Partners**

Forest ReLeaf: St Louis, St. Charles Park and Recreation, Missouri Botanical Garden, Frontier Middle School, Missouri Bluebird Society, St. Louis Audubon Society, Shaw Nature Reserve, Weldon Springs Interpretive Center

### **Great Rivers Chapter Partners**

Forest ReLeaf: St. Louis, Lewis and Clark Boathouse, Litzsinger Road Ecology Center, Missouri Botanical Garden, Missouri Bluebird Society, Missouri Forestkeepers, Missouri River Relief, Native Plant Society, Missouri Prairie Foundation, 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 and Recreation, World Bird Sanctuary, Don Danforth Plant Science Center, Wildlife Rescue Center, Missourians for Monarchs, Frontier Middle School

### **Hi Lonesome Chapter Partners**

Audubon Society of Missouri, City of Cole Camp, Missouri, Prairie Foundation, Missouri River Bird Observatory, DNR/MDC Stream Team, Harry S. Truman and Knob Noster State Parks

### **Lake of the Ozarks Chapter Partners**

Ameren Missouri, Lake Ozark Watershed Alliance, Camdenton R-III Schools, Missouri Department of Transportation Central District, 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, School of the Osage, Missouri Cave and Karst Society, Ha Ha Tonka, Bennett Springs, and Lake of the Ozarks State Parks

### **Loess Hills Chapter Partners**

Clay and Platte County Parks, MWSU Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, Missouri Department of Transportation NW Region, Missouri Department of Waste Disposal NW Region, St. Joseph Parks and Recreation, Remington Nature Center, Grand River Grasslands and Dunn Ranch, Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge, Wings Over Weston, Burroughs, Midland, and Grand River Audubon Societies

### **Meramec Hills Chapter Partners**

Audubon Trails Nature Reserve, Camp Brimshire, Bonebrake Center of Nature and History, DNR/MDC Stream Team, Newburgh Children's Museum, City of St. James, Prairie Star Restoration Farm, City of Rolla, MODOT Adopt-A-Highway

### **Miramigoua Chapter Partners**

Shaw Nature Reserve, Missourians for Monarchs, Open Space Council, World Bird Sanctuary, Eastern Missouri Sierra Club, Ozark Trail Association, Meramec, Onondaga Cave and Don Robinson State Parks, Missouri Prairie Foundation, The College School

### **Mississippi Hills Chapter**

Hannibal Parks and Recreation, Hannibal Tree Board, FORREST Council, Hannibal Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation, Monroe City Chapter of the Whitetails Unlimited, Mark Twain State Park and Core of Engineers, DNR/MDC Stream Team

### **Osage Trails Chapter Partners**

Blue River Watershed Association, Burroughs Audubon Society of Greater Kansas City, George Owens Nature Park, Heartland Tree Alliance, Heartland Conservation Alliance, Cave Springs, Kansas City WildLands, Kemper Outdoor Nature Center, Lakeside Nature Center, Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary, Missouri River Relief, Platte County Land Trust, Powell Gardens, The Nature Conservancy's Dunn Ranch, Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge, Missouri Prairie Foundation, Missouri River Bird Observatory, Kansas City Seed Savers, Deep Roots Kansas City, Bridging the Gap

### **Springfield Plateau Chapter Partners**

Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, Bennet Springs State Park, Branson for Monarchs, Friends of the Garden, Greater Ozarks Audubon Society, James River Basin Partnership, City of Springfield, LAD Fair, Interpreters Coalition of Springfield and SW Missouri, Springfield R-12 School District, Missouri Prairie Foundation, Safe Kids Coalition, Springfield Plateau Grotto, Lakes of Missouri Volunteer Program, White Nose Syndrome Working Group/Missouri, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Missouri State University



## Missouri Master Naturalist Chapter Advisors and Contacts

Missouri Master Naturalist Chapter Advisors and contacts, representing MU Extension and the Missouri Department of Conservation, provide leadership and facilitate educational programs and activities to ensure the success of the Missouri Master Naturalist program and Chapters.

### *Boone's Lick Chapter:*

Kent Shannon – MU Extension

Bob Pierce - MU Extension

### *Chert Glades Chapter:*

Robert Balek – MU Extension

Jeff Cantrell – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Confluence Chapter:*

Justin Key – MU Extension

Colleen Scott – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Great Rivers Chapter:*

Justin Key – MU Extension

Colleen Scott – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Hi Lonesome Chapter:*

Gene Schmitz – MU Extension

Ginger Miller – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Lake of the Ozarks Chapter:*

Patricia Barrett – MU Extension

Jodi Moulder – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Loess Hills Chapter:*

Tom Fowler and Jim Humphrey – MU Extension

TJ Peacher – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Meramec Hills Chapter:*

Sarah Havens - MU Extension

Syd Hime – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Miramiguoa Chapter:*

Matt Herring – MU Extension

Colleen Scott – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Mississippi Hills Chapter:*

Daniel Mallory – MU Extension

Kathi Moore – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Osage Trails Chapter:*

Tamra Real – MU Extension

Wendy Parrett – Missouri Department of Conservation

### *Springfield Plateau Chapter:*

Kelly McGowan – MU Extension

Jay Barber – Missouri Department of Conservation

## **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 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 28 states have adopted the Master Naturalist model. The Missouri State Program Coordinators provide ongoing support to the Alliance through program membership.

