



Mississippi Master Naturalist Program



BACKGROUND

Mission:

To develop an organization of knowledgeable volunteers to provide education, outreach, and service devoted to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities for the State of Mississippi under the guidance and supervision of Mississippi State University Extension Service, county directors, faculty, and staff.

To become a Certified Mississippi Master Naturalist:

- **trainee must complete the minimum of 40 hours of combined field and classroom instruction taught by regional experts**
- **obtain a minimum of 8 contact hours of approved advanced training**
- **complete a minimum of 40 hours of approved volunteer service**

Mississippi Master Naturalist Program Training

- Conducted every Thursday from 9:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m unless notified (April 16 – June 4th 2009)
- The classes are taught by university professors, extension agents, federal agencies (National Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service), Non-Profit Agencies and area experts (Archeologist)





SUBJECT AREAS

The classes and field trips included information about, ecology, soils, ecosystems, ornithology, plant science, entomology, water quality, weather and climate, geology, forest management, archaeology, native plants, forest ecology, fisheries, and wildlife management.



Volunteering and Advanced Training

- 40 Hours of approved volunteer service and 8 direct contact hours of approved advanced training hours are required
- The Mississippi State University Extension Service is creating Volunteer opportunities through working with:
 - County extension directors
 - United States Forestry Service
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 - Non-profit agencies
 - Universities
 - 4-H programs
 - Other State and federal agencies

Current Volunteer activities

Phytoplankton Monitoring Network – Mississippi Training

<http://www.chbr.noaa.gov/PMN/>

Mississippi Coastal Clean Up September 20, 2008

<http://www.masgc.org/cleanup/index.htm>

Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, and Snow Network

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

National Wildlife Refuge Crane Fest October 25, 2008

www.fws.gov/mississippisandhillcrane

“Share the Beach” (sea turtle monitoring)

<http://www.alabamaseaturtles.com/volunteering/>

Watershed and Water Quality Monitoring conducted by volunteers



For more information contact:

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