

ILLINOIS EXTENSION *Master Naturalist*

Illinois
Master
Naturalist



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

OUR MISSION

Helping others connect with nature

How do we do it? By training and empowering those who love the outdoors to share their talents and put research into action to protect and conserve the prairie state's natural legacy.



Naturalist Core Education

October 13-17, 2025, 9 am to 3pm

The 5-day training is hosted at partner sites throughout the four-counties. It includes 60 hours of:

- Digital learning
- Activities
- Discussion
- Field Trips

A \$250 fee covers training, materials, and the manual.

Fund assistance may be available.

Volunteers will learn about environmental ethics, archaeology, Illinois forests, geology, prairies, mammals, birds, reptiles, wetlands, and more.



Master Naturalist Volunteer

Once training is done, participants have the opportunity to apply to be official volunteers. Master Naturalist status includes 60 volunteer hours within two years, then annually 30 hours + 10 continuing education hours.



How Master Naturalists Serve

Master Naturalists share their knowledge, skills, and passion about the natural world with others so they too can become more engaged. Examples of local experiences include:

- Helping manage natural areas
- Teaching youth about the environment
- Giving demonstrations and/or presentations to local groups
- Acting as a liaison between natural resource agencies and the public

Program applications are accepted year-round. To apply or learn more, please contact us.

We are committed to providing our volunteers a safe working environment. Potential volunteers must complete an application, background check, and an informal interview.

CONTACT

Brittany Chambers - Program Coordinator
217-244-9316 | blc21@illinois.edu

Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit
extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/master-naturalists

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Register at:
go.illinois.edu/MN2025

