

I'M INTERESTED! HOW DO I GET INTO A TRAINING?

Master Naturalist training is offered in fall months every other year in even years for Livingston, McLean, and Woodford Counties. Join the training interest list by contacting the McLean County Extension Office and check our website for upcoming training details.

TELL ME MORE:

Applications are accepted in summers during even-numbered years. A fee of \$225.00 is charged for training which covers the cost of field trips, classroom material development, and Master Naturalist manual. Space is typically limited to 20 participants. To receive early notification on our next training or for information on the program fee waiver, please contact us:

McLean County Extension Office

1615 Commerce Parkway
Bloomington, IL 61704
Phone: 309-663-8306
Email: uie-lmw@illinois.edu

Visit us online at
go.illinois.edu/IGPMN

Keep up with projects and local volunteering efforts! Find us on Facebook at Illinois Grand Prairie Master Naturalists @IGPMN



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ABOUT EXTENSION: Illinois Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportunities.

**Illinois
Master
Naturalist**



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
Local Extension Councils Cooperating
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.
If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact us.

Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.



*Start
your
Master
Naturalist
Journey
Today!*

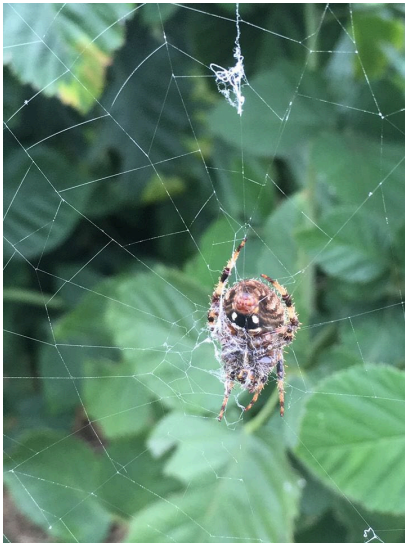


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WHAT IS THE MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM?

The mission of our program is to provide fun, engaging, and science-based educational opportunities that connect people with nature to become engaged environmental stewards.

Our vision is to give individuals the opportunity to experience nature, develop knowledge of and respect for the environment, and practice natural resource stewardship.



WHO CAN BECOME A MASTER NATURALIST?

Illinois Master Naturalists are adults (18 and older) who love the outdoors, have a concern for the local environment, and want to provide education and service to their local communities.

You do not need to have a college degree or years of experience. You just need to exhibit a sincere desire to learn, love sharing information about our natural world, enjoy devoting time to volunteering with on-going training, and completing it all with a positive and encouraging attitude.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT LOCAL VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

The Illinois Grand Prairie Master Naturalists partner with many well-established conservation and environmental organizations in Livingston, McLean, and Woodford Counties. Volunteer service projects may include:

- "wildscape" maintenance
- stream bank, wetland, forest, and prairie restoration
- fish, wildlife, and plant inventories
- environmental education programs for youth and adults
- interpretive tours at nature or visitor centers

Our projects and partners enhance the community's knowledge of nature's value while increasing awareness of local natural areas.



HOW DO I BECOME A MASTER NATURALIST?

Master Naturalists are certified through a 40-hour training available through your local Extension office. Only those who have completed their classroom training and internship are considered certified as a University of Illinois Extension Master Naturalist. Once certified, Master Naturalists commit to 30 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education per year.

WHAT DOES TRAINING INCLUDE?

Trainees in Livingston, McLean, and Woodford Counties will engage in a hybrid training model. Textbook content is delivered online for each trainee's independent learning. Textbook concepts are brought to life through field trips and in-person meetings. Throughout training, participants will gain exposure to our local preserves and partnering organizations becoming more familiar with the volunteer work of Master Naturalists while acquiring University research and education on conservation, natural resources, and environmental sciences.

Training Topics include:

- Archaeology
- Soils
- Botany
- Climate and Weather
- Environmental Ethics
- Forestry
- Geology
- Natural Divisions of IL
- Plants/Animals/Insects
- Prairies and more!

