

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. Each volunteer shares her or his talents in a way that works for them.

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
- Completing office work with special interest groups or not-for-profit natural resource agencies



Interested?

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.

Program Coordinator

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Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit

extension.illinois.edu/fmpt



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Illinois Master Naturalist

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FULTON-MASON-PEORIA-TAZEWELL

MASTER NATURALIST



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Our mission is simple.

To connect Illinois communities with the natural world.

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.

Learn, connect, and give back with the Illinois Master Naturalists, a University of Illinois Extension program. We're training a new generation of engaged environmental stewards about the natural world with a science-based focus.

Master Naturalists then give back to their communities by sharing their unique knowledge, skills, and passion for the natural world with others.

Who is a Master Naturalist?

Master Naturalists are a dedicated group of individuals who generously give their time and expertise to their community. Anyone adult who is passionate about the environment and wants to help can become a Master Naturalist. You do not need a college degree or experience, just a sincere desire to learn and share.

Learn with us.

Volunteers will learn about botany, environmental ethics, archaeology, climate, forestry, geology, prairies, mammals, birds, insects, urban and agricultural systems, and more.

Want to join?

The 12-session training is hosted at partner sites throughout the four-counties. It includes 40 hours of:

- Classwork
- Activities
- Discussion
- Field trips

A \$250 fee covers training, materials, and the manual. Fund assistance may be available.

Once training is done, volunteers must log 60 hours over two years as an intern to become certified. To remain certified, Master Naturalists must complete 30 hours of volunteer time and 10 hours of continued education annually.

