

# 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*

**June 10-14, 2024, 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

Christine Belless, Program Coordinator  
309-547-3711 | cbelless@illinois.edu

Fulton-Mason-Peoria-Tazewell Unit  
[extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/master-naturalists](http://extension.illinois.edu/fmpt/master-naturalists)

### 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 attend, call 309-347-6614. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the US Department of Agriculture by the Director, Cooperative Extension Service, and University of Illinois.

