# S.I. NATURE NEWS

THE QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER OF THE UNIT 26
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION MASTER NATURALISTS

**FALL 2019 - ISSUE 1** 

## MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM UPDATE

#### WRITTEN BY AUSTIN LITTLE

The Master Naturalist program is planning for the future! Extension staff have been meeting with local program partners to answer their questions, assess their needs, and hear their ideas for improving the Master Naturalist program. The program was in part designed to train volunteers for our partner organizations, so we want them directly involved in plans for future trainings and volunteer support. Ideas for the future include adding in more hands-on experiences into the training (such as trail maintenance workshops, more in-depth training on interpretation, hosting an event specifically for volunteers to get volunteer experience, and more).

The next training for the Master Naturalist program will be held in spring of 2020. We look forward to seeing the new changes implemented, and invite you to attend these new sessions to continue to grow your knowledge.

We continue to appreciate your volunteer efforts to help our local organizations! Please remember to log your volunteer hours at https://volunteer.extension.illinois.edu/.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, feel free to call (618-687-1727) or email (little84@illinois.edu).

## UNIT 26 PROGRAM PARTNERS:

- REND LAKE RECREATION NATURE REC. SITES
- GIANT CITY STATE PARK
- SHAWNEE NATIONAL FOREST
- AG IN THE CLASSROOM
- RIVER TO RIVER CWMA
- JOHN A. LOGAN
- CRAB ORCHARD
   WILDLIFE REFUGE
- TOUCH OF NATURE

## **I** ILLINOIS

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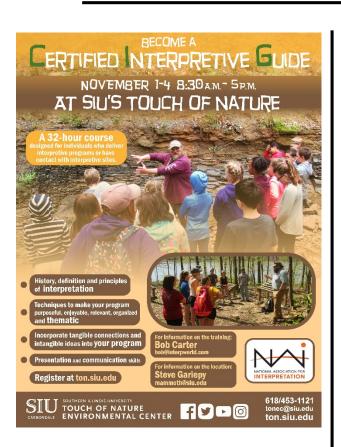


# University of Illinois Extension Master Naturalist

Above: Previous Master Naturalist logos.

# A NEW LOGO IS COMING!

With U of I's new logo update are coming updates in program logos. There will be a new Master Naturalist logo revealed soon - do you have a guess as to what it will look like? Hint: it showcases an insect whose populations have been declining drastically across the country.



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Oct. 8 – Snakes, Spider, and Skeletons (Rend

Lake)

Oct. 12 – Kids In the Woods (Giant City)

Oct. 20 - Sunday Story Hour: Bats (Cache River)

Oct. 18 - Critter Night (SNF)

Oct. 26 - Trek N' Treat (Giant City)

Oct. 27 - Boo at the Slough (Cache River)

Nov. 12 - Night Skies, In The Daytime - A Small World Program

(Rend Lake)

Nov. 17 - Sunday Story Hour: Trees (Cache River)

Dec 8 - Harrison-Bruce Historical Village Christmas Stroll (JALC)

Dec. 10 - Let's Celebrate Christmas - A Small World Program

(Rend Lake)

Who to Contact?

Cache River Wetlands Center

Molie Oliver & Kim Rohling - 618-657-2064

Giant City State Park

Jennifer Randolph -618-457-4836

Shawnee National Forest

Linda Hauser - 618-833-8576 x104

Ag in the Classroom

Maria Farris - 618-694-9893

Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge

618-997-3344

**Touch of Nature** 

618-453-1121

**Rend Lake Visitors Center** 

618-724-2493

Visithttps://www.siwanderings.com/ to see a calendar of upcoming events across southern Illinois!



## STAY TUNED FOR FALL FIELD TRIPS!

If you have ideas for field trips throughout southern Illinois that you would be interested in hosting or attending, contact Austin!

## Mastering Urban Tree Health & Identification

Mastering Urban Tree Health and Identification is a train the trainer model of advanced training for Illinois Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists. This training has several components, including online course modules that you work through at your own pace; an inperson workshop to be held at multiple location options in the state; and a promise from you to devote a portion of your volunteer hours to developing your own tree walk, assisting with a local tree inventory, or other tree related community project in your county.

Your \$40 registration includes access to 7 online modules which will count as 10 hours of continuing education; registration to one hands-on workshop; and a completion certificate and Tree ID recognition pin.

Register before November 1,2019 for this current class group at https://web.extension.illinois.edu/registrationNew/?
RegistrationID=200065.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

#### OPPORTUNITIES

Oct. 12, 1-2pm - Fall Photography Workshop @ Giant City Oct. 12, 10-12pm - Talking Tombstones - Becoming an Outdoors Family Program @ Crab Orchard Oct. 24 & 25 - 2019 Master Naturalist State Conference, 4-H Memorial Camp. Registration link to come. Oct. 26, 12-2pm - Guided Hike at Cedar Bluff @ Ferne Clyffe State Park

Nov. 1-4 8:30-5pm – Certified Interpretive Guide Training @ Touch Of Nature

Nov. 2, 12-3pm - Guided Hike to Max Creek, hosted by Cache River Wetlands Center

Nov. 2, 1-3pm - Forest Hike @ Giant City
Ongoing - Mastering Urban Tree Health & Identification

Please Register for Events

Cache River Wetlands Center - 618-657-2064

Giant City State Park - 618-457-4836

Touch Of nature - 618-453-1121

Crab Orchard Wildlife Refuge - 618-997-3344

