

North Texas Chapter Meeting Announcements May 7th, 2025

EXTENSION

PARKS 8

Join the NTMN Members Project on iNaturalist

Activity:	Combine NTMN member observations within our chapter area to be included in the quest to reach 1 million observations by Texas Master Naturalists within Texas.
	An umbrella project for all Texas Master Naturalist chapters was created in November 2024. The North Texas iNaturalist project was created to represent NTMN in the statewide umbrella project. Currently, the Texas Master Naturalist umbrella project has 850k+ observations with 14 chapters participating. Currently, NTMN is responsible for roughly 10% of the total observations. Help us get the project to 1 million observations by joining. By joining all past and future observations a member does on iNaturalist within our service area will be included in the umbrella project. It's also a great way to interact with MN from other chapters, see what they see, and create friendships through common interests. Like a social network for nature nerds!
	North Texas Master Naturalist Chapter Project:
	Texas Master Naturalist Project:
Location & Times:	iNaturalist Observation can be made anytime and any day.
Sponsor:	North Texas Master Naturalist
Contact Person:	Joshua Ebright (310) 347-7554
Notes:	Contact Joshua for more information.

Wanted: Wildlife Photography and Videos

Request:	Constellation of Living Memorials is currently filming a feature-length documentary that heavily showcases our beautiful local flora and fauna. I'm reaching out to invite your contributions. If you've taken any close-up photos or videos of native plants or wildlife, I'd love to include them.
	Selected visuals will be featured in the film, and all contributors whose work is used will be credited at the end.
	Requesting submissions now through November 2025.
	Submit your entries to Lizbet Palmer at

Wanted: Hikers to join the Hiking Affinity Group

Request:	Signing up for the mailing list, organizing hiking trips, and going on them.
	The Hiking Affinity Group has been dormant, and I'm going to try and shock it back to life. If members want to get on the mailing list or check to see if they're on it, they can send an email to me at cwwilliamson@gmail.com .
Location & Times:	Various locations in North Texas, and perhaps down towards Gus Engeling WMA, too. That place is awesome.
Hours:	N/A
Sponsor:	North Texas Master Naturalist
Contact Person:	Chuck Williamson (972) 338-0651
Notes:	Contact Chuck for more information.

Wellness in Nature

Activity:	Seeking anyone interested in joining a team of Wellness in Nature NTMN Volunteers.
	Wellness in Nature (WIN) volunteers' partner with Dallas Park and Recreation Centers, offering nature experiences to community members seeking ways to engage with nature to enhance their quality of life and well-being. The program is focused on adults, including the special needs of older adults or others with accessibility needs. WIN volunteers may use of the nature trunk materials, books, educational brochures, and/or lead guided nature walks. The activities accommodate for the physical, psychosocial and cognitive needs of the participants.
	The Adults attending this program must sign waivers with Dallas Parks and Recreation. Dallas Parks and Recreation staff are always present during these nature experiences to offer assistance.
Location:	Various locations. This programs occur during weekdays during the day.
Date:	TBD
Hours:	VH, 1 hour, AT - NTX: Chapter Offered Training
Sponsor:	North Texas Master Naturalist
Contact Person:	<u>Ginger Greatens</u> (214) 701-6220
Notes:	Contact Ginger with Questions

Northaven Trail Workdays

	Activity:	Weeding, mulching, and planting at Royal Park Garden on Northaven Trail
	Location:	3433 Townsend Dr, Dallas, TX 75229
	Date:	Saturday, May 10 th 9:00 until 11:30 am
	Hours:	VH, 2.5 hours. Dallas Parks and Open Spaces, Northaven Trail in comments
	Registration:	Click here to register.
	Sponsor:	Friends of Northaven Trail
Co	ontact Person:	<u>Cecilia Behgam (</u> 972) 922-9090

John Bunker Sands World Migratory Day - Outreach

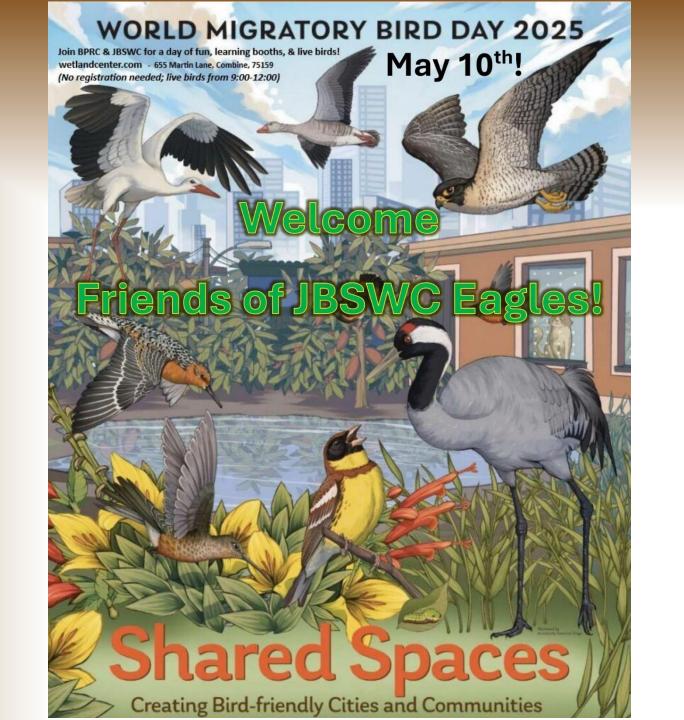
Activity:	Outreach, leading bird walks, general support at JBS event for World Migratory Day
	There will be staff support, but we would love actual NTMN members to interact with the community, as well! For all-day volunteers, we will provide lunch from the BMB Food Truck on site Celebrate migratory birds with avian activities, crafts, bird tours, and live birds from Blackland Prairie Raptor Center (9:00-12:00)! Free with admission.
Location:	John Bunker Sands Wetland Center, 655 Martin Ln, Combine, TX 75159
Date/Time:	Saturday, May 10 th , from 9 am until 2 pm
Hours:	VH; 6 hours, NTX: Outreach Events (JBS World Migratory Day)
Sponsor:	John Bunker Sands Wetland Center
Sign-up:	https://volunteersignup.org/JK3YK
Contact Person:	Shelby Smith (214) 212-1771 or <u>Jade Reynolds</u> (972) 474-9100
Notes:	Contact Shelby or Jade with questions

World Migratory Day at TRAC - Outreach

Activity:	Outreach table and help with bird walks, crafting for kids, scavenger hunt and other bird related fun!
	Celebrate World Migratory Day at TRAC! Looking for 2 - 4 NTMN volunteers for trunks and outreach table
Location:	Trinity River Audubon Center, 6500 Great Trinity Forest Way, Dallas 75217
Date/Time:	Saturday, May 10 th , from 10 am until 2 pm
Hours:	VH; 4-5 hours, NTX: Outreach Events (TRAC World Migratory Day), and may include drive time
Sponsor:	Trinity River Audubon Center
Sign-up:	https://volunteersignup.org/JK3YK
Contact Person:	<u>Ashley Steel</u> (817) 851-9341
Notes:	Need 2 - 4 volunteers to pick up / return bird trunks and work outreach table 10am - 2pm. May include drive time in VH

JBS - Fly In for World Migratory Bird Day

Activity:	Celebrate migratory birds with avian activities, crafts, bird tours, and live birds from Blackland Prairie Raptor Center (9:00-12:00)! Free with admission.
	If you are interested in Boardwalk/Bird Guide Touring specifically, please let us know when you e-mail or call (9:00, 11:00, and 1:00)! Otherwise, there will be a NTMN and NPSOT booth for any individuals that would like a contained way to volunteer. Otherwise, floating help to chat with locals/guests and talk about your knowledge of birds casually while representing NTMN and/or NPSOT ventures!
Location:	John Bunker Sands Wetland Center, 655 Martin Lane, Combine, Texas 75159
Date:	Saturday, May 10 th , 9 am
Hours:	AT and VH options available
Registration:	Members are free; Free with admission; Come and go!
Sponsor:	John Bunker Sands Wetland Center
Contact Person:	<u>Jade Reynolds</u> (972) 474-9100
Notes:	Come and visit regardless of VH/AT! BPRC Live Birds, P.E. Tower Cam demonstration setup (including solar power talk), Professional Photographer/Videographer, NTMN booth, NPSOT booth, with activities, Q&A, and so much more! Cross your fingers for onsite food trucks!







For the first time, our famous female eagle ("Mom") will be featured on one of our storefront items! Come get your magnet on May 10th before supplies run out!

(Photograph taken by JBSWC Steward and Friend Martin (Marty) Gaston on Feb. 8th (GBBC).



Thank you for your unwavering support of John Bunker Sands Wetland Center!





Spring Creek Forest 2nd Saturday Workday

Activity:	We'll make one last pass at woody encroachment on the prairie (not privet/invasives - just woody saplings of hackberry, cedar elm, etc.)and at the same time enjoy a glorious wildflower display.
Location:	Spring Creek Park Preserve, 1787 Holford Rd. Garland (the west side of Holford with the rectangular parking lot).
Date:	Saturday, May 10 th , 9-11 am (second Saturdays monthly, Sept. – May)
Hours:	VH, 2 hours, Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest: Wildscape & Facility Maintenance
Sponsor:	Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest
Contact Person:	<u>Dana Wilson</u> (469) 531-6856
Notes:	Close-toe shoes mandatory; bring gloves, water, bug spray, sunscreen, and loppers if you have them. Afterward, we'll have an end-of-season picnic - bring a sack lunch and join us.

Common Vines of the Metroplex Workshop

Activity:	In this 1.5 hour hands-on workshop, learn the basic skills of plant ID (including use of a dichotomous key) by focusing on identification of common vines. This activity requires a reservation and is limited to 15 participants. 1.5 hours AT. RSVP to danawilson59@yahoo.com; directions will follow.
	Bring a clipboard or notepad, sun protection and bottled water. Close-toe shoes recommended.
Location:	Please RSVP for this activity; directions will follow.
Date:	Thursday, May 15 th , 10-11 am Saturday, May 17th, 10 am
Hours:	AT, 1 hour, AT - Other chapter approved
Sponsor:	Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest
Contact Person:	<u>Dana Wilson</u> (469) 531-6856
Notes:	Close-toe shoes and long pants recommended; bring water and sun protection. Watch the Spring Creek Facebook page or call 469.531.6856 if inclement weather is predicted.

Dallas College Habitats: Cedar Valley College

Activity:	Join us for a fun day of planting! Cedar Valley College has been rehabilitating a 5 1/2-acre Environmental Center. It is a wonderful habitat with ponds, creeks, bridges, a nearly 3-acre prairie and wooden walkways.
	The college will provide tools but if you have a favorite spade or trowel, please bring it along. Snacks will be provided with water and facilities available in nearby college buildings.
	John Wilt is leading this project and is currently working at 4 Dallas College Campuses
Location:	Cedar Valley College: 3030 N. Dallas Ave. Enter campus and follow signs to Facilities, then follow signs to Vet-Tech. Park in nearby paved lots or on grass adjacent to Vet-Tech barn.
Date:	Saturday, May 17 th , 9-12 am
Hours:	VH, 2 hours, Dallas College Habitats: Wildscape and Facility Maintenance
Sponsor:	<u>Dallas Colleges</u>
Contact Person:	John Wilt (214) 707-8439
Notes:	Contact John with questions

BugFest! Saturday 5/17 in Grand Prairie 10am - 2pm

Activity:	Looking for 5 - 7 volunteers for Outreach table and general assistance with the public. Expecting 2000+ attendees! Kids' activities, games, education - all about insects!
	Volunteers can bring trunks or personal items / displays / black light setups - anything bug related is welcome!
Location:	Lynn Creek Park on Joe Pool Lake (5700 Lake Ridge Pkwy, Grand Prairie 75052)
Date/Time:	Saturday, May 17 th , from 10 am until 2 pm
Hours:	VH; 4-5 hours, NTX: Outreach Events (BugFest Grand Prairie in comments). MAY include drive time!
Sponsor:	City of Grand Prairie
Contact Person:	<u>Ashley Steel</u> (817) 851-9341
Sign-up	https://volunteersignup.org/EKEDP?
Notes:	This is expected to be a huge event (2000+ people!) and we currently have zero NTMNs signed up - would really love to have a good showing at such a large public event! Contact Ashley Steel for more information.

BNPAT Workday at Bison Hill at White Rock Lake

Activity:	Come check out this prairie remnant in the heart of Dallas and help us maintain this beautiful, endangered ecosystem! We'll be removing invasives to give native grasses and wildflowers the sunlight and space they need to thrive.
	We'll be joined by a local Boy Scout Troop. Work alongside fellow volunteers of all ages for a fun and rewarding morning outdoors.
Location:	Flag Pole Hill, 8015 Doran Cir, Dallas, TX 75201
Date:	Sunday, May 18 th , 10 am until noon
Hours:	VH, 2 hours, Native Prairies Association of Texas: Natural Resource Management
Sponsor:	Native Prairies Association of Texas
Contact Person:	<u>Lisa Gewax</u> (214) 535-5551
RSVP:	https://texasprairie.org/event/bnpat-bisonhillworkday-may2025/
Notes:	Bring water, gloves if you have them, and wear sturdy shoes. We recommend sun protection and long pants.

Cedar Ridge Preserve Jr Rangers and Expeditions

Activity:	Cedar Ridge Preserve. The CPR Junior Ranger Hikes are monthly one hour guided hikes offered on Sundays once a month. Two NTMN volunteers lead the JR Rangers hikes. If you are new to leading Jr Ranger hikes, please sign up in the orientation slot. You will receive orientation and go on the hike for that day.
	The Expeditions Program is a new youth education program offered on Saturdays, once a month. CRP needs two NTMN volunteers to help the program lead with the expedition activities.
Location:	Cedar Ridge Preserve, 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas TX 75249
Date/Time:	Sunday, May 18 th , from 8:30 am until noon
Hours:	VH; 2 hours, Cedar Ridge Preserve: Educational Talk
Sponsor:	Cedar Ridge Preserve
Contact Person:	Sergio Vargas, CRP Education Director; (561) 847-5761
Sign-up:	https://volunteersignup.org/KYPEY
Notes:	This is a monthly activity Jr Ranger Dates are: May 18, June 22, July 20, August 24, September 21. Expeditions are Saturdays: May 24, June 28, July 27, August 30, Sept 27 Parking is limited at CRP. When you arrive, there will be a line of cars to enter, slowly pull ahead of the line and tell the parking attendant you are a volunteer. There is a parking lot for volunteers that is past the regular lot, take a left onto a gravel trail behind the CRP education building this will take you to volunteer parking.

Spring Creek Forest - Wildflower Watch

Activity:	In May, we'll meet at Spring Creek Park Preserve (1787 Holford, the west side of Holford between George Bush Tollway and Arapaho) to observe a glorious display of wildflowers on the limestone prairie. (Look for the small rectangular parking lot; no restrooms are available but there are many convenience stores/gas stations in the area).
Location:	Spring Creek Park Preserve, 1787 Holford Rd. Garland (the west side of Holford with the rectangular parking lot).
Date:	Sunday, May 18th, 2-3 pm;
Hours:	AT, 1.5 hours, AT - Other chapter approved
Sponsor:	Preservation Society for Spring Creek Forest
Contact Person:	<u>Dana Wilson</u> (469) 531-6856
Notes:	Watch the Spring Creek Facebook page or call 469.531.6856 if the weather looks dicey.

Cedar Ridge Preserve BioBlitz 5/24/25

Activity:	BioBlitz - helping attendees with iNaturalist and general education
	Public is welcome, just looking for a few NTMN volunteers to help with newer attendees or anyone unfamiliar with how to use iNat
Location:	Cedar Ridge Preserve, 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas TX 75249
Date/Time:	Saturday, May 24 th , from 8 am until noon
Hours:	VH; 4-5 hours, Cedar Ridge Preserve: Field Research: TMN Field Research Hours (may include drive time)
Sponsor:	Cedar Ridge Preserve
Contact Person:	<u>Ashley Steel</u> (817) 851-9341
Notes:	Restrooms and parking available on site. Please wear closed toed shoes and bring water, insect repellant and snacks if desired Contact Ashley Steel for more information.

Accessibility of Nature Spaces Workshop with Patti Bonnin

Activity:	Patti Bonnin will be our speaker at the June 4th monthly meeting. The next day, June 5th, she will lead an interactive workshop at the Trinity River Audubon Center (TRAC) to showcase examples of nature accessibility and offer ideas for making nature spaces even more accessible to all nature lovers.
	Join us for a special workshop led by the amazing Patti Bonnin, where we'll explore making nature more accessible for everyone! Whether you're a seasoned nature enthusiast or just starting to explore the great outdoors, this event is perfect for you. Discover valuable tips and techniques to help everyone appreciate the beauty of nature. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and make a positive impact on our environment. See you there!
	Join us before the event to check in and grab some breakfast before Patti begins at 9 am. Also, feel free to bring a packed lunch to enjoy a picnic with us after the workshop and continue the discussion.
Location:	Trinity River Audubon Center, 6500 South Great Trinity Forest Way Dallas, TX 75217
Date/Time:	Thursday, June 5 th at 9 – 12 am
Hours:	AT; 3 hours: AT: Chapter offered Training
Registration:	Click <u>here</u> to register. Use "WorkshopWithPatti" as your password to receive a complimentary ticket.
Sponsor:	<u>NTMN</u>
Contact Person:	<u>Val Reiss</u> (979) 204-2310

Hexalectris Texas Native Orchid Surveys

Activity:	Searching along trails at Cedar Ridge Preserve looking for orchid flower stems to identify and measure them. This is botanical research overseen by the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.
Location:	Cedar Ridge Preserve, 7171 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas, TX 75249
Date & Time:	8 AM, All Mondays in June-July
Hours:	VH 2-4 Hours + Travel time; Cedar Ridge Preserve: Field Research
Sponsor:	Cedar Ridge Preserve & NTMN
Contact Person:	Stephanie Varnum (214) 543-0748
Notes:	Must notify Stephanie Varnum of intent to participate each day to be included, as CRP is closed to the public on Mondays.

Our Summer Social is Sunday, July 13, from 5-7 pm

Activity:	All members are invited to join us for a potluck dinner and socializing at the Summer Social on Sunday, July 13, from 5-7 pm. See old friends, get one hour of AT, and welcome our Class of 2025! An invitation and sign-up form will be sent soon.
Location:	Texas A&M AgriLife Water and Land Resources Building, 17360 Coit Rd, Dallas, TX 75252
Date & Time:	Sunday, July 13 th , from 5 – 7 pm
Hours:	N/A
Sponsor:	NTMN
Contact Person:	Susan Sattell
Sign up:	Coming soon.
Notes:	

The Eighth Annual Brazos River Cleanup and Campout

May 16-19, 2025
Little L Ranch (a private ranch in Somervell County)
A map with specific directions will be provided

There will be four days of volunteering, advanced training, relaxing, and having fun — in addition to cleansing the host chapter's namesake (Rio Brazos) of tires and trash. Past activities and AT include star parties, moth-ing, bioblitz, geology, stream ecology, ornithology, and more.

Registration is necessary for planning a well-organized, successful, and SAFE cleanup adventure.



Brazos River Cleanup and Campout

More details...

There will be a signup sheet for kitchen volunteers and potluck dishes

Meals will include the following:

- Friday 6pm Baked Potato Bar. (Bring potluck potato toppings);
- Saturday breakfast BYO
- Saturday lunch BYO
- Saturday 6pm dinner will be catered by Paolo's Mobile Pizza Oven. (Bring potluck desserts)
- Sunday 7am Mountain Man Breakfast. (Could use a volunteer to assist Richard Grayson);
- Sunday lunch: Sandwiches & Sides or BYO
- Sunday dinner 6pm Potluck
- Monday 8am: Leftovers.

The RBMN Chapter puts a lot of work and expense into this excellent multi-chapter event. Please be generous with your cash donations, your KP duty (VH) and your potluck dishes for one or more of the meals scheduled

Contact Richard Grayson with <u>questions</u> <u>rhg500@gmail.com</u> or 214-733-4140 (cell)

Sign up: https://txmn.org/rbc/brazos-river-cleanup-2025/



Accessibility In Nature Talk & Workshop

Patti Bonnin, Senior Naturalist at Houston Arboretum, Certified Outdoor Accessibility Specialist Don't miss TWO great opportunities!



June 4, 2025: Ms. Bonnin is traveling from Houston to speak at the Wednesday, June 4 Chapter Meeting at Brookhaven College

June 5, 2025 Ms Bonnin will be presenting an interactive workshop, Thursday June 5, 9:00-12:00 at the Trinity River Audubon Center.

If you plan to attend please use the eventbrite to sign up for this free 3 hour AT opportunity: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1294955329249 enter code "WorkshopWithPatti"

Questions? Please contact Val Reiss Reissval@gmail.com

Train the Trainer: Forestry Citizen Scientists for Youth Matthew Orwat, Bria Cooper, Elias Espinosa

- May 27, Tuesday from 9-12 and 1-4
- Samuell Farm Park 100 US-80, Mesquite, TX 75149
- Hands on training for youth forestry education,
- six repeatable activities to be used for ages 8-16

Join the "Nature Ambassadors"!

- Outreach and Engagement is starting a new initiative
- NTMN receives frequent requests from the community to give short educational talks. Many are on introductory topics
- To make it easier for us to fill these requests, and to help more
 Master Naturalists to be involved in giving talks in the
 community, we will be creating a "menu" of talks on important
 topics with speaker notes so that they are usable by any Master
 Naturalist
- If you are interested in helping make any presentations, help provide training to interested speakers who would like coaching, or help give presentations... or anything else! Please contact Ashley Steele at communityed@ntmn.org