

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



Maryland Master Naturalist Volunteer Training Program Orientation

University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.

Maryland Master Naturalist



JUST How does this Master Naturalist program work?



Objectives for this Presentation

Review:

- Structure of program
- Volunteer service
- Training: curriculum & requirements
- Questions



College of
**Agriculture and
Natural Resources**



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*Maryland
Master
Naturalist*



Your Host Site:

*An image of your Host Site's LOGO goes here.
Your Host Site is the facility and/or organization
that is hosting your training*

Communications:

- **PRIMARILY from your HOST SITE**

Host Site Program Facilitator(s) will let you know what communications methods they'll use (email, listserv, website, Facebook group, etc.)

- Statewide communications via **LISTSERV**

★ Maryland Master Naturalist



maryland-master-naturalist@googlegroups.com

Description

This group serves as a forum for Maryland Master Naturalists to share information, ask questions, and start discussions with their peers. It is also a method for distributing information about upcoming events, training, and volunteer opportunities.

Certified Maryland Master Naturalist

- Certified Maryland Master Naturalists are required to:
 1. complete at least **60 hours of basic training** (including the 8-hr field trip),
 2. pass the course's **Final Exam**, and
 3. volunteer at least **40 hours of service**

... each year to remain a MD Master Naturalist

Volunteer Service Requirement:

Minimum of 40 Hours per Year to Obtain and Retain Certification

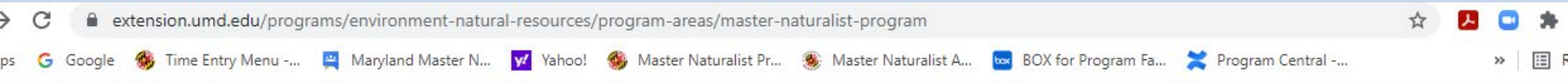
- Intern Year (Your First Year) to Obtain Certification: Complete 40 hrs. by 1st Anniversary of Your Last Day of Class
- Subsequent Years: Complete 40 hrs. each Calendar Year to Retain Certification

Volunteering

- Request that you provide your first 40 hours of service @ your training program host site
- Volunteer somewhere other than host site?
- **Can I accept a payment/honorarium?**

Volunteer Activity Log

In your manual, there will be a *Volunteer Activity Log*, and it's also accessible on our website under the Resources tab:



Master Naturalist Program



Resources

Home > UME Programs > Environment & Natural Resources > Program Areas > Master Naturalist Program > Resources

← Master Naturalist Program

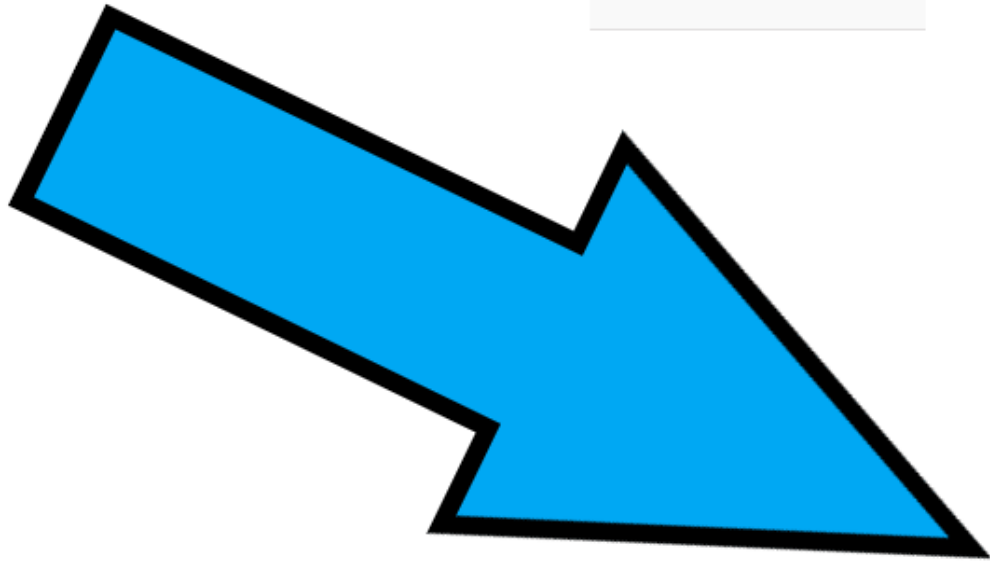
Become a Master Naturalist

Policies and Guidelines

Resources

Support the Program

Train Master Naturalists



There is always more to learn about the environment and the natural history of Maryland. This list consists of voluntary contributions from various sources and is meant as a reference for beginners and experts alike. Inclusion in this listing does not represent an endorsement of materials, programs, or products by University of Maryland Extension or the Maryland Master Naturalist Program. If you would like to add an item please email Joy Refey at jrefey@umd.edu. Thank you!

Advanced Training for Certified Master Naturalists

Forms/Paperwork for Trainees, Interns & Certified Master Naturalists

Available in both fillable MSWord and Excel formats

Advanced Training for Certified Master Naturalists

Forms/Paperwork for Trainees, Interns & Certified Master Naturalists

Files:

Volunteer Agreement Form: This document is completed/submitted upon acceptance into a training program

Volunteer Photo Release Form: This document is completed/submitted upon acceptance into a training program

Volunteer Activity Log for Tracking/Reporting Hours (in MSWord format)

Volunteer Activity Log for Tracking/Reporting Hours (in Excel format)

2021 Volunteer Hours Policy

Volunteer Activity Log

- Program recordkeeping requirement
- Capture as much information as possible
- Paper reporting form and/or host site reporting method
- Periodically, report hours to facilitator as requested
- Facilitator will review/approve your hours
- End of year, your facilitator will report your hours to state office
- See facilitator if unable to complete 40 hours
- ***No “double dipping”***

Curriculum

Three sets of information:

1. Pre-reading material

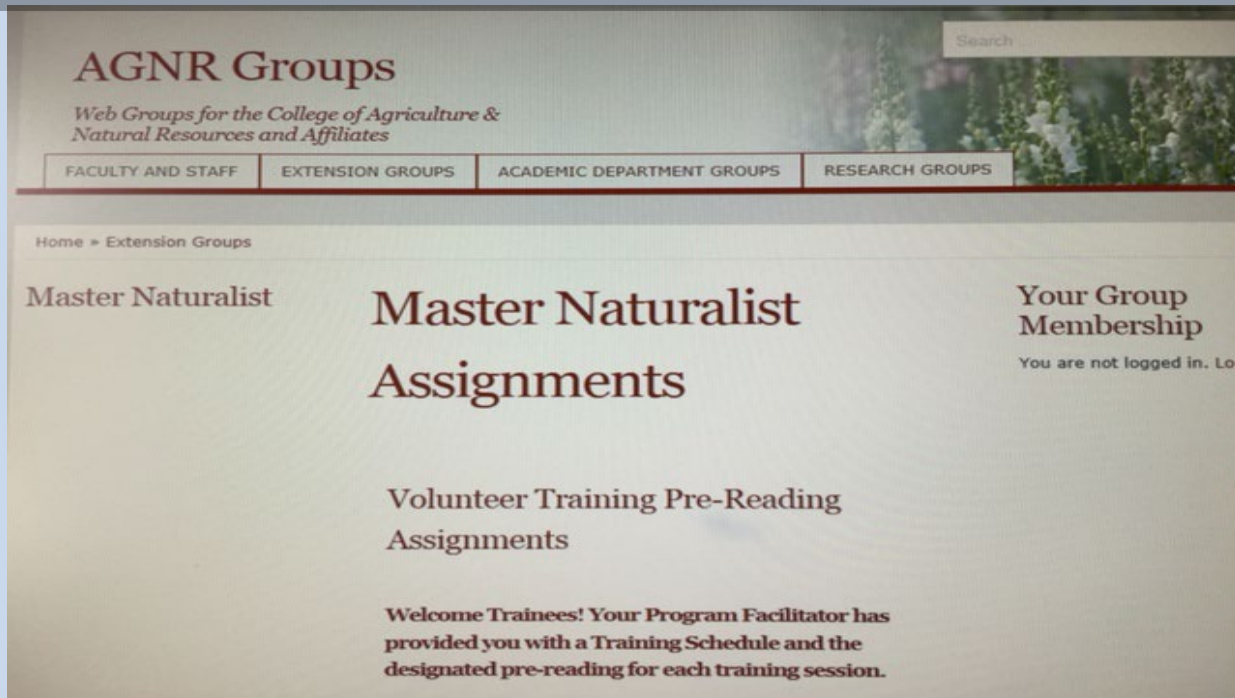
2. Manual

3. Class

- In-Class Instruction/Field Work
- Extended Field Trip
- Group Project
- Attendance Policy – *no more than 2 missed classes*

Pre-Reading Material

<https://agnrgroups.umd.edu/master-naturalist-assignments>



The screenshot shows the AGNR Groups website. At the top, there is a search bar and a navigation menu with four items: FACULTY AND STAFF, EXTENSION GROUPS, ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT GROUPS, and RESEARCH GROUPS. The main content area is titled "Master Naturalist Assignments" and includes a sub-header "Volunteer Training Pre-Reading Assignments". A welcome message for trainees is displayed at the bottom of the main content area. On the right side, there is a section for "Your Group Membership" with a login status indicator.

AGNR Groups
Web Groups for the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources and Affiliates

Search

FACULTY AND STAFF | EXTENSION GROUPS | ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT GROUPS | RESEARCH GROUPS

Home » Extension Groups

Master Naturalist

Master Naturalist Assignments

Your Group Membership
You are not logged in. Log

Volunteer Training Pre-Reading Assignments

Welcome Trainees! Your Program Facilitator has provided you with a Training Schedule and the designated pre-reading for each training session.

Pre-Reading Material

- Refer to class schedule
- Basis for subject
- Not aligned with syllabus
- Not Instructor's presentation
- Supplemental readings are "extra"

Manual

- Reference
- Goals & learning objectives
- Basic info
- Keys
- Fact sheets
- Activities

Final Exam

A final exam is REQUIRED for Certification

- Take home
- Week to complete
- Turned in and graded for certification
- 70% correct to pass
- Retake? **YES**

Summary of Requirements

- 52 hours of classroom training (plus 8 hours field trip)
- Final Exam
- 40 hours volunteer service *annually*
- 8 hours advanced training (after the first year)
- Ongoing communication with facilitator
- Activity log updated

Master Naturalist Designations

Find *Levels of Master Naturalist* in your manual:

- You are a **TRAINEE** while completing the 60 hrs. of classroom/field studies
- You are an **INTERN** once you complete the training and embark on your first year of volunteer service
- You are **CERTIFIED** once you complete the first 40 hrs. of volunteer service (though you may not receive your certificate/official badge until the 1-yr anniversary date of your training program end date)
- You **remain Certified** by continuing to provide a minimum of 40 hrs. of volunteer service AND acquiring a minimum of 8 hrs. of Advanced Training

Advanced Training

Requirement: 8 hours per year (after your Intern year) required to maintain Certified Maryland Master Naturalist Status

What Advanced Training is **NOT**:

- Watching “Nature” on PBS
- Reading a book

What Advanced Training **IS**:

- Class
- Field Studies
- Lots of opportunities are posted to the MD Master Naturalist Listserv

If you have NOT received a registration confirmation email from me, please send an email to jrafey@umd.edu

ALSO, if you need a RECEIPT, please email me with your request once the charge/check has cleared your account



Questions?

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Maryland Master Naturalist Program Assistant

<https://extension.umd.edu/programs/environment-natural-resources/program-areas/master-naturalist-program>

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