

WISCONSIN Master Naturalist



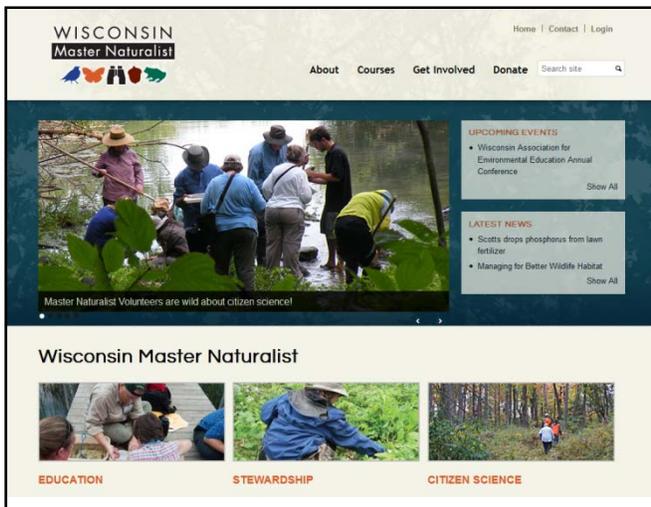
NEWS

Spring 2013

Education, training, and service for volunteers and communities

WEBSITE LAUNCH

We're happy to announce the launch of the WI Master Naturalist Program website.



Website development will continue as we add networking features, like Facebook, as we add more content, and as we learn what works and doesn't work for you. So please tour the site and contact us if you have comments or suggestions: info@wimasternaturalist.org.

COURSE UPDATES

◆ Instructor Training at Schmeckle Reserve

Schmeckle Reserve in Stevens Point hosted the first WI Master Naturalist Instructor Training Course in March. This train-the-trainer course was attended by natural resources educators from across the state. These new instructors are now prepared to hold a WI Master Naturalist Volunteer Training Course at their facilities. Participating organizations:

- Boston School Forest, Stevens Point School District
- Central WI Environmental Station (UWSP)
- Community, Natural Resources, and Economic Development, UW-Extension
- North Lakeland Discovery Center, Manitowish Waters
- Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg
- Ridges Sanctuary, Door County
- Schmeckle Reserve (UWSP)
- Wehr Nature Center, Milwaukee
- WI State Parks (Peninsula & Kettle Moraine)
- WI Environmental Education Board

wimasternaturalist.org

The site provides information about the program and the training courses for all visitors. In addition, WI Master Naturalist Volunteers and Instructors can login to record service hours, prepare for and manage courses, network with naturalists across the state, and find a variety of resources relevant to their service work. Instructors and volunteers who finish a training course will receive an email with login instructions.



The WI Master Naturalist Program is a program of the University of WI-Extension with support from the WI Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Foundation of WI.

◆ Volunteer Training at Wehr Nature Center

Wehr Nature Center in Milwaukee just completed a WI Master Naturalist Volunteer Training Course (April 18 – June 13). Lead instructor, Pat Fojut, reports that participants were eager to learn, were engaged, and had a great time.

◆ Fall Training at River Edge Nature Center

Riveredge Nature Center will offer a WI Master Naturalist Volunteer Training Course from Sept. 5th - Nov. 7, 6:00-8:30 PM. Riveredge is located near Newburg, WI, about 10 miles northwest of Port Washington. Staff from Riveredge, UW-Extension in Sheboygan, and the Northern Kettle Moraine State Park will be co-instructors for this course. For more information and to register online, visit wimasternaturalist.org and click on the “Courses” tab at the top of the page.

PROGRAM SUPPORT

Program support is provided by a large group of organizations and agencies from across the state dedicated to natural resources education.

We are very grateful to the Natural Resources Foundation Board for a recent gift to the WI Master Naturalist Program of \$15,712. The Foundation has been a generous partner in our efforts to provide a statewide opportunity for life-long learning about the state’s natural resources.

Volunteers learn how to identify and monitor aquatic plants from WI DNR specialist.



GET INVOLVED!

There are many ways to get involved with the WI Master Naturalist Program:

- Take a volunteer training course and provide education/interpretation, stewardship, or citizen science service in your community.
- Become an instructor to teach the WI Master Naturalist training courses at your host organization.
- Provide training opportunities at your host organizations, such as a nature center, museum, or state park.
- Make a donation! Send a check to: Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 2317, Madison, WI 53701 or donate online at <http://www.wisconservation.org/>. Look for the “Support WIMN”, under the “Donate Now” tab to make a dedicated gift.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact Kate Reilly, klreilly@wisc.edu

