

WISCONSIN Master Naturalist



NEWS

Winter 2014

Education, training, and service for volunteers and communities

WIMN IS BLOOMING!

In 2012, the WI Master Naturalist Program (WIMN) piloted newly developed training techniques and materials at volunteer courses in Madison and Ashland. The program was launched in the spring of 2013. Wehr and Riveredge Nature Centers each hosted volunteer courses that year using the reviewed and revised training tools.

Program Graduates to Date		
Locations	Host Organization(s)	Grads.
Volunteer Course Graduates 2012		
Madison (pilot)	Leopold Nature Center UW –Arboretum	23
Ashland (pilot)	Cable Museum, Lake Superior NERR, Northland College	14
Volunteer Course Graduates 2013		
Milw.	Wehr Nature Center	24
Saukville	Riveredge NC	15
Total volunteer graduates		76
Instructor Course Graduates 2013		
Stevens Point (pilot)	Schmeckle NC	15
Madison	UW-Extension	16
Total instructors trained		31

A great start, but to grow the program requires training WIMN instructors to teach the WIMN volunteers. Two instructor training courses were held in 2013.

These training courses have been funded in part

by the Sally R. Luthin Memorial Fund, an endowed fund of the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin. Thank you!

UPCOMING COURSE SCHEDULE

Currently, there are 98 people on the WIMN Volunteer Training Course waiting list and 17 waiting for a spot in an Instructor Course. We have an ambitious number of courses scheduled for 2014 to meet these needs. For the latest in course offerings check the website: <http://wimasternaturalist.org/courses>

2014 Volunteer Training Courses – start dates

- Closed: The Clearing, Door County (ends 2/21)
- 2/22 Hartman Creek State Park, Waupaca
- 3/3 Wehr Nature Center, Milwaukee
- 4/8 Welty Environmental Center and Beloit College, Beloit
- 4/21 North Lakeland Discovery Center, Manitowish Waters
- 5/19 Schmeckle NC and Central WI Environmental Station, Stevens Point

2014 Instructor Training Courses – start dates

- 3/24 Upham Woods, Wisconsin Dells

2014 Instructor Trainings with Great Lakes emphasis

- 5/8 Lake Superior NERR, Superior
- 6/5 Wehr Nature Center, Milwaukee

2014 Great Lakes Advanced Training Courses

- 8/9 Wehr Nature Center, Milwaukee
- 9/13 Lake Superior NERR, Superior

WI Master Naturalist 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.

2013 SERVICE PINS

Congratulations to the following Master Naturalist Volunteers who earned a 2013 service pin: Tracy Arnold, Dan Doyle, Amy Jo Dusick, Marian Farrior, Frankie Fuller, Toni Fuller, Mary Gruhl, Jim Limburg, Phil Kress, Calico Schmidt, Levi Wood, Cathy Zimmerman, Connie Jo Zwettler.



Pins are awarded to those who complete 40 hours of service during the year in education, stewardship and/or citizen science. WIMN Volunteers provided a combined 1,516 hours of service for 2013, valued at \$33,564. They also reported

taking a combined 440 hours in advanced training courses, which illustrates their commitment to lifelong learning about Wisconsin's natural world. It also demonstrates the value of the multiplier effect — many people providing a manageable amount of volunteer service can add up to big impacts.

What might the future hold? In 2013, their 8th year of operation, Minnesota's Master Naturalists logged in 53,999 volunteer hours valued at \$1,195,543 and 10,564 advanced training hours. Thank you to our Minnesota Master Naturalist colleagues for providing that inspiration. Thanks, too, for granting us permission to use the Minnesota 2013 service pin design!

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/wimasternaturalist

Volunteers and Instructors are encouraged to share their challenges, success stories, photos, and other resources. Keep in touch with WIMN classmates and find others with shared interests and projects.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
info@wimasternaturalist.org

PLEASE RECORD YOUR SERVICE HOURS

WI Master Naturalist Volunteers and Instructors should be recording their service hours on their website dashboards. Please contact info@wimasternaturalist.org if you need assistance.

Despite the wicked winter weather these Door County Master Naturalist students participated in a field trip to The Nature Conservancy natural area, Shivering Sands (really!). The Clearing, Peninsula State Park, and the Ridges Sanctuary partnered to provide this training opportunity.

Photo by Kathleen Harris, WDNR



PROGRAM SUPPORT

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