Annual Summary 2017

The Wisconsin Master Naturalist Program is a growing network of well-informed citizens dedicated to natural resources education and service within their communities. Volunteers perform at least 40 hours of volunteer service each year and receive 8 additional hours of training annually to maintain certification. The volunteer training course provides coursework in natural history, interpretation and conservation stewardship in both the classroom and field settings delivered by partner organizations throughout the state.

“This course covered so much information on Wisconsin ecology. I think it’s the best thing I’ve done in years.”
- 2017 Master Naturalist Volunteer

“The course was exceptionally well organized, the instructors were experts in their field and each topic was engaging on its own along with painting a complete picture of an ecosystem.”
- 2017 Master Naturalist Volunteer

Volunteer Hours Reported

14,830 stewardship
12,945 citizen science
+ 27,118 education

54,893 Total volunteer hours

for value of $1.2 million

2013-2017 in Review

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8 Instructor trainings
115 Instructors
51 Partner organizations
44 Volunteer training courses completed

163,998 People reached through volunteer-led programs

663 Master Naturalist volunteers residing in

63 of Wisconsin’s 72 counties

12,677 hours of advanced training for Master Naturalist Volunteers

*The dollar value of service hours is calculated by using figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics data, indexed by the Independent Sector.

IN 2017

MASTER NATURALIST VOLUNTEERS RECORDED:

20,345 hours of volunteer service
$443,114 of value to the state of Wisconsin

60% of those reporting service hours gave more than the required 40 hours per year

22% reported more than 100 hours of service in 2017

OF 2017 COURSE PARTICIPANTS (140 RESPONSES):

93% say the course provided a broad overview of the state’s natural resources and the processes that affect them

The percentage of people who feel they have the knowledge to volunteer related to natural resources increased from 54% to 91% after taking the course

98% say their knowledge about Wisconsin’s natural resources increased after taking the course

149 new volunteers

54,240 people reached through volunteer-led programs

19 scholarships

10 volunteer trainings

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