

REPLY TO: Anita B. Gorman
Conservation Discovery Center
4750 Troost Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64110
Telephone: 816-759-7300
Fax: 816-759-7333

May 4, 2017

Dear Potential Missouri Master Naturalist,

The Osage Trails Missouri Master Naturalist chapter's training for new members starts July 25. **We are holding an Orientation Open House on May 16 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center.** You are not required to attend this program, but it is strongly encouraged. We will cover program details and chapter members will be on hand to answer all your questions.

The mission of the Missouri Master Naturalist program is to engage Missourians in the stewardship of our state's natural resources through science-based education and community service. Our local chapter, Osage Trails, gave over 10,000 hours of volunteer service to our partners in 2016. Service to our partners is a very important component to the Master Naturalist program and we currently have more than a dozen partner organizations with which we work.

If you decide to apply for the training, you will be expected to attend all classroom sessions and two Saturday field sessions to complete the training. Once the initial training is complete, you will also be required to provide 40 hours of service with our partners and attend 8 hours of advanced training within one year to become certified. The volunteer service includes your Capstone project which serves as a transition from training to volunteer service. You will learn more about this during your training.

Applications are due by June 15, 2017 and can be found below. You should submit your application, \$100 class fee, volunteer conduct form (found in separate PDF file), liability, and photo release forms together as one packet. Class size is limited and Missouri residents will receive preference. If accepted, you will be required to undergo a background check which is covered as part of your fee. If you are not accepted, your \$100 will be refunded. Limited scholarships are available.

Sincerely,

Stacey Davis
Gorman Discovery Center Manager
Missouri Department of Conservation
Osage Trails Chapter Advisor

Lala Kumar
Horticulture Specialist
University of Missouri Extension
Osage Trails Chapter Advisor

Missouri Master Naturalist Osage Trails Chapter Tentative Fall Training Schedule

Classes are 6:30-9:00 p.m. at the Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center, except field sessions. Classroom sessions are mandatory plus you must attend at least two full-day field sessions.

JULY 25	Orientation/Mentor/Yahoo Site
AUGUST 1	Ecological Concepts
AUGUST 8	Botany Basics
AUGUST 15	Conservation History/ Timekeeping
AUGUST 22	Interpretation – What is it? How do I do it?
AUGUST 26	FIELD SESSION – Interpretation
AUGUST 29	Soils/Geology
SEPTEMBER 2	FIELD SESSION – Glade and Prairie Ecology
SEPTEMBER 5	Glade and Prairie Ecology
SEPTEMBER 12	Forest Management
SEPTEMBER 16	FIELD SESSION – Forest Management
SEPTEMBER 19	Missouri River Ecology
SEPTEMBER 23	FIELD SESSION – Missouri River Ecology
SEPTEMBER 26	Furbearer Management
OCTOBER 3	Wetland Ecology
OCTOBER 7	FIELD SESSION – Wetland Ecology
OCTOBER 10	Urban Forestry and Invasive Species
OCTOBER 17	Partner Night
OCTOBER 24	GRADUATION



MISSOURI MASTER NATURALIST™ PROGRAM APPLICATION PACKET

The Missouri Master Naturalist program is a collaborative effort between the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the University of Missouri Extension.

Local Chapter Partners include:

- Anita B. Gorman Conservation Discovery Center (MDC)
- Blue River Watershed Association
- Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center (MDC)
- Burroughs Audubon Society
- George Owens Nature Park
- Heartland Tree Alliance (Bridging the Gap)
- Jackson County Parks & Recreation
- Kansas City Parks & Recreation (KCP&R) and Lakeside Nature Center
- Kansas City WildLands (Bridging the Gap)
- Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge
- Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary
- Missouri River Relief
- Platte County Parks & Recreation
- Platte Land Trust
- Powell Gardens

Application packet is due by 5:00 p.m. June 15, 2017.

Mail or hand deliver packet to:

Missouri Master Naturalist Osage Trails Chapter

c/o University of Missouri Extension

1600 NE Coronado Dr.

Blue Springs, MO 64015

816-252-5051

Fax 816-874-4826

Insure that all of the following documents are included in the application packet you mail in.

- _____ Application form
- _____ Liability Release
- _____ Photo Release Authorization
- _____ Volunteer Conduct Form – found in separate PDF file
- _____ Check for \$100 made payable to: **University of Missouri Extension**

You will be required to submit to a background check through MU Extension if selected.



APPLICATION FORM

Participants must be at least 18 years of age.

Please type or print clearly.

Your enrollment fee of \$100.00 must accompany the application.

Make check payable to: **University of Missouri Extension**

At least one scholarship will be available. If interested in the scholarship, please write a one-page essay explaining your interest in the program and submit it with your enrollment forms.

NAME: _____
(As you wish it to appear on your certificate)

NAME: _____
(As you wish it to appear on your nametag—if different from above)

MAILING ADDRESS:

Street _____

City _____ County _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone: Day (____) _____ Evening: (____) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (for chapter communications only): _____

OCCUPATION, if employed: _____

If retired, what was your former occupation? _____

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE, if any (not a prerequisite for participation):

- 1) Describe why you are interested in the Missouri Master Naturalist Volunteer program.

- 2) What skills or interests are you willing to contribute to the Missouri Master Naturalist Programs? (Skills may include computer, photography, typing, graphic arts, public speaking, teaching, specific knowledge, etc.)

- 3) How did you hear about the Missouri Master Naturalist Program?

_____ If accepted into this program, I understand I am required to undergo a confidential screening
(Initial) for child abuse & neglect and criminal records before I begin my volunteer work, in keeping with the necessity for ensuring the safety of youth as well as providing protection for all volunteers. I understand that I may participate in the initial 40 hour training course but will not be recognized as a Master Naturalist until the records-checking process is completed and I am notified in writing of my acceptance into the program. I am assured that this process will be handled with the highest degree of confidentiality.

__YES I will be available to attend all class sessions and field trips as listed on the training schedule. I understand that I am required to attend the training class, complete 40 hours of volunteer service within 15 months of beginning training and complete 8 hours of approved advanced training in order to become a Certified Missouri Master Naturalist.

__NO I cannot make the commitment required to participate at this time, but I am still interested in the program. Please contact me when the next course is offered.

OSAGE TRAILS CHAPTER OF THE MISSOURI MASTER NATURALIST PROGRAM VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT:

I understand that in exchange for the training made possible through the Osage Trails Chapter of the Missouri Master Naturalist program, I will volunteer at least 40 hours of my time toward approved projects and successfully complete 8 hours of advanced training within 15 months of the start of the course. I understand that I will become a Certified Missouri Master Naturalist only when I complete both the training and the volunteer work. I also understand that to retain annual certification, I must successfully complete 8 hours of advanced training and 40 hours of volunteer service each year thereafter.

Signature

Date



LIABILITY RELEASE:

_____ I understand that in consideration of being accepted as a participant in the
(Initials) Missouri Master Naturalist™ volunteer program (“program”), I hereby release, discharge and agree to hold harmless the program and its sponsoring state agencies, their agents, employees, officers and successors, from and against all claims of whatever kind, known or unknown, direct or indirect, for personal injury, death or property damage that I may incur from participation in the Missouri Master Naturalist™ program.

_____ I understand and agree that in consideration of being accepted as a
(Initials) participant in the Missouri Master Naturalist™ volunteer program, I will defend and hold harmless the program and its sponsoring state agencies, their agents, employees, officers and successors from and against all claims by third parties, of whatever kind, known or unknown, direct or indirect, for personal injury, death or property damage that may arise from any of my intentional or negligent acts or failures to act.

Please Print Name

Signature

Date



PHOTO RELEASE AUTHORIZATION

I _____ authorize the University of Missouri to make pictures and sound recordings of me and use the same in any form for its purposes and consent that the pictures and recordings may be copied, published, telecast or broadcast for such purposes together with descriptions and editorial statements.

DATE: _____ SIGNED: _____