



photo by Donna Finnegan

Examples of volunteer projects that Virginia Master Naturalists are doing:

- Monitoring bat populations using acoustic detection equipment
- Organizing a wildlife-focused day camp for youth at a Virginia State Park
- Providing advice to homeowners for improving wildlife habitat and stormwater buffers on their properties
- Installing a demonstration garden to attract pollinators in a public park
- Leading nature walks for the public at a local natural area
- Collecting data for a study of native mason bees



photo by Victoria Dye



photo by VMN-Historic Southside Chapter

For more information:

Virginia Master Naturalist program state office
www.VirginiaMasterNaturalist.org
 Email: masternaturalist@vt.edu
 Phone: 434-872-4587
 Mailing address:
 Virginia Cooperative Extension – Charlottesville/Albemarle
 460 Stagecoach Road, Charlottesville, VA 22902

or your local chapter at:



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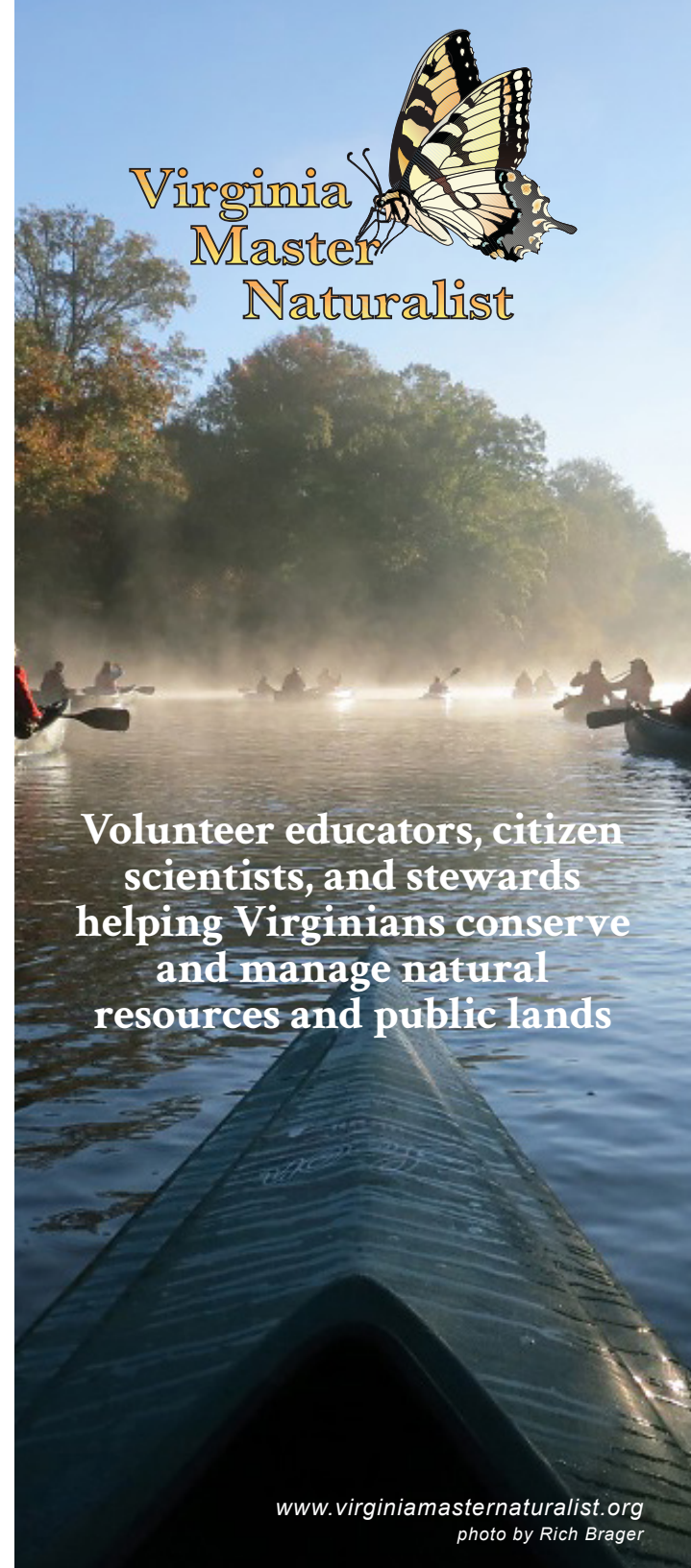
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Virginia Master Naturalist



Volunteer educators, citizen scientists, and stewards helping Virginians conserve and manage natural resources and public lands

www.virginiamasternaturalist.org
 photo by Rich Brager



People who are curious about nature, enjoy the outdoors, and want to be part of a team working together on natural resource management and conservation in Virginia are perfect candidates to become Virginia Master Naturalist volunteers.

The Virginia Master Naturalist program is a statewide corps of volunteers providing education, outreach, and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities.



Becoming a Certified Virginia Master Naturalist:

- starts with completing a 40-hour **basic training course** offered by a local chapter of the program;
- includes an additional 8 hours of **continuing education**;
- requires 40 hours of **volunteer service**; and
- typically takes 6-12 months.

Visit VirginiaMasterNaturalist.org to find current chapter locations and contacts.



photo by Josh Schnell



photo by Felice Bond

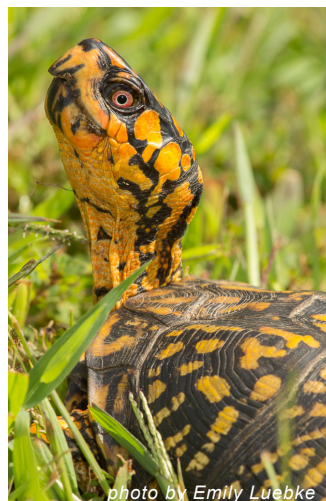


photo by Emily Luebke

Virginia Master Naturalists perform approved volunteer service in their communities.



Education – Teach adults and youth about nature!



Citizen Science – Collect data on wildlife and plant populations, water quality, and more!



Stewardship – Restore wildlife habitat, clean up a local stream, or build a trail!



photo by VMN-Fairfax Chapter

The basic training course covers background knowledge and skills to prepare participants for their volunteer service. Topics include:



Core biology topics such as ornithology (the study of birds) and botany (the study of plants)



Management and conservation of ecological systems such as forests and wetlands



Teaching and interpretive skills



Citizen science and research skills



Practice in the field identifying species and learning about natural resource management



photo by Daphne Cole



photo by Lisa Deaton



photo by VMN-Rivanna Chapter

Each chapter tailors the course to fit its local environment, so no two courses are exactly the same.