

Big Woods, Big Rivers Module

Course Outline/Schedule

Using the 11 Week Schedule:

- Week 1 *Overview: the three ecosystems of Minnesota, What is a Naturalist? Master Naturalist Program overview (2.5 hours)*
- Week 2 *Physical Environment of the Big Woods: Glaciations, Geology, What Makes up the Big Woods? The Big Picture (2.5 hours)*
- Week 3 *Terrestrial Plants: Management and Identification (2.5 hours)*
- Week 4 *Terrestrial Animals: Management and Identification (2.5 hours)*
- Week 5 *Communication and Teaching (2.5 hours)*
- Week 6 *Aquatics: Macro Invertebrates, fish and aquatic plants*
- Week 7 *Aquatics: Water Quality/Management, Land animals found near water, birds, shoreland vegetation (2.5 hours)*
- Week 8 *Cultural History: ancient peoples, Native Americans, Pioneers, up to modern times (2.5 hours)*
- Week 9 *Current Human Impacts: use current or local events, info from field trips (1.25 hour)*
Master Naturalist Program Requirements and How To's: what next for the new Master Naturalists? (1.25 hour)

Field Trips

- After week 4 *Plants & Animals: Management, Identification, and Communication Skills*
- After Week 5 *Aquatics and Culture: Management, Identification, Local history, and communication skills*