

2017 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

minnesotamasternaturalist.org

MISSION

The mission of the Minnesota Master Naturalist Program is to promote awareness, understanding, and stewardship of Minnesota's natural environment by developing a corps of well-informed citizens dedicated to conservation education and service within their communities.

VOLUNTEERS

1,295 volunteers

85,369 service hours

Hours valued at over \$2.25 million

COURSES

- 273 people participated in 22 biome training courses
- 497 people participated in 28 advanced training courses.
- Volunteers completed 13,074.25 hours of advanced training

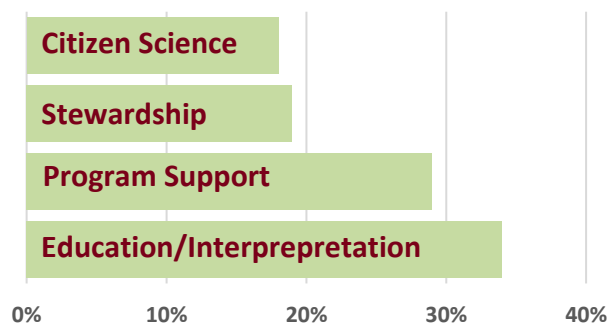
PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Master Naturalists coordinated with over 150 organizations for volunteer opportunities, including nonprofits, state agencies, nature centers, and other university programs.



Twenty-two people participated in the three-day Prairies and Potholes Road Trip. The group toured various prairie sites in Southwestern Minnesota, including the Pipestone National Monument.

SERVICE AREAS



Education/interpretation projects made up the largest share of hours in the four service areas.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

Citizen Science Projects

Volunteers provide citizen data from across Minnesota for projects such as: bird counts, backyard weather observations, National Eagle Center Golden Eagle Survey, Minnesota Bumblebee Survey, Citizen Stream Monitoring Program, Monarch Larva Monitoring Project, Minnesota Loon Watcher Survey.



Volunteers traveled over 100,000 miles to make more than 4000 observations!

Program Support

Volunteers helped answer phones, staff nature center desks, update databases, attend leadership meetings, and conduct research.



Deb volunteers with the International Wolf Center in Ely as a caregiver for new wolf pups. Another volunteer provides year-round support there as an animal handler, facilitating some programming and providing feedings on weekends.

Education/Interpretation

Volunteers were docents, staff naturalists, taught classes, accompanied field trips, led interpretive walks, and staffed tables.

→ Volunteers assisted with 4,357 events that reached 696,707 people!



Sheila taught a class on invasive species and bio-security at Forestview Middle School. In June, 2017 the 6th graders represented Minnesota at the International Future Problem Solving Conference where they placed first in the world in the Presentation of Action Plan Competition! (Photo courtesy of Brainerd Dispatch.)

Stewardship Projects

Volunteers removed invasive species, collected and processed prairie seeds, restored pollinator habitat, planted trees, and maintained trails.

→ Overall 1,044,809 acres were impacted through Master Naturalist stewardship!



On National Public Lands Day 227 volunteers contributed 1,037 hours of service to mitigate invasive species at 12 sites across Minnesota, impacting 166,370.6 acres of public lands.