



## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# Meaningful service for a better Minnesota

Though many scientists study the environmental problems that face our planet, the size of the task is truly formidable. Ordinary people, however, make significant contributions toward improving and protecting our natural environment through the Minnesota Master Naturalist program.

Read on to see how our volunteers are making a real and lasting difference!



**871**  
**ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS**  
**PERFORMED**

**88,743**  
**HOURS OF SERVICE**  
**IN 4 KEY AREAS**

### CITIZEN SCIENCE PROJECTS

Contributing directly to scientific research through the collection of data.

### EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Presenting natural science, developing education materials, and leading field tours.



### STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

Participating in management activities like invasive species removal and habitat restoration.

### PROGRAM SUPPORT

Serving as chapter organizers, office and event support for sponsors and the program.

*And the impacts were extraordinary...*

**19,238**  
**ACRES**  
**IMPACTED**

**180**  
**SPONSOR**  
**ORGANIZATIONS**

**31,650**  
**PEOPLE**  
**REACHED**



### Helping get big jobs done

When the Master Naturalist program began work on a **new invasive species guide**, we learned that sourcing the necessary high-quality photographs could be costly and time consuming. But through an innovative crowdsourcing campaign, **40 volunteers** contributed pictures to the guide, with the photos valued at over **\$9,000!**

### Volunteer spotlight

**Elizabeth Heeren** volunteers at the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum and the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, but her work doesn't end there!

**70** ADVANCED  
TRAINING HOURS

**753** VOLUNTEER  
SERVICE HOURS

**50** EMERALD ASH  
BORER FINDS

**93** ACRES  
IMPACTED

### Courses and graduates

Our numbers are growing, but our training never stops! Our three biome courses were offered across the state, with thousands of Minnesotans going through our program.

**19** BIOME  
COURSES

**2,605** VOLUNTEER  
GRADUATES

**256** INSTRUCTOR  
GRADUATES

**60** ADVANCED  
TRAININGS

### Service across the state

On September 22<sup>nd</sup> over **230 volunteers** took part in **National Public Lands Day**. The Minnesota Master Naturalist program partnered with **16 work sites** across the state for this annual day of service. Volunteers logged over **834 hours**, which is valued at **\$23,553**.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION