



Photo: Lesha Berkel

## Make a Difference

Feel that sense of satisfaction when you make an impact through volunteer service! Examples of Virginia Master Naturalist volunteer activities:

- Monitor bat populations using acoustic detection equipment
- Document wildlife observations at Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trail sites
- Lead nature walks at Virginia State Parks
- Install pollinator gardens
- Plant trees to protect waterways from runoff
- Organize community cleanups of local parks and streams
- Provide advice to homeowners for improving wildlife habitat on their properties
- Engage youth in environmental education...and hundreds more activities to benefit natural resource education and conservation



Photo: John Holden

For more information:  
 Virginia Master Naturalist Program State Office  
[www.VirginiaMasterNaturalist.org](http://www.VirginiaMasterNaturalist.org)  
 Email: [masternaturalist@vt.edu](mailto:masternaturalist@vt.edu)  
 Phone: 540-231-0790

or your local chapter at:

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Photo: Cindy Andrews

**Learn, contribute, and have fun with the team of volunteers helping Virginia's communities conserve natural resources and public lands through education, science, and stewardship**



**Virginia Master Naturalists**

*Virginia Master Naturalists is for everyone who is curious about nature and who wants to be in a supportive group working together on natural resource conservation. We seek to build a diverse and inclusive volunteer corps that is accessible to all.*

## Join the Virginia Master Naturalists

Virginia Master Naturalists are a statewide corps of volunteers providing natural resource 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 volunteer training course offered by a local chapter of the program
- Includes an additional 8 hours of continuing education
- Requires 40 hours of volunteer service
- Typically takes 6-12 months

Visit [VirginiaMasterNaturalist.org](http://VirginiaMasterNaturalist.org) to find current chapter locations and contacts.



Photo: Dianna Bridges

## Impact Your Community

Virginia Master Naturalists make a difference through approved volunteer service in their communities.

- Education – Guide adults and youth in learning about nature
- 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
- Program Leadership – Help coordinate your local VMN chapter



Photo: Geneviève de Messières



Photo: Parks Rountrey



Photo: Jerry Nissley



Photo: Toni Genberg



Photo: Oliver Torres

## Learn About Nature

The basic volunteer training course prepares participants for their service and fosters connections with people, places, and projects. No prior knowledge is required, only a desire to learn and volunteer. Engage your passions as you dive into a host of fascinating topics, including:

- Biology and identification of plants and animals
- Management and conservation of ecological systems such as forests and streams
- Teaching and interpretive skills
- Naturalist skills, such as observation and data collection

Every course includes outdoor field time to explore local natural areas, see natural resource management firsthand, and practice skills.



Photo: Lisa Matthews



Photo: Marie Cannata

Photo: Arlene Crabbe