

Nebraska Master Naturalist Program
Grant # 19-184 2nd Quarter Periodic Report
7/1/20-9/30/20



By The Numbers: In this quarter, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **contributed 1,448** hours of volunteer time valued at **\$35,374**. In their efforts, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **connected with 9,588** Nebraskans through their volunteer service and have directly **impacted 2,794** acres across the state in resource management projects, several projects dealing with state listed at risk species and water quality. Since Nebraska Master Naturalist volunteering efforts began in 2010, a total of **88,763** volunteer service hours have been contributed statewide. The volunteering is valued at **\$2,257,268** in salary savings to our partners and Nebraskans by utilizing Nebraska Master Naturalists for volunteer support.

Highlighted Events: The Nebraska Master Naturalist Program (NMNP) has been finding ways to adapt in this challenging time many of our planned events and trainings for the summer and early have been cancelled, postponed, or re-structured for online audiences. The NMNP has been fortunate to find ways to meet the needs of our program partners and volunteers. For example, our Lincoln area chapter the “Salt Creek” Chapter has managed to safely volunteer with the Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch Project, by removing invasive species such as eastern red cedar, musk thistle and others along the trails path. The chapter has also planted prairie violets and gay feather. Other highlighted events, include our monthly online webinars that we have organized and partnered with. Examples of presentations include the Snakes of Nebraska, Nebraska Invasive Species, and the Sounds of Summer. These learning opportunities have provided knowledge and content that our naturalist members can put to work in their volunteering.

Outreach: The NMNP has been fortunate to develop, alongside an instructor and volunteer, a guide to “Common Butterflies of the Central Platte River Valley”. This guide features identification information as well as great photography. This guide promotes the NMNP as well as NET. It is a wonderful example of what our naturalist members are capable of creating and offering up resources to other Nebraskans. Additional outreach also comes from our monthly online webinars, we have been able to recruit and register future participants into the program as the public was invited to our online programming.

What is Ahead: We are looking forward to hosting our Fall Core Training in October in the new education center at Schramm Park, and utilizing the wonderful resources onsite. The Master Naturalist program is also in the process of producing the 2021 Naturalist calendar. This is a phonology calendar with wonderful nature photography featured by our Naturalists and partners. Additionally, this fall the NMNP will be developing online training modules by utilizing video from the fall training and other on-location shoots from this summer. These training modules will help us bridge the gap caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, and offer up training resources for those who cannot meet in person. This fall we will be writing and developing the Nebraska Master Naturalist Jr program. This new avenue of programming is a decentralized approach to meet youth grades 5-12 and provide them with hands on learning material and experiences to establish our future conservation minded citizens. We look forward to the upcoming opportunities this fall and winter that the Naturalist program can still provide in this challenging time.

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Developed and Edited by Matt Jones, Nebraska Master Naturalist Program Coordinator 10/13/2020

2020 3rd Quarter Totals			
	Total Hours Volunteered	Number of People Made Contact With	Number of Acres Impacted
Total Volunteer Hours 2010-2020:	88,764	832,605	107,786
Total 3rd Quarter Administrative Efforts	160.9	2376	65.03
Total 3rd Quarter Interpretation & Outreach:	403.77	3829	235.04
Total 3rd Quarter Natural Resource MGMT:	340.5	3152	2356.08
Total 3rd Quarter Citizen Science:	530	101	137.75
Total 3rd Quarter Outdoor Skills:	13.5	130	0
Total 3rd Quarter Volunteer Hours:	1448.67	9,588	2,793.90
Total Value of Volunteer time: \$25.43			
Total 3rd Quarter Value of Volunteer time:	35,375		
Total Volunteer Time Value	2,257,269		
	Total Continuing Education Hours		
Total CE Hours 2010-2020:	20,849		
Total 3rd Quarter CE Hours:	196.17		