

By The Numbers: In the last 3 months of 2021 the Nebraska Master Naturalist program volunteers **contributed 1,761** hours of volunteer service in program and projects around the state, valued at **\$50,258** In their efforts, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **connected** with **2,396** Nebraskans through their volunteer service and have directly **impacted 8,906** acres across the state in resource management projects, many projects dealing with state listed at risk species and water quality. Since Nebraska Master Naturalist volunteering efforts began in 2010, a total of **99,936** volunteer service hours have been contributed statewide. The volunteering is valued at **\$2,852,173** in salary savings to our partners and Nebraskans by utilizing Nebraska Master Naturalists for volunteer support in participating in a wide array of volunteer projects.

Highlighted Events: In October the Nebraska Master Naturalist Program (NMNP) hosted another “Core 24” training with our partners at The Crane Trust in central Nebraska. We welcomed 15 new Master Naturalists in to the program after this two weekend training. This was a great opportunity for new members to learn from professionals in the conservation field and experience the local onsite resources.

Jr Nebraska Master Naturalist Accomplishments: A final review of lesson plans and activities that were created by the Jr Program, Coordinator was completed and approved with the guidance of the Junior Master Naturalist Committee. A refreshed format and aesthetic for was created for the Activity Guide. This format will be the template for all topic areas in the program curriculum. In December Jr Program Committee member Austen Hill of Papio Missouri River NRD and the Jr Program Coordinator piloted specific lesson plans at three schools: Blumfield Nature Club (Omaha), Sandoz Tiger/Cub Explorers (Omaha), and Arbor Park Junior Naturalist Club (Blair). These were great opportunities to test out our created activities and begin to evaluate their engagement and facilitation. The Jr Program coordinator also inventoried Master Naturalist supplies and materials for potential use in the Junior Master Naturalist Program. This will shape material and supply purchases for Jr Program.

What is Ahead: The NMNP has announced trainings for 2022. There will be 3 training events for new members. Eastern Nebraska Training will take place in April, a week long course will be hosted at UNL’s Cedar Point Biological Station in June, and there will be Central Nebraska Training in the Fall. The NMNP is also working closely with our regional groups and chapters to schedule education and volunteer events for 2022.

What is Ahead for the JR NMNP: In 2022 our goal is to expand the program statewide to no less than eight schools or organizations to utilize the Jr Naturalist curriculum. Of these 8 user groups, we will coordinate with three rural, urban, or otherwise underserved communities. This is so that we can examine how our curriculum works in different environments but also to reach the diverse groups of users. Additionally, we want to plan with Junior Master Naturalist teacher sponsors to complete two hours of environmentally focused volunteer service totaling 150 hours. This will be a great opportunity to connect the NMNP resources and members with the Jr Program users and make a difference in their communities. The Jr program also plans to utilize our supply and material budget to purchase supplementary materials and supplies to enrich lesson plans. Also a material rental system will be created so that we can efficiently get any needed physical supplies to our user groups. And finally the Jr program coordinator will work with the NMNP to design the Junior Master Naturalist website to facilitate recruitment and promote the Jr Master Naturalist Program.

Nebraska Master Naturalist Program
Grant # 21-211 4th Quarter Periodic Report
10/1/21-12/31/21



To see the list of all our NMNP opportunities please visit our [calendar of events](#).

Developed and Edited by Matt Jones, Nebraska Master Naturalist Program Coordinator 01/13/2022

2021 4th Quarter Totals	Total Hours Volunteered	Number of People Made Contact With	Number of Acres Impacted
Total 4th Quarter Administrative Efforts	118.5	287	0
Total 4th Quarter Interpretation & Outreach:	214.91	1269	302.25
Total 4th Quarter Natural Resource MGMT:	904.8	253	5117.2
Total 4th Quarter Citizen Science:	425	430	3487.5
Total 4th Quarter Outdoor Skills:	98	157	0
Total 4th Quarter Volunteer Hours:	1,761	2,396	8,907
Value of Volunteer time: \$28.54			
Total Value of 4th Quarter Volunteering	50,258		
Total Volunteer time 2010-2021:	99,936	867,367.00	151,061
LTD Total Volunteer Time Value	\$2,852,173.00		
	Total Continuing Education Hours		
Total CE Hours 2010-2021:	23,413.50		
Total 4th Quarter CE Hours:	298.5		