

By The Numbers: This summer the Nebraska Master Naturalist Program volunteers **contributed 2,192** hours of volunteer service in program and projects around the state, valued at **\$62,559** In their efforts, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **connected** with **9,263** Nebraskans through their volunteer service and have directly **impacted 3,476** 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 a total of **105,848** volunteer service hours have been contributed statewide. The volunteering is valued at **\$2,958,342** 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:

This summer provided a whole host of opportunities and events for Nebraska Master Naturalists to offer their skills and training to enhance the work of our conservation partners around the state. In July we hosted a weeklong “complete” training at the University of Nebraska’s Cedar Point Biological Research Station near Ogallala. This training offers Master Naturalist Certification after 60 hours of hands-on instruction. The location is a great way for participants to learn from resource professionals, and experience instruction in the field. We look forward to future trainings at this location. This training also welcomed 14 new members into the program. Other noteworthy events that took place this summer was the work our Lincoln area Master Naturalists continued project alongside the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission in restoring the public wetland on NGPC headquarters in Lincoln. This project provided an opportunity for NMNP members to volunteer their time in cleaning up and removing unwanted plant species from the wetland site and providing NGPC with a useful education tool for public outreach. Also, the NMNP River City Chapter out of Omaha meet monthly this summer and held presentations on residential landscaping using native plant species. Additionally a naturalist member provided a wonderful training on native plant identification and interpretation via a multidisciplinary art lens. The NMNP was also participated in outreach events at the Nebraska State Fair and NGPC Missouri River Expo in September. These events were excellent opportunities for Master Naturalists not to only recruit and promote the NMNP but provide volunteer support in action by assisting in programming at these public events. At the end of this season, we hosted one final training for the year in Central Nebraska that took place over two weekends. We brought 15 more new members into the program. This event was hosted by coordination with our partners at The Crane Trust, and Audubon’s Rowe Sanctuary.

What is Ahead: There are some exciting events on the horizon for this fall. In October the NMNP will have an outreach presence again at the NATS (Nebraska Association of Teachers or Science) State conference. This will be a great opportunity to promote and share our Jr NMNP resources and curriculum as we continue to reach more users for that program. Also in November, the NMNP will be hosting our annual Fall Conference, this time in person at Fontenelle Forest. This is a wonderful event that showcases the projects, and experiences of our members as well as partner organizations presenting on programs they would like our members assist with. It always is great to hear from our members and share their enthusiasm and successes. To see the list of all our NMNP opportunities please visit our calendar of events. <https://www.nemasternaturalist.org/members/events-calendar.html>

Nebraska Master Naturalist Program
Grant # 21-211 3rd Quarter Periodic Report
7/1/2022-9/30/2022



Jr Nebraska Master Naturalist Accomplishments:

Once the initial face to face discussion about the program has been completed, the reception has been very good, and the request for lessons has been forthcoming. Schools represented by teachers who have personally met with the Jr Program Coordinator and are either very interested or have already completed lessons with their students are as follows: Walt Hill, NE; Two Springs, Bellevue, NE; Ashland, NE; Grand Island, NE; St Teresa Catholic Lincoln, NE; Blair, NE; Sandoz, Omaha, NE. Conversations and emails from the Director of the School of Natural Resources at UNL and Lindsay Rogers of Nebraska Game and Parks have directed the program Coordinator to the NACEE listserv and the Carver Elementary School Lincoln. The Jr Coordinator was present at the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science conference in North Platte and shared with several teachers about the Junior Nebraska Master Naturalist Program. This opportunity was a good gauge of teacher interest and follow up is targeted to begin next week. The Watchable Wildlife Biologist at Wildcat Hills NE has been very helpful in promoting the program to teachers in the Panhandle. Expectations are very high to quickly bring on board a teacher from a Western NE school district. At this juncture of the pilot program, it is the Jr coordinator’s assessment of teacher engagement is that when a teacher is a NE Master Naturalist (NMNP) or affiliated with an NMNP they are very likely to engage. We look forward to the remainder of the Fall semester and coming spring semester to work with our pilot schools and organizations to continue to roll out this program.

2022 3rd Quarter Volunteer Totals	Total Hours	Number of People Made	Number of Acres
	Volunteered	Contact With	Impacted
Total 3rd Quarter Administrative Efforts	98.5	196	0
Total 3rd Quarter Interpretation & Outreach:	683.9	5049	300.25
Total 3rd Quarter Natural Resource MGMT:	429.55	2325	1692
Total 3rd Quarter Citizen Science:	763.15	1046	1484
Total 3rd Quarter Outdoor Skills:	212.65	647	0
Total 3rd Quarter Volunteer Hours:	2,192	9,263	3,476
Value of Volunteer time: 28.54			
Total Value of 3rd Quarter Volunteering	\$ 62,559.68		
Total Volunteer time 2010-2022	105,848	892,051.00	161,815
LTD Total Volunteer Time	\$ 2,958,342.24		
Value			
	Total Continuing		
	Education Hours		
Total CE Hours 2010-2022:	24,681.00		
Total 3rd Quarter CE Hours:	373		