

Nebraska Master Naturalist Program 2017 4th Quarter Report



By The Numbers: In this quarter, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **contributed** 2,379 hours of volunteer time valued at **\$57,431** in conservation service. In their efforts, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **connected** with **13,575** Nebraskans and has **impacted** **1,720** acres across the state in direct conservation work. Since tracking began in fall 2010, Master Naturalists have contributed a total of **57,431** volunteer service hours valued at **\$1,382,352**

Highlighted Events: The last quarter of 2017 was another action packed time for the Nebraska Master Naturalist program. In October, we hosted the program's first ever standalone conference at the Lied Lodge in Nebraska City. This daylong event, boasted 15 speakers and 10 presentations led by Master Naturalists and partnering organizations. This event was an outstanding opportunity for Master Naturalists to connect with and learn from each other as well as from the experts in Nebraska Conservation. The event was a great success with nearly 70 in attendance. The conference coincided with the Nebraska Natural Legacy Conference which was the following two days. Coupled with the Legacy conference, it was an amazing 3 days of learning, sharing and planning for the future conservation of Nebraska.

Furthermore, in this quarter, the 2018 Nebraska Naturalist Calendar project was completed and sent to all Master Naturalists, partner organizations, and all other people within our sphere of influence. Much of the photography, all the design and editing were done on volunteer time from our very dedicated group of volunteers on the calendar committee. Without them, this amazing product would not have been possible.

This fall, there were also several engaging continuing education opportunities that were organized and held around the state by local Master Naturalist Members. A workshop on Bats and their conservation was held at the Nature Conservancy's Platter River Prairies in October, as well as a presentation on weather spotting led by NOAA Meteorologist Mike Morritz. In December, program instructor, Bill Beachly led a workshop on how to best utilize Google Earth as a tool in tracking and mapping conservation and Natural resource changes or development. This was an excellent program to assist those with an interest in citizen science and resource management.

Our local chapters, the River City, and Salt Valley Master Naturalists were also busy. The River city chapter had their fall meeting, where they brought in a speaker and were trained in Cultivating Conservation in the Home Garden. The Salt Valley Chapter, teamed up with Wachiska Audubon for a local birding Field Trip. The trip was led by a fellow Master Naturalist, who is highly skilled with a great love and talent for teaching. And Finally many Master Naturalist this winter were active in the annual This Christmas Bird Counts around the state.

Outreach: Spring Creek Prairie Fall Festival

What is Ahead: The New Year Seems very promising for the Master Naturalist Program. We hired a new Part-Time On Call Training Assistant. This individual will help develop and facilitate our 2018 Trainings and continuing education opportunities. This will allow us to further extend our programing reach and develop opportunities for Nebraskan's and Master Naturalists to engage in positive conservation change in our home state.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln
3310 Holdrege Street • 417 Hardin Hall •
Lincoln, NE • 68583-0974
Ph (402) 937-8601
naturalist@unl.edu
<http://NATURALIST.unl.edu>



Nebraska Master Naturalist Program 2017 4th Quarter Report



Developed and Edited by Matt Jones, Nebraska Master Naturalist Program Coordinator

2017 4th Quarter Totals *1/15/18			
	Total Hours Volunteered	Number of People Made Contact With	Number of Acres Impacted
Total Volunteer Hours 2010-2017:	57,264	604,037	60,012
Total 4th Quarter Administrative Efforts	399.91	3062	310
Total 4th Quarter Interp & Outreach:	913.65	4876	996
Total 4th Quarter Natural Resource MGMT:	384.08	2443	131
Total 4th Quarter Citizen Science:	655.75	3103	283
Total 4th Quarter Outdoor Skills:	25.75	89	0
Total 4th Quarter Volunteer Hours:	2379	13573	1720
Total Value of Volunteer time: \$24.14			
Total 4th Quarter Value of Volunteer time:	57,431		
	Total Continuing Education Hours		
Total CE Hours 2010-2017:	14,049		
Total 4th Quarter CE Hours:	665		

University of Nebraska–Lincoln
3310 Holdrege Street • 417 Hardin Hall •
Lincoln, NE • 68583-0974
Ph (402) 937-8601
naturalist@unl.edu
<http://NATURALIST.unl.edu>



Nebraska Master Naturalist Program 2017 4th Quarter Report 26-6221-0825-001



By The Numbers: In this quarter, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **contributed** 2,379 hours of volunteer time valued at **\$57,431** in conservation service. In their efforts, Nebraska Master Naturalists have **connected** with **13,575** Nebraskans and has **impacted 1,720** acres across the state in direct conservation work. Since tracking began in fall 2010, Master Naturalists have contributed a total of 57,431 volunteer service hours valued at **\$1,382,352**

Highlighted Projects: The 4th quarter of 2017 has been an exciting one for the Nebraska Master Naturalist program, we have been encouraged by of Membership and their engagement in “Master Naturalists in Action” by developing projects and resources that impact the Conservation of At-Risk Native species, water Quality and Nebraska Natural Resources management.

For example, we have partnered with Heron Haven Nature Center in Omaha and developed a field guide to the wetlands, and special habitat that thrives in the middle of Omaha. This guide will be provided to the guests, school groups, scout groups and the general public. The goal is to create an awareness of the preserve and to share the importance of the species that utilize its water resources and habitat. Another example of a completed project is our Partnership with the Nature Conservancy Platte River Prairie Preserve in the development of their Prairie Explorer guide. This guide is another great product of innovation led by a few local Master Naturalists in Central Nebraska. This guide showcases the important natural diversity and describes the importance of the valuable landscape that has conserved and taken back to its native state. The guide provides detailed information on prairie habitats throughout central Nebraska. The goal of this guide to inspire and help enhance the next generation of conservationists.

The Nebraska Master Naturalist Program has also partnered with Cedar Point Biological Station, to develop and build a platforms and a viewing deck to observe threatened prairie dog habitat on the field station property. This project will help to conserve the habitat of a colony of Prairie dogs and also be used as a valuable learning resource for the research that is done at Cedar Point. Master Naturalists, will also benefit, as Cedar Point is the training site for a weeklong training session in July of 2018.

Furthermore, the Master Naturalist Program has also partnered with Prairie Pines Nature Preserve in Lincoln to develop natural resource interpretive signs to be placed along PPNP trails. The signs will be located in the Pollinator Garden. The text for the signs will be written with input from local experts and professionals showcasing information about the red, big brown and northern long-eared bats during breeding that are found on site. The signs will also provide information about water quality and prairie reprobation that is on site.

In summation, the Master Naturalist program is also busy building conservation kits that will be utilized by Master Naturalists to checkout from the program and used for Citizen Science, and resource management volunteer opportunities. All of this has been and will continue to be to great advantage to Master Naturalists members and partners, in shaping conservation mindedness and action at home and around the state.

Developed and Edited by Matt Jones, Nebraska Master Naturalist Program Coordinator

University of Nebraska–Lincoln
3310 Holdrege Street • 417 Hardin Hall •
Lincoln, NE • 68583-0974
Ph (402) 937-8601
naturalist@unl.edu
<http://NATURALIST.unl.edu>



Nebraska Master Naturalist Program
2017 4th Quarter Report 26-6221-0825-001



2017 4th Quarter Totals *1/15/18	Total Hours Volunteered	Number of People Made Contact With	Number of Acres Impacted
Total Volunteer Hours 2010-2017:	57,264	604,037	60,012
Total 4th Quarter Administrative Efforts	399.91	3062	310
Total 4th Quarter Interp & Outreach:	913.65	4876	996
Total 4th Quarter Natural Resource MGMT:	384.08	2443	131
Total 4th Quarter Citizen Science:	655.75	3103	283
Total 4th Quarter Outdoor Skills:	25.75	89	0
Total 4th Quarter Volunteer Hours:	2379	13573	1720
Total Value of Volunteer time: \$24.14			
Total 4th Quarter Value of Volunteer time:	57,431		
	Total Continuing Education Hours		
Total CE Hours 2010-2017:	14,049		
Total 4th Quarter CE Hours:	665		

University of Nebraska–Lincoln
 3310 Holdrege Street • 417 Hardin Hall •
 Lincoln, NE • 68583-0974
 Ph (402) 937-8601
 naturalist@unl.edu
<http://NATURALIST.unl.edu>

