

Nebraska Master Naturalist Program

2016 Third Quarter Report

By The Numbers: In this quarter Nebraska Master Naturalists have contributed **1,541** hours of volunteer time valued at **\$36,305** in conservation service. In their efforts, Nebraska Master Naturalists have connected with **13,619** Nebraskans and has impacted **968** acres across the state in direct conservation work. Since tracking began in fall 2010, Master Naturalists have contributed a total of **41,453** volunteer service hours valued at **\$976,632**.

Highlighted Events: This quarter provided many opportunities for our Naturalist Members to learn and engage with others around the state. July 15th-17th marked out 2nd annual Continuing Education weekend at Cedar Point Biological station. In August, 25 Master Naturalists convened on The Nature Conservancy's Niobrara Valley Preserve for the 3rd annual Reunion event. This was a great opportunity to explore the unique ecology, connect with fellow naturalists and learn about ongoing Citizen Science opportunities from by Adam Jones of NGPC. In September a dozen Naturalists joined in on the fun in Broken Bow for The Nebraska Natural Legacy Conference. This provided an excellent opportunity for our members to interact and learn from conservation and resource professionals from around the state. This event further enhances our Naturalists knowledge and skills. September concluded with new beginnings; 20 new members embarked on the start of their journey to Naturalist certification by participating in our final core training of the year, held at Schramm Park.

Master Naturalist Community: Explore. Contribute. Connect. These are the three elements that bring our community together. A local Master Naturalist Chapter in Omaha and Group in Lincoln have developed voluntarily to enhance the three elements of our mission. These groups have met four times this quarter, participating in Adopt-a-stream clean up, outreach events and land management work. The Nebraska Master Naturalist Program is now 356 members strong, with that comes great things. A core group of Naturalists and program partners came together to create our 2017 Nebraska Naturalist Calendar. This project is an outstanding example of what our Naturalists can do to educate and influence conservation in Nebraska.

Outreach: Master Naturalist Program Staff and Members were present at several outreach events in this quarter. For example, Naturalists assisted in outreach activities with Nebraska Game & Parks as well as Fontenelle Forest's Raptor Recovery at the State Fair in August. In September we made contact with 550 individuals at the Missouri River Expo. These events along with several others has impacted our visibility around the state. In this quarter we also gained two new partners; Glacier Creek Preserve and Hitchcock Nature Center. These organizations will only further enhance training and conservation volunteer opportunities for our Naturalist volunteers.

What is Ahead: Since August of 2016, Trainings Assistant Matt Jones has stepped in as Interim Program Coordinator. Currently a search committee is evaluating applications for the Program Coordinator position, with a goal of filing the position this fall. We look forward to an exciting 4th quarter to close out 2016. Expect to see the dates for our 2017 Trainings in November. We will continue to grow and cultivate opportunities for partnerships in conservation to further enhance our mission.

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

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2016 3rd Quarter Totals *10-14-16			
	Total Hours Volunteered	Number of People Made Contact With	Number of Acres Impacted
Total Volunteer Hours 2010-2016:	41,453	497798	37,543
Total 3rd Quarter Administrative Efforts	50.41	321	0
Total 3rd Quarter Interp & Outreach:	771.85	9,661	219
Total 3rd Quarter Natural Resource MGMT:	113.77	71	171
Total 3rd Quarter Citizen Science:	503	2825	558
Total 3rd Quarter Outdoor Skills:	102.5	741	20.5
Total 3rd Quarter Volunteer Hours:	1,541	13,619	968
Total Value of Volunteer time: \$23.56			
Total 3rd Quarter Value of Volunteer time:	976,632.68		
	Total Continuing Education Hours		
Total CE Hours 2010-2016:	10,318.00		
Total 3rd Quarter CE Hours:	456.5		