

NWAMN Partners and Projects List

1. Botanical Garden of the Ozarks Debbie Whicker (479) momwhic3@sbcglobal.net

Native plant gardens, butterfly house, school children's tours and more ongoing projects are available for you to help maintain this great educational asset in NWA.

2. Wildlife Habitat Project: Bird Boxes Emily Robertson 479-876-2877 robertsonec@cox.net

This project involves building, placing and monitoring of bird boxes in various locations around NWA. The boxes help provide breeding habitats for species that are suffering habitat reduction. Our target species are Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Prothonotary Warblers, and Wood Ducks. The project may expand to benefit other species such as Chimney Swifts and Brown Headed Nuthatches.

3. Adopt-a-Highway Hal Johnson (785)633-1468 hal2y90@yahoo.com

NWAMN has committed to keeping a section of the Highway 12 right of way near Hobbs SPCA picked up and clear of litter. We have cleanup days about four times a year, usually for no more than an hour or so each time.

4. Post Oak Savanna at NWACC Ken Leonard (479)366-9929 kenleonard57@gmail.com

Northwest Arkansas Community College has two unique remnant ecosystems on the campus in Bentonville. Students use these areas for study and exploration. Master Naturalists are helping keep these areas free of invasive species and also helping to inventory the unique post oak trees.

5. Trail Masters Steve Sampers (479)644-6664 sasampers@myway.com

The NWAMN Trailmasters group has adopted a number of trails in NWA. Maintaining these trails can include some restorations work, but usually involves mostly weed eating, trash pickup, and reporting of any major issues needing professional attention, such as downed trees or washouts. Adopted trails include Rocky Branch (Steve Sampers), Hobbs' War Eagle Loop (Carolyn Hartman), Sweden Creek Falls (Christie Waggoner), Devils Den (Ralph Weber), and Kings River Falls (Tom Edmiston). The outings are usually a good chance to stretch our legs with some light work and good social time with fellow MNs. As the group grows, we hope to adopt more trails, including some floating routes on local lakes and streams.

6. Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) Ralph Weber (479)254-8262 randcweber@att.net

This project has undertaken the inventorying of the biota on the 30 acre Watershed Sanctuary at Cave Springs owned by IRWP. The property includes a 6 acre lake and 24 acres of diverse habitats. Experts will help organize this project and species identification. NWAMN also host the Watershed Learning Center to be open to the public on Saturdays from 9 to 2. Duties are indoors: meet and greet visitors as they arrive and answer basic questions about the facility, exhibits and the organization. Vicky Johnson coordinates the Learning Center hosts. Call her at 785-633-6455 or johnsonvicky55@yahoo.com.

7. Ozark Natural Science Center (ONSC)

We are exploring a range of projects to support this unique educational institution in NWA.

8. Ozarks Water Watch - Stream Smart Ken Leonard (479)366-9929 kenleonard57@gmail.com

Keeping track of our valuable Beaver Lake Watershed is the mission of this project. Join one of our teams that monitor and collect water samples from designated spots on Beaver watershed streams and in the lake itself.

9. Hobbs State Park Tabletop Presentations Denis Dean (850) 766-7086 denisdean5@yahoo.com

Master Naturalists support Hobbs State Park in many ways, including outreach through a variety of educational tabletop displays. Help encourage the creative curiosity about nature in the minds of visitors at Hobbs on days when traffic can be expected to be high.

Hobbs State Park Living Forest Ken Leonard (479)366-9929 kenleonard57@gmail.com

Hobbs State Park Native Plants Habitat Warren Fields (479)-238-3267 lesterinar@gmail.com

10. Farmers Market Outreach Christie Waggoner (479) 644-4294 christie@trw1.net

Meet and greet members of the public with educational displays and children's projects at the Bentonville and Fayetteville farmers markets during the warmer months. Explain to visitors the benefits of becoming a Master Naturalist while teaching them about bats, turtles, native plants, pollinators, or any of a variety of topics from our library of tabletop displays. Hours are usually 9 to 1 on Saturdays.

11. Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission:

Searles Prairie Bill Farrell 479-586-6434 donkeyot@cox.net

This 10 acre prairie preserve requires frequent trash removal due to its urban location, along with removal of invasive species and monitoring threats from nearby development.

Sweden Creek Falls: Christie Waggoner

Kings River Falls: Phil and Anita Burns

Devils Eyebrow: Ken Leonard

Chesney Prairie: Ken Leonard

12. Devil's Den State Park Ralph Weber (479) 254-8262 randcweber@att.net

Join Master Naturalists every Thursday (weather permitting) for trail maintenance at Devil's Den. No experience required – we will teach you what we know. Devil's Den has a mixture of newer trails and CCC-built trails from the 1930s. This is a great opportunity to learn about the park, to get some exercise, and to obtain the satisfaction of improving the appearance and condition of the hiking trails. However, you will have to supply your own tools.

13. World Peace Wetland Prairie Lauren Hawkins (479) 444-6072 ldhdesign@hotmail.com

Learn to distinguish native plants from invasive species and help give the natives a fighting chance. WPWP is the hidden jewel of a south Fayetteville city-owned, volunteer-maintained park.

14. Razorback Greenway Litter Pick-up – Fayetteville. From the intersection with the Town Branch Trail to the underpass at Martin Luther King three times a year. After three pickups, the City will add our name (Northwest Arkansas Master Naturalists) to the "adopt" sign. Contact: Nan Lawler, nlawler@uark.edu, 479-442-2263.

15. Paige & Mary Bess Mulholland Waterfowl Blind at Lake Fayetteville Joan Reynolds (479) 899-1995 joanreynolds@gmail.com Invasive species removal and litter removal around the newly completed wildlife blind.