



Potomac Valley Master Naturalist Program

Sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

& Potomac Valley Audubon Society

2021 PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

The purpose of the Potomac Valley Master Naturalist (PVMN) program is to increase knowledge and appreciation of the natural world, promote effective environmental stewardship, create a pool of knowledgeable volunteers to educate others, and assist in natural history related programs and research. The program enhances people's love of nature with research-based training and community-based volunteer service. To become a certified Master Naturalist, one must attend all 62 hours of Master Naturalist core and elective classes as well as complete 30 hours of volunteer service. Anyone over 16 years of age with an interest in natural history and volunteering is welcome to apply. Tuition is \$300. A limited amount of scholarship funds are available. Both the application for enrollment and the scholarship application are to be emailed by February 5th.

The scholarship application is available on the PVAS website at <https://www.potomacaudubon.org/master-naturalists/resources/>

Each PVMN course is limited to 20 people. Make sure to fill out the application thoroughly and give us a sense of your interest in and commitment to completing the program, your interest in specific areas of natural history, and how you hope to serve the program through volunteer service. Submitting an application does not guarantee your acceptance. Please DO NOT send any money with your application. A member of PVMN will notify you that your application has been received. All applicants will be notified of their status by February 15th, and details about the program will be sent then.

*Because of potential USPS service delays due to the pandemic,
please submit your completed application by email
to PVMN Education Coordinator, Lisa Kovatch, at LKovatch247@gmail.com
Please type **PVMN Program Application** in the email subject line.*

Be sure to make and keep a copy for yourself.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAILED BY FEBRUARY 5, 2021



NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

COUNTY: _____ HOME PHONE: (_____) _____

MOBILE PHONE: (_____) _____

WORK PHONE: (_____) _____ PROFESSION: _____

EMAIL: _____

How did you hear about this program?

Friend/Colleague PVAS Website Newspaper Event Other

2) A goal of the PVMN program is to provide dedicated volunteers who will volunteer frequently as nature and natural history interpreters, citizen scientists, educators, and promoters of the PVMN program. The chart that follows represents many of the volunteer opportunities of PVMN. Place a check in each row to indicate areas in which you plan to actively volunteer. Elaborate in writing on your top three volunteer choices and note ways you might deepen and share your knowledge. (Attachment limit: 250 words.)

Volunteer Opportunity	Interest Level			
	High	Medium	Low	None
Environmental Programs: Children				
Environmental Programs: Adults				
Citizen Science Research				
Nature Field Trips/Hikes				
Land Management/Invasive Removal/ Trail Work				
Committee Service				
Clerical/Administrative Support				
Volunteer Coordination				
Staffing PVMN Booths at Local Events				
Writing/Communications				
Computer Support/Web Design				
Other (_____)				



3) In what areas of natural history do you have a particular interest? Please circle your top three interests and elaborate in writing on how you plan to use them. (Attachment limit: 250 words.)

Birds	Mammals	Reptiles/Amphibians	Insects/Spiders
Soils	Grasses	Weeds/Wildflowers	Ecology
Wetlands	Terrestrial Habitats	Aquatic Habitats	Soils
Trees/Shrubs/Vines	Grasses	Habitat Improvement	Geology
Astronomy	Climate	Recording/Preserving	Classification/Identification
Natural History Interpretation		Other ()	

4) Why are you interested in becoming a Master Naturalist? Attach a narrative responding to this question and providing any additional information you would like to share about yourself and your commitment to the program. (Attachment limit: 250 words.)

YES, I am at least 16 years of age and I intend to complete **62 class hours of instruction** and **30 hours of volunteer service** to initially become certified as a West Virginia Master Naturalist.

I realize that to remain a certified West Virginia Master Naturalist, I will be required to take 8 class hours of instruction and participate in 16 hours of volunteer service each year.

As a Master Naturalist, I give permission for my photograph to be used for publicity purposes by PVMN and PVAS.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) does not exclude, deny benefits to, or otherwise discriminate against any service recipient, applicant, program staff, or the public on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, political affiliation, or religion. Further, PVAS acknowledges that it is unlawful to retaliate against any person who, or organization that, files a complaint about such discrimination.