



# Potomac Valley Master Naturalist Program

Sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources  
& Potomac Valley Audubon Society

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## 2023 PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

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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. Scholarship funding is available on a limited basis. **Both the application for enrollment and the scholarship application are to be emailed by January 31st.**

The scholarship application is available on the PVMN website at [pvmn.org](http://pvmn.org)

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. If applicants fall within the age range and have completed all application requirements satisfactorily, the applications will be accepted in order of the date received until the class has reached the maximum of 20 participants. Applying 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 specific details about the classes will be sent at that time.

*To complete this form, download it to your computer, then rename the file **YourLastName\_PVMN2023**. When you have filled in the form, please **SAVE** it, then submit your completed application by email to the PVMN Student Coordinator, [PVMN@PotomacAudubon.org](mailto:PVMN@PotomacAudubon.org) 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 JANUARY 31, 2023**



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 members 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.

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 (_____)				



## **2) Continued**

**Elaborate in writing on your top three volunteer choices, noting ways you might deepen and share your knowledge. (Limit: 250 words)**



**3) In what areas of natural history do you have a particular interest? Please check your top three interests, then elaborate in writing on how you plan to use them in the blank field that follows. (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? Respond to this question, providing any additional information you would like to share about yourself and your commitment to the program. (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.*

*Updated 10/2022*