

VMS Admin Newsletter: 3rd Quarter, 2020

From: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (tpwd@service.govdelivery.com)

To: cheryl.foster@yahoo.com

Date: Monday, October 12, 2020, 04:03 PM CDT

[View as a Webpage](#)



TMN VMS Support Team Newsletter

Annual Meeting Update

We expect to break our attendance records for the upcoming Annual Meeting.

You should have an opportunity for Annual Meeting AT and you may have an opportunity for Annual Meeting Volunteer Time if your members are helping with the event.

Rather than be a part of the Annual Meeting schedule. We will be having VMS 101 and 201 classes the week after the meeting:

Find the schedule and link to WuFoo [here](#)...



WebEx Rollout

The state program created 6 regional WebEx accounts for the chapters to share. We have given several WebEx classes to chapter presidents and training personnel. If your chapter needs additional support, put in a help desk request and we can schedule a class with you.

New Landing Site for TPWD ... Not TXMN

TPWD updated their website - including their eRecruiter volunteer login portal. You can tell that you've landed in the TPWD site because your Total Hours will be Zero and the number '1353' will be in the URL. The TXMN eRecruiter will have 1450 in the URL address.

0 hours This month	0 hours This year	0 hours Since forever!
-----------------------	----------------------	---------------------------

Virtual Volunteer Fair Instructions

We tried something new with the Volunteer Fair to supplement volunteer hours for our members during these crazy CoVid times. Rather than have all 49 chapters create 49+ new opportunities for the volunteer fair, we wanted to try a shared opportunity, and allow the volunteers to sign up for it on their own. Admittedly, we rushed it and sort of put the horse before the cart.

There were 2 types of opportunities offered at the fair. 'Place-Based' and 'Virtual'. 'Place-Based' opportunities in your area should already have an opportunity in your chapter. The 'Virtual' opportunities are another story. Our original thought was that all hours could be recorded to that opportunity. However, we didn't know what federal category those opportunities were going to fall into. It appears that most of the virtual opportunities will fall into Field Research, but there will be some exceptions.

At this point, we still want the hours to go into the Virtual Volunteer opportunity, and we will sort it out later into the appropriate Federal Category based on the service performed field. Which of course means that field needs to be filled out with as much detail as necessary to determine what they worked on.

2020 Data Review

We've started the 2020 Data Review. It will consist of the same statistics that we've gathered for the past few years.

Brad James....



After 6 years, Brad James has stepped down from the VMS support team. Brad was critical in the Master Naturalist rollout of VMS. We will miss him a great deal.

Bert Stipelcovtch from Coastal Prairie has joined the team and has some really big shoes to fill.

Slack Communication Tool...

Quick Links

Get quickly to the help desk: TXMN.org/help

Slack Channels: TXMN.slack.com

Check your public facing chapter page: TXMN.org/apply

Login Page: [TXMN.org/hours](https://txmn.org/hours)

Admin Login Page: [TXMN.org/coordinator](https://txmn.org/coordinator)

Don't forget to report your Texas Master Naturalist volunteer time!

[REPORT YOUR SERVICE](#)

Get the inside scoop on the Texas outdoors



FREE EMAIL & TEXT UPDATES

[SIGN UP](#)

[Texas Master Naturalist Program](#) | [Annual Meeting](#) | [Follow Us on Facebook!](#)

[SHARE](#)



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

[update your account](#) | [contact us](#) | [unsubscribe from all TPWD emails](#)



You are receiving this message at cheryl.foster@yahoo.com because you have done business with and/or signed up to receive email updates from [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#). Did someone forward this email to you? [Subscribe now](#) -- it's free!

This email was sent to cheryl.foster@yahoo.com using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department · 4200 Smith School Road · Austin, TX 78744 · 800-792-1112

govDELIVERY