VMS Admin Newsletter: 1st Quarter, 2024

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

To: cheryl.foster@yahoo.com

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 03:21 PM CDT

View as a Webpage

TMN VMS Support Team Newsletter

2023 Data Review - Some Notes...

FYI: The Logbook entry stats do not include hours associated with the Statewide opportunities.

Officer/Admin Check Section:

- Please take some time to review the admin account section. Samaritan has asked us to clean up and verify our list of admins in the system (we have over 250!) prior to the upgrade.
- The list on the left is what is in your chapter VMS, and you can change that tag for VMS Admin, VMS LBE (45 Day Override) and VMS Read Only for your chapter.
- The column on the right is what the AMS system shows for your chapter – AMS stands for Admin Management system and this is where administrative

permissions for your chapter's roles are established. Have your president or VMS LBE reply to the email and we will change the AMS system for you.
- Ideally, the two columns should sync up.

Summary:

We seemed to have more Status-less volunteers than normal, but overall, most chapters have logged more entries than the last 5 years – 243,637 logbook entries!

76.9% of our 3,662 active opportunities had hours recorded last year and 75% of our 6,629 hours eligible volunteers recorded hours in 2023.

Samaritan VMS Upgrade

Grids, Filters & Templates:

Another area that we need to clean up to get ready for the upgrade is extraneous filters, grids and email templates. This needs to be done by mid to late April.

In the **Volunteer tab**, the **Opportunity tab** and the **Logbook Views**: look at all grids and filters for each of those.

We have tried to sort the grids and filters by chapter name and made a cursory cleanup, but please take another look and see if any of them can be removed- or if you have a grid or filter or email template that is really helpful for you, let us know – we can update the standard grids to include your changes.

The email templates haven't been reviewed or re-sorted as thoroughly as the grids and filters, so please clean those up if you can.

We do know - if the grid is not sharable it will not be moved over to the new system.

Applications:

After the upgrade, we will need to start using a standardized application process in our onboarding procedures. The state office will be collecting current application information and processes used by chapters to be incorporated into the upgrade. The onboarding process will be an enhanced version of what TPWD already uses.

Timing and Scope:

We need to get our data as clean as possible by the end of April. Please be on the lookout for changes and reviews that are requested by Michelle and the State VMS Admin team.

There are many things that we don't know about the upgrade yet or how it will impact the Master Naturalist program or when it will happen, but we will let you know as soon as we know. At this point we are still "packing to move" and we've been told there is at least another 90 days to the packing part of the process.

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

Admin Login Page: TXMN.org/coordinator

VMS Training Schedule: VMS Training Link

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

REPORT YOUR SERVICE

Texas Master Naturalist Program | Annual Meeting | Follow Us on Facebook!

SHARE

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

contact us
update email account
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