

OUTDOOR LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

NATURAL RESOURCES

Project WILD/Aquatic WILD

Learn how to teach ecology, wildlife management, and environmental concepts through this national award-winning training and curriculum for educators. Activities are adaptable for all levels, and integrated with core subject curricula. Six-hour training workshop includes comprehensive, teacher-tested activity guide. Qualifies for TEEAC and SBEC credit. For more information go to our Web site www.tpwd.state.tx.us or call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4369.

Texas Master Naturalist Program

Adult volunteers interested in natural resource management and outreach receive in-depth training in wildlife and natural resource management taught by recognized experts in the field and customized to focus on the native ecosystems near their communities. In return, volunteers provide their community with service in the form of educational activities, projects, or demonstrations. Service is tailored to a volunteer's personal interest and could include being a guide at a local nature center or building trails or exhibits at a local park. As a Texas Master Naturalist, volunteers help people appreciate the natural environment around their homes, while enhancing their own knowledge and skills. And, perhaps most satisfying of all, they will have a chance to build friendships and work with others who share their love of the natural Texas. Sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Cooperative Extension. You can find more information at www.tpwd.state.tx.us

Texas Nature Trackers

This "citizen-scientist" monitoring effort is designed to involve volunteers of all ages and interest levels in gathering scientific data on species of concern in Texas. Through Texas Nature Tracker projects, Texans learn how to gather data about various species found on public lands or on their own property. The aim of these projects is to ensure that native Texas species will be here for future generations to know and enjoy. Current Texas Nature Tracker projects include Texas Horned Lizard Watch, Texas Hummingbird Round-up, Texas Monarch Watch, Texas Mussel Watch, Texas Amphibian Watch, Project Prairie Birds, Midwinter Bald Eagle Survey and Adopt-a-Species Projects. To learn more, go to www.tpwd.state.tx.us

Texas Wildscapes

Create a wildlife habitat in your backyard, school, or community park. The Texas Wildscapes book includes instructions, plant lists, background information on bird and butterfly gardens and a weatherproof sign upon certification. Texas Wildscapes is available for \$24.95. To find out more, call (512) 389-4644 or toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4644.

Urban Biologists

Urban biologists provide wildlife and habitat conservation information to urban residents, schools, businesses, and local governmental agencies. Speakers and educational resources are sometimes available. Urban teams are located in six major urban centers. To speak with an urban biologist in your area, contact:

Austin: (512) 308-0979

Dallas/Fort Worth: (972) 293-3841

El Paso: (915) 774-9603

Houston: (281) 456-7029

Rio Grande Valley: (956) 571-5359

San Antonio: (210) 348-6350

State Parks

State parks offer site-based educational and training opportunities. For a calendar of what's available at parks in your area, visit our Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us or contact the specific park.

Educational Loaner Trunks

Educational loaner trunks providing both hands-on activities and study materials about Texas' valuable ecosystems, plants and animals are available to educators. For more information about the loaner trunks and their locations, visit the Educational Trunks Program Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us

RECREATION

Outdoors-Woman Program

Experience the outdoors at weekend workshops for women. Learn the basics in archery, birdwatching, boating, camping, canoeing, fishing, hunting, mountain biking, nature hikes and much more. Several Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshops are offered throughout the year at various locations around the state. Room, lodging and class instruction are included in workshop fees. In addition, "Women in the Outdoors" one-day events are offered under partnership with the National Wild Turkey Federation. No experience is needed and all equipment is provided. Fees vary. To find out more, visit the Becoming an Outdoors Woman Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us or call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-8198.



For more information on these and other opportunities,
visit our Web site: www.tpwd.state.tx.us
Events Calendar: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/media/calendar
or call toll-free (800) 792-1112

Angler Education Instructor Training

Teach kids how to fish by participating in a free four to six-hour Angler Education Instructor course. This hands-on course will teach you how to set up a fishing class for kids and how to access equipment you will need to teach the life-long sport of fishing. You will also be able to reward your students with free fish identification cards and achievement pins. As a certified Angler Education Instructor, you will become part of a growing team that teaches Junior Angler, Master Angler, Basic Flyfishing or Intermediate Flyfishing. For more information: www.tpwd.state.tx.us or call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4732.

AquaSmart Video and Workbook

This school-based video and workbook shows kids how to be smart when playing in and around water. A "Ten Tips" format includes drown-proofing, swimming, safety, boating safety and more. Entertaining video format with teacher guide and student activity sheets. Available K-2, 3-5 and 6-8. For more information, call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4999.

Boater Education Program

Have you ever wanted to learn more about boating? What about legal requirements and operational skills? Boater Education provides all the necessary information to make your boating experience safe and fun. Certification is available through an instructor/student environment or on the web. This certification meets the state's legislative requirements for certain boaters. Visit the Boater Education Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us or call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4999 to learn more.

Junior Boater

Toss a PFD (Personal Flotation Device)! Survive a sinking boat! Run a PFD relay! Play Wildlife Escape! Children have fun while learning with these practical, hands-on water and boating safety activities. Junior Boater introduces children and their parents to boating, water safety skills and the aquatic environment. This program is especially effective with large groups and children too young for the standard boater education certification program. Can easily be duplicated by youth-serving agencies. For more information, call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4999.

Boater Education Instructor Training

Share your knowledge and skills by volunteering as a boater education instructor. The certification process includes an application, successful completion of both the student and instructor courses, and an interview with a local game warden. Call (512) 389-4938 or toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4938 for more information.

Hunter Education Program

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department-certified hunter education instructors teach hunting and firearm safety, rules and regulations, ethics and responsibilities, wildlife conservation, modern and primitive sporting arms, survival and first aid. Field and live-firing exercises are, many times, included as part of the courses. Meets mandatory hunter education requirements for those born on or after Sept. 2, 1971. Certification upon successful completion of the ten-hour course. Fee: \$10.00. Visit the Hunter Education Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us or call (512) 389-4999 or toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-4999 for more information.

Hunter Education Instructor Training

Share your knowledge and skills by volunteering as a hunter education instructor. The certification process includes an application, successful completion of both the student and instructor courses, and an interview with a local game warden. For more information, visit our Become an Instructor Web site: www.tpwd.state.tx.us or call us at (512) 389-8140 or toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-8140.

Major Metro Urban Outreach Program

Live in the greater Houston area or the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex and want to find out how to get kids involved in the outdoors? TPWD program specialists in these two metropolitan areas can assist by partnering with local community-based organizations to create exciting outdoors programming. (972) 263-1101 (Dallas/Fort Worth area) (281) 456-7029 (Houston area)

CO-OP and Recreation Grants

TPWD offers competitive grants to local governments and non-profit, non-political organizations. Grant sponsors use funds to introduce under-served persons to the programs and facilities of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Sponsors may use funds to buy outdoor recreation equipment, food, instruction or transportation. For more information on CO-OP grants or local park grants to develop community parks, call toll-free (800) 792-1112, ext. 9-7124.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

State Historic Sites

State Historic Sites feature Texas' cultural history and have frequent site-based educational and training opportunities. For more information on what's available in your area, visit our Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us or contact the specific park for their latest opportunities.

ON-LINE PROGRAMS

In addition to thousands of web page resources, TPWD's Web site offers interactive sites for outdoor learning, including:

- Outdoor Kids
- Junior Naturalist
- Webcasts
- Hunter Education Home Study
- Boater Education Home Study



(800) 792-1112
www.tpwd.state.tx.us

© 2004 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
PWD LF K0700-151H (8/04)