T E X A S
Master Naturalist ™
Elm Fork Chapter

QR CODE LIBRARY

Creating and maintaining a digital reference library based on QR codes that can be used at several Master Naturalist project sites, particularly those visited by the public .

PROJECT NUMBER
P190110
Initiated in 2019
Reviewed 7/31/2019

LOCATION
Elm Fork Chapter Service Area

PROJECT MANAGER
Michele Rawleigh
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MAIN PURPOSE
Engage, educate the community about nature and natural resources

ACTIVITIES

Training and Educating
Interpretive hikes and walks
Audience focus - adults
Audience focus – children

Technical Guidance
Advice to other organizations

SUBJECT MATTER

Botany
Trees and shrubs
Forbs (flowering plants, wildflowers)
Grasses and grasslike plants
Mosses and lichen

Entomology
Bees
Butterflies and moths
Dragonflies and damselflies
Macroinvertebrates
Other insects

Ornithology
Water birds
Perching and tree-clinging birds
Hawklikes and owls
Upland ground birds

The development of a QR Code library is anticipated to provide a valuable electronic resource that would support a wide variety of Master Naturalist projects, especially for those sites in suburban areas open to the public where the primary interactions are self-guided.

Signage containing QR codes could also support docents and educators that may not be familiar with a site's features, flora, or fauna. Introducing the ability for the public to use their smart phones to learn more about what is being observed is expected to reach a more "tech savvy" audience that might otherwise not be engaged in outdoor learning.

In addition, reducing the need for print materials would save time and money**.**

VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION AND SERVICE

Recruitment status	Actively recruiting new volunteers
Work environment	Work from home
Strength	No strength requirement
Use of tools/ equipment	Computer skills: database development and input, internet research. Technical writing.
Motion	Mostly sedentary, limited standing or walking Standing for sustained periods of time

PROJECT WORK STRUCTURE

Project work schedule	Project involves irregular work events with advance announcements
Work location	This project is a virtual reference library. Sites where the QR codes are deployed will be tracked as part of the project.

SUBJECT MATTER (Cont'd)

Mammalogy
Mammals

Herpetology
Frogs and salamanders
Turtles
Lizards
Snakes

Paleontology
Paleontology

Geology
Geology

Natural Systems
Forest ecology
Prairie ecology
Wetland ecology

Natural Resource Stewardship
Land conservation
Water Conservation

HOW TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS PROJECT

Where to find information   Contact Project Manager

How to volunteer   Contact Project Manager

Other   As of June 2020, the project has just received its first "customer" so the process of selecting a QR code service provider and development of the digital library and database is just beginning.   In addition to creating a database of vetted websites applicable to our Master Naturalist projects, additional deliverables include a User's Manual and an Operations Manual to support this project's ongoing mission.

People that are interested in how to meaningfully apply technology to enhance our communities' experiences at our project sites should contact the Project Manager.

While not required, knowledge of data analytics, Excel, Word Press and smartphone/tablet technology (or the willingness to learn), would be very welcome.