



## Mississippi Hills Master Naturalist Chapter Annual Report 2018

### INITIAL TRAINING CLASS

Training started June 5<sup>th</sup> of 2018 with graduation on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Initial registration was 21 students with 19 completing the basic training to become charter member "interns". Hannibal LaGrange University was the host facility. At present 17 of the 19 charter members are active.

### CERTIFICATION

- Seven individuals achieved their initial certification in 2018 of 40 Volunteer Service hours and 8 hours of Advanced Training.
- Four individuals performed an additional 40 hours of Volunteer Service for the annual certification.



**MISSISSIPPI HILLS GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018**

## SERVICE PROJECTS

Capstone Project—Native Planting in Becky’s Butterfly Garden  
2019 Training Class Planning  
Hannibal Parks & Rec Interpretive Programs  
Hannibal High School Citizen Science Bat Acoustic Monitoring at Sodalis Nature Preserve  
Tree Climbing Station for Hannibal Harvest Hootenanny  
Acoustic Bat Monitoring by Titley Scientific  
Monthly Meetings and Board Meetings  
Bear Creek Trash Bash with Hannibal Board of Public Works  
Riverside Cemetery Invasive Species Removal  
Natural Resource Management Work with FORREST Council at Mark Twain Lake  
Lick Creek Trail Maintenance  
Handicapped Hunt for Veterans  
MoNASP Tournament at Frank Russell Mark Twain Lake  
Riverside Cemetery Invasive Species Removal  
Audubon Christmas Bird Count with Quincy, IL circle at sites in Missouri  
Audubon Christmas Bird Count with Columbia, MO circle  
**2018 Volunteer Service Total = 773.5 hours**  
Categories:

- Program Support = 285
- Education Interpretative = 61
- Stewardship Projects = 372
- Citizen Science = 52.5

## ADVANCED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Acoustic Bat Monitoring by Titley Scientific  
Tree Climbing Clinic with Guy Mott of Adventure Tree  
MoNasp Basic Archery Training  
Winter Bird Watching Workshop - MDC  
Lick Creek Hike with Shelley Howald (Army Corps of Engineers) and Reese Worthington (MDC)  
Native Plant School: Fine Gardening Symposium at Shaw Nature Reserve  
Audubon Christmas Bird Count with Quincy, IL circle leader Brandon Stehl  
Audubon Christmas Bird Count with Columbia, MO circle  
Geology Speaker (Alan Ruble)  
**2018 Advanced Training Total = 114.5 hours**

## MISSISSIPPI HILLS CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND SUCCESSES

- Initial Master Naturalists training class for the Hannibal area June-August, 2018 with 19 graduates!
- 17 active charter members with 7 members certified
- Dedicated group of officers, board members, and other members taking leadership roles in chapter formation
- Chapter name: *Mississippi Hills*
- Created a Facebook page and website for members
- Second training class fully planned for June-August, 2019
- Becky’s Garden Capstone project and Riverside Cemetery invasive species clean-up visible to the community with press coverage by the Hannibal Courier Post
- Community partnerships especially with Hannibal Parks and Recreation and the FORREST Council at Mark Twain Lake

## **CHAPTER PARTNERS**

MDC / University MO Extension  
Hannibal Parks & Recreation  
Hannibal LaGrange University  
Hannibal Tree Board  
Missouri Community Forest Council - Hannibal  
FORREST Council (Army Corp of Engineers at Mark Twain Lake)  
Riverside Cemetery  
Earth Mirrors  
Missouri Bat Census

## **CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

President - Gale Rublee  
Vice President - Jen Meyer  
Secretary - Lisa Wiese  
Treasurer - Stevens Plowman

Members at large - Bob Kendrick, Mary Lynn Richards, Quintin Heaton





Capstone Project at Becky's Garden with Earth Mirrors Director Gary Schimmelpfenig



Service Project (Invasive species removal) at Riverside Cemetery.





Christmas Bird Count training with the Quincy Circle



Frank Russell Demonstration Area field session with Jamie Ebbsmeyer of MDC





**Tree Climbing advanced training and service during a Hannibal festival.**



**Invasive species removal class (field experience) presented by Kyle Monroe (MDC Forester)**