

The Bandera PROPHE'T

July 17, 2024

Texas waters specialist Deb Youngblood to lead next Texas Master Naturalist meeting

The public is invited to attend a talk sponsored by the Hill Country Chapter, Texas Master Naturalists in Kerrville on Monday, July 22, at 7 p.m.

Are you concerned for our Hill Country waters and looking for a way to help?

Do you have a passion for a river, lake, or stream?

Then you may be a candidate for the Texas Waters Specialist program. This program, sponsored by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, trains volunteers who want to contribute to the beneficial management of aquatic resources and aquatic habits within our Texas communities.

For more, go to <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/water-education/texaswatersprogram/texaswatersspecialist>

The curriculum covers aquatic habitats, karst geology, stream dynamics, and water conservation and is intended to support citizen science, water advocacy, and related volunteer activities.

Deb Youngblood will explain how to get involved with the program, the training, and the various ways the Texas Waters Specialists are involved in water conservation and preservation efforts.

There is no prerequisite for the program – a person need not have completed any Master Naturalist, Master Gardener, or other program. Any member of the public is welcome to take the training as a way to meet like-minded people and launch their volunteer work for Texas waters. Individuals who have completed a Master Naturalist or Master Gardener training program will find that the curriculum enriches their teaching and learning experiences.

Youngblood is a long-time volunteer with the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists.

“I have always been interested in nature and learning. I share these interests with my grandchildren and others. I have found that TMN is a good fit for me

because I can continue to learn and share what I learn. I enjoy photography, working with native plants, and learning how to identify butterflies, birds, and bugs. I love water and my goal each year on my birthday is to swim in a spring-fed pool. I am a Texas Waters Specialist because I hope to contribute to the preservation of Texas rivers,” Youngblood said.

There is no charge to attend. The talk will be held at the Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center, 125 Lehmann Drive, Suite 100 in Kerrville.

Online attendance via Facebook livestream and Zoom are also available. If you wish to attend via Zoom, please pre-register using this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsd-mtrj4jGtxFYzNkQoId0FVA05cYJyEF#>

Doors will open at 6 p.m., with light refreshments served. Starting at 6:30 p.m., the Chapter will hold its monthly business meeting, with the presentation by Youngblood to begin at 7 pm.

The Texas Master Naturalists are a volunteer organization sponsored by Texas Parks and Wildlife and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. The Hill County Chapter is one of 48 Chapters in Texas and covers ten counties: Bandera, Edwards, Gillespie, Kendall, Kerr, Kimbel, Mason, Menard, Real and San Saba. The Chapter invites individuals interested in joining the Chapter to visit <https://txmn.org/hillcountry/> for more information. Members receive comprehensive training in natural resource management specific to the Hill County and volunteer in a wide variety of community projects.