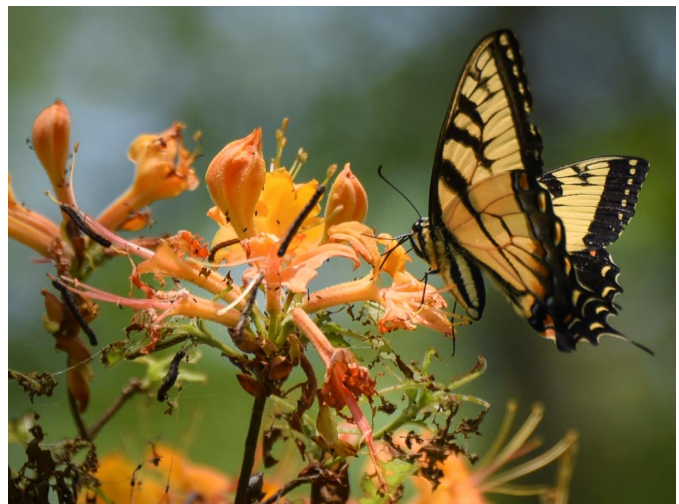




# New River Valley Chapter Virginia Master Naturalists



Volunteer educators, citizen scientists,  
and stewards

Helping Virginians conserve and manage  
natural resources and public lands

Serving Floyd, Giles,  
Montgomery, and  
Pulaski counties

Virginia  
Master  
Naturalist

A detailed illustration of a yellow and black butterfly, likely a Gulf fritillary, positioned to the right of the text 'Virginia Master Naturalist'. The butterfly is shown in profile, with its wings spread, highlighting the intricate patterns and colors.





# NEW RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER OF VIRGINIA MASTER NATURALISTS

## Education and Outreach

Projects include:

- Blacksburg Middle School Junior Naturalists
- Blacksburg holiday parades
- Claytor Lake State Park Discovery Center
- Floyd Center for the Arts Mayfaire
- Hokie Bugfest, celebrating the fun and excitement of the science of entomology
- In a Stream Near You art installation at Hahn Garden
- Library programs at the Pearisburg Library
- Macroinvertebrates/water quality field trips for 4<sup>th</sup> graders
- Monarch Mania at the Market
- Nature Club at St. John Neumann Academy
- Programs at SEEDS Price House Nature Center







# NEW RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER OF VIRGINIA MASTER NATURALISTS

## Citizen Science

Projects include:

- Save Our Streams aquatic ecosystems monitoring
- Vernal pools monitoring and FrogWatch USA
- Project Feeder Watch, Breeding Bird Survey
- Christmas Bird Count, Bumblebee Watch
- Blue Ridge Parkway wildlife camera project
- Project Budburst, VT Herbarium
- Hawk & dragonfly migration



## Stewardship

Projects include:

- Invasive plants removal: Stadium Woods, Huckleberry Trail, Falls Ridge
- Pollinator Gardens: Pandapas Pond, Heritage Park, Glade Road Growing, Floyd Center for the Arts
- Trail monitoring: Falls Ridge, Pandapas Pond, Floyd County Trails
- American Chestnut Restoration Project
- Christmas for the Fishes Habitat Project







# NEW RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER OF VIRGINIA MASTER NATURALISTS

## *Becoming a Certified Master Naturalist*



The process for becoming a certified Virginia Master Naturalist typically takes 6 to 12 months

- 40 hour basic training course
- 8 hours of advanced training
- 40 hours of volunteer service
- Fun and interactive instruction about our local environment
- Taught by recognized experts
- Training includes both field and classroom experiences



Basic Training covers basic background knowledge and skills:

- What a naturalist is and does
- Significance of naturalists and natural history
- Biogeography of Virginia, including the physiographic regions and their geological and ecological distinctions
- Ecological concepts, including forest ecology, aquatic ecology, and urban ecology
- Basic concepts of geology and soils
- Fundamental principles of weather and climate
- Basic resource management principles
- Native flora and fauna, including botany, dendrology, mammalogy, herpetology, ornithology, entomology, and ichthyology
- Citizen science and research skills
- Basic education and interpretation skills

