

# ABOUT TNP



The Tennessee Naturalist Program (TNP) is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 2010. TNP's educational courses are designed to introduce Tennessee's natural history to interested adults. Graduates join a critical corps of Tennessee Naturalist volunteers providing education, outreach, and service dedicated to the appreciation, understanding, beneficial management, and preservation of natural resources and natural areas in Tennessee. Tennessee Naturalists participate in many different types of volunteer activities. Examples include helping a nature outreach program at a park, museum, nature center or school; assisting the collection of scientific data for a bird census, water quality assessment, or rare plant monitoring; and working with trail maintenance or habitat restoration projects.

## OUR CHAPTERS

**AUDUBON ACRES**  
[chattanoogaaudubon.org](http://chattanoogaaudubon.org)

**BAYS MOUNTAIN PARK  
AND PLANETARIUM**  
[baysmountain.com](http://baysmountain.com)

**BEAMAN PARK NATURE CENTER**  
[beamanpark.nashville.gov](http://beamanpark.nashville.gov)

**CUMMINS FALLS STATE PARK**  
[tnstateparks.com/parks/cummins-falls](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/cummins-falls)

**DISCOVERY PARK OF AMERICA**  
[discoveryparkofamerica.com](http://discoveryparkofamerica.com)

**FROZEN HEAD STATE PARK**  
[tnstateparks.com/parks/frozen-head](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/frozen-head)

**IJAMS NATURE CENTER**  
[ijams.org](http://ijams.org)

**LONG HUNTER STATE PARK**  
[tnstateparks.com/parks/long-hunter](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/long-hunter)

**MEMPHIS CHAPTER AT PINECREST**  
[camppinecrest.org](http://camppinecrest.org)

**MURFREESBORO PARKS  
AT BARFIELD**  
[murfreesborotn.gov/203/Outdoor-Murfreesboro](http://murfreesborotn.gov/203/Outdoor-Murfreesboro)

**OWL'S HILL NATURE SANCTUARY**  
[owlshill.org](http://owlshill.org)

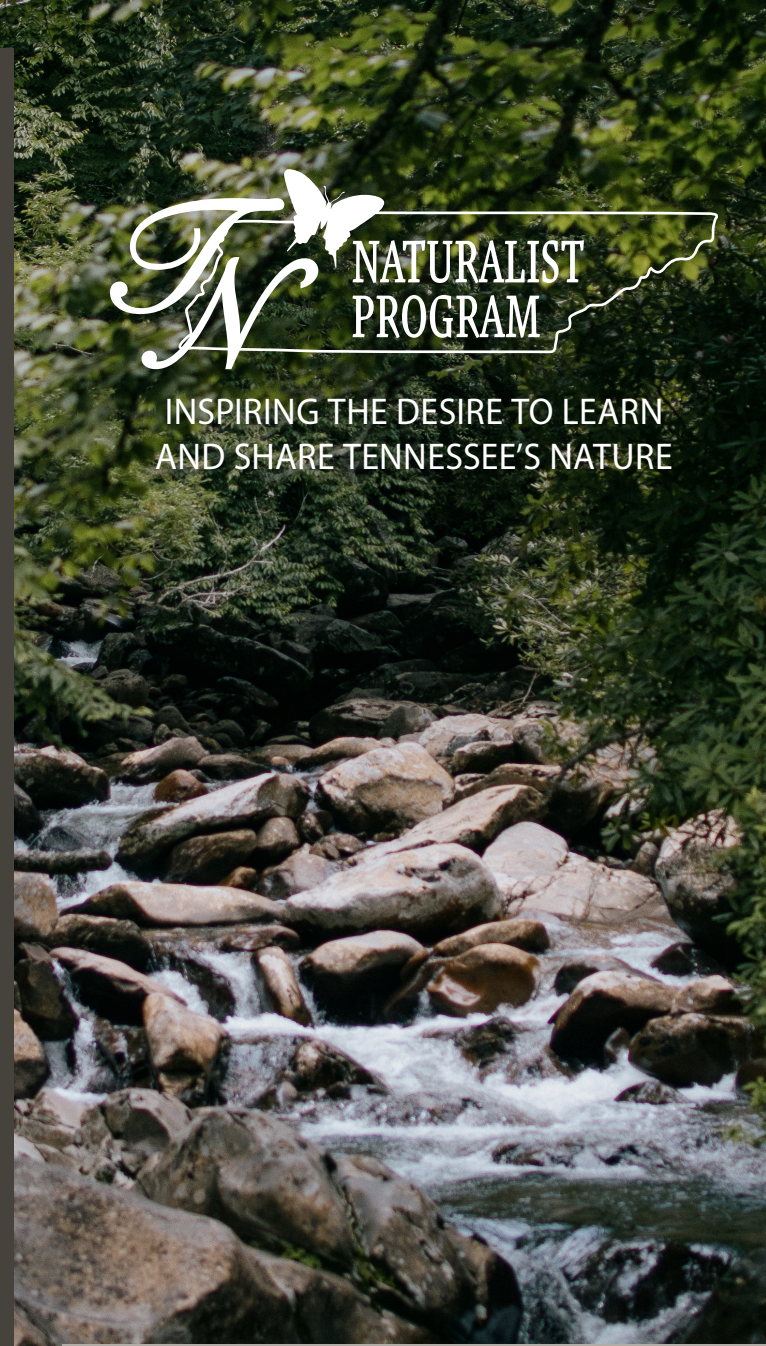
**PARIS LANDING STATE PARK &  
TN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**  
[tnstateparks.com/parks/paris-landing](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/paris-landing)  
[fws.gov/refuge/tennessee](http://fws.gov/refuge/tennessee)

**SEVEN ISLANDS  
STATE BIRDING PARK**  
[tnstateparks.com/parks/seven-islands](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/seven-islands)

**SOUTH CUMBERLAND STATE PARK**  
[tnstateparks.com/parks/south-cumberland](http://tnstateparks.com/parks/south-cumberland)  
[friendsofsouthcumberland.org](http://friendsofsouthcumberland.org)



INSPIRING THE DESIRE TO LEARN  
AND SHARE TENNESSEE'S NATURE



BECOME A TENNESSEE NATURALIST  
**TNNATURALIST.ORG**

# COURSE CONTENT

TNP's core course explores a wide range of natural history disciplines and features carefully curated educational materials tailored to Tennessee. Twin goals of the course are to foster an ethic of environmental stewardship and to prepare naturalists for volunteer activities. Class instruction, led by local experts, features these main topics:

1. Naturalist Skills
2. Geology and Ecology
3. Rivers, Wetlands and Aquatic Communities
4. Insects and Other Invertebrates
5. Forests and Woody Plants
6. Plants and Fungi
7. Birds
8. Mammals
9. Reptiles and Amphibians
10. Nocturnal Nature and Astronomy

## ENROLLMENT

To locate the chapter nearest you and enroll in the Tennessee Naturalist Program, please visit our website at [tnnaturalist.org](http://tnnaturalist.org).

## STAY CONNECTED WITH TNP!

 JOIN THE MAILING LIST AT [TNNATURALIST.ORG](http://TNNATURALIST.ORG)

 TENNESSEE NATURALIST PROGRAM

 @TNNATURALIST

## PROGRAM BASICS

The Tennessee Naturalist Program (TNP) provides a 10-class core course. The core course consists of a minimum of 40 hours of instruction, half in the classroom and half in the field. To become a certified Tennessee Naturalist, students must complete the classroom and field portions and perform a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer service. Participants take the core course at a TNP-designated chapter. These chapters set their own class schedules and engage local experts to lead the classes. There are TNP chapters across the state through agreements with individual state parks, municipal parks, and independent nature centers.

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

Volunteer hours must fall within these categories:

1. Environmental Education
2. Community (Citizen) or Participatory Science
3. Stewardship
4. TNP/Chapter Support
5. Administrative Support



## OUR MISSION

To teach Tennesseans about their natural world, inspire the desire to learn more, instill an appreciation of responsible environmental stewardship, and channel volunteer efforts toward education of the general public and conservation of Tennessee's natural resources.