



## LOUISIANA MASTER NATURALISTS OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

**Email:** [info@lmngbr.org](mailto:info@lmngbr.org) **Web:** [www.lmngbr.org](http://www.lmngbr.org) and on **Facebook**.

### **REGISTRATION FORM FOR COURSE ENROLLMENT**

The Louisiana Master Naturalists of Greater Baton Rouge (LMNGBR) program exists to advance awareness, understanding and stewardship of the natural environment by developing a corps of well-informed citizen volunteers dedicated to conservation education and service within their communities. Once certified, Louisiana Master Naturalists of Greater Baton Rouge are expected to volunteer and use their talents and training to educate others and/or support programs that promote and protect Louisiana's natural heritage and resources.

You must be 18 years or older to apply. Incomplete registration forms will not be accepted. Sending in a registration form does not guarantee you a position in the course and is based on competitive enrollment. Registration must be received by the deadline listed on the website, [www.lmngbr.org/apply](http://www.lmngbr.org/apply) by mail and cannot be emailed. Acceptance into the LMNGBR program will be based on your answers in the application below.

Fill out the application below and submit it by standard mail to the address listed on the last page. The course fee must be submitted by check or PayPal in order to complete your application. Watch your email for confirmation that we have received your application and for further instructions.

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

You will be required to pay a \$250.00 course fee, which covers the cost of the course (\$225.00) and the annual dues for LMNGBR (\$25.00). We would like everyone to have the opportunity to become a member of our organization and believe that finances should not limit your decision to become a LMNGBR member. If you believe that you have a financial need, please send an email to [info@lmngbr.org](mailto:info@lmngbr.org) and ask to apply for our tuition scholarship.

### **CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Acceptance into the Louisiana Master Naturalists of Greater Baton Rouge program is based on your interest and qualifications. Training is limited to 20 individuals per course. Individuals will be accepted based on competitive enrollment.

To earn certification as a Louisiana Master Naturalist of Greater Baton Rouge, participants must satisfactorily complete the course requirements. You must attend 8 of the 10 workshops within two consecutive semesters to graduate not including the orientation and the graduation workshops. You must also complete a Final Project which can be either an individual or group project. This Final Project allows students to take their training to the highest level by synthesizing information into an interpretive product using the skills and training they receive in the class. Instructors will help guide you through the process. This will need to be completed by the end of the course.

The workshops will be on weekends and will cover the following topics: orientation, arthropods & nocturnal naturalist, amphibians, reptiles, birds, aquatic ecology, plants, forest ecology, river dynamics, and mammals. Classes are spread out as much as possible. The 10 workshops will follow orientation and run the season. Participants will be notified of the dates as they are finalized.

Workshop locations will vary, usually beginning with a classroom portion and then moving to another location such as a park or conservation area for the outdoor lab portion of the workshop. The arthropods and nocturnal naturalist workshops are held together and include an overnight stay at Allen Acres Bed & Breakfast in Pitkin, Louisiana at no additional charge to you. You are not required to stay the night and may drive to the class each day, if desired.

To maintain certification, the individual must complete 20 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education in the field of natural history OR a 30-hour service project each year as approved by LMNGBR. Annual membership dues of \$25.00 are also required. The title “Louisiana Master Naturalist” is not to be used for any purposes not expressly approved by LMNGBR.

*Please note: The course is constantly being evaluated to ensure the best possible learning experience for you. While we do not anticipate any changes, course content and dates may be modified to achieve that goal; sufficient prior notification will be ensured should changes be necessary.*

LMNGBR membership is open to any individual who has successfully completed the LMNGBR training program and maintains the annual requirements.

### **BACKGROUND CHECK**

LMNGBR reserves the right to perform an online background check.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Participants are expected to uphold high standards that ensure the safety and well-being of the LMNGBR, its affiliates, their staffs, volunteers and clients. Participants will uphold all individuals’ rights to dignity, self-development and self-direction. Participants are expected to respect, adhere to and enforce the rules, policies and guidelines set forth by the LMNGBR and its affiliates and any programs to which they are specifically assigned. Participants are charged with performing their duties in a safe, responsible and timely manner.

### **PREPARATION**

While participating in these workshops, please be aware that many activities take place outside in various weather conditions with extended periods of standing or walking. You may be exposed to biting insects, extreme temperatures, slippery surfaces, etc. We recommend that you, at a minimum, acquire the following protective gear before training: hiking boots/trail shoes, rain gear, breathable outdoor clothing, sun protection, insect repellent, and a reusable water bottle. These items are **not** provided by LMNGBR.

- **Continue to the next page; keep the first two pages for your records.**

**LMNGBR REGISTRATION**

**Please fill out the following pages completely and return to the address listed below. This form and a check are due by the date listed on the website at [www.lmngbr.org/apply](http://www.lmngbr.org/apply).**

**CONTACT INFORMATION (Please Print)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Preferred): \_\_\_\_\_ (Alternate): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Applied For (Circle One): FALL / SPRING of YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Why do you want to become a Louisiana Master Naturalist?

2. In what areas of Natural History or volunteering are you specifically interested?

3. List some of your skills, hobbies, experiences and talents that you believe would contribute to our organization and its mission.

4. List any civic, natural history or other group in which you are or have been a member, or any office or activity that you have participated in while a member of that organization.

Group	Office Held or Activity	Years

5. Please list any other volunteer work that you have done.

Group	Type of work	Years

**FINAL COMMENTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS**

**Please initial each line:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I must mail this completed form and a check for \$250.00 to the address below. Submission of this form does not guarantee my spot in the course. Checks will be held until acceptance into the course.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I am not accepted into the program, my \$250.00 check will be returned to me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I decide to not take the LMNGBR course after I am enrolled, refunds are only issued when notification of resignation from the course is received at least two weeks prior to the start of the Orientation class.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that attending ALL workshops and Graduation are highly recommended and that I am required to attend at least 8 of the 10 scheduled workshops to graduate. If you are unable to attend the required classes, you will be given the opportunity to make up a missed workshop the following semester, IF class space is available, EXCEPT for the Arthropods and Nocturnal Naturalist weekend, which cannot be made up. It is very important that you make every effort to attend the required classes.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I will need to complete a Final Project by the end of the semester in order to graduate.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I must complete 20 hours of volunteer service and 10 hours of continuing education each year OR a 30-hour service project as approved by LMNGBR annually to maintain certification.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that pictures may be taken of me when I participate in a class or field trip and that photographs may be used to promote LMNGBR in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites and social media. No royalty, fee, or other compensation shall be paid to me for such use.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that the title “Louisiana Master Naturalist” is not to be used prior to my fulfillment of course requirements or for any purposes not expressly approved by LMNGBR.

**My signature is verification that I am at least 18 years of age, that I have read and understand the above guidelines, and that I am willing to abide by the specified rules. I certify that the information set forth is true and accurate, and I authorize the LMNGBR and/or its affiliates to verify the information.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

