

Fall 2010



**MS Museum of Natural Science Calendar for Volunteers**

Times listed are the times volunteers should plan to be here. Unless otherwise indicated, all events are at MMNS. Opportunities for teen volunteers are specifically listed as being open to teen volunteers or for all volunteers.

As soon as you can commit to participating in these events, let Ann know which you will attend.  
Note that some events have dates by which I must receive your RSVP.

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|-----------------|---------------|---|
| <b>Sept. 6</b>  |               | <b>MUSEUM CLOSED</b>  |
| <b>Sept. 7</b>  | <b>12-1</b>   | <b>First Tuesday Lecture</b><br>Speaker: Dr. Jerome Goddard, Medical Entomologist<br>Title: "How to Enjoy the Outdoors While Avoiding Mosquitoes, Ticks, Chiggers, and Other Pests"   |
| <b>Sept. 11</b> | <b>9-11</b>   | <b>Teen volunteer meeting</b><br>Mammal Class with MMNS naturalist Corey Wright. We've spent a lot of time lately learning about fish. It's time to get furry! For all teen volunteers.   |
| <b>Sept. 14</b> | <b>9-12</b>   | <b>Prep Time for Make-a-Splash</b><br>We will be preparing take-home materials for the approximately 700 students who will be visiting us for the Make-a-Splash day. Please come help!  |
| <b>Sept. 24</b> | <b>8:30-3</b> | <b>Make-a-Splash Day</b><br>Celebrate water conservation- help students enjoy a day full of learning about water. We need all college and adult volunteers who can possibly come. Again we will conduct our large-scale water cycle game and will serve a free pizza lunch for the students. Pizza lunch for volunteers, too.<br><u>RSVP now if you can come.</u> |

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|-----------------|-------------|---|
| <b>Sept. 25</b> | <b>7-6</b>  | <p><b>Teen Volunteer Field Experience</b></p> <p>Open to teen volunteers with at least 25 hours to date: Fossil collecting with MMNS paleontologist George Phillips.</p> <p>This will involve “educating your eyes” and doing far more careful looking than active excavation. Finds of value to the MMNS collection will be placed in the MMNS collection.</p> <p>Site TBD depending on weather closer to the trip date. I will let you know. Bring sack lunch, water bottle and money if you want to buy snacks at rest stops. Dress for field work: boots/old shoes, change of shoes/clothes if desired, weather suitable clothing that can get DIRTY.</p> <p>If you are eligible and are planning to come, <b>contact Ann by September 10</b>. We must plan for transportation needs. If you don’t know if you have 25 hours, call or e-mail and I’ll tell you.</p> |
| <b>Sept. 28</b> | <b>7-9</b>  | <p><b>Garden work date</b></p> <p>For adult volunteers. MMNS hosts the MS Native Plant Society Saturday Oct. 2, just after this work day-- let’s get everything looking good. Bring your own gloves and any tools you like to use.</p>  |
| <b>Oct. 2</b>   | <b>9-5</b>  | <p><b>MS Native Plant Society Meeting</b></p> <p>What a great chance to learn more about our native plants! Informational talks and guided hikes will go on throughout the day. Open to MMNS volunteers.</p>  |
| <b>Oct. 4</b>   | <b>9-11</b> | <p><b>Hike and Learn</b></p> <p>This series is for college and adult volunteers, Monday mornings, October 4 through November 15. Watch the seasonal changes as we enjoy rediscovering our Museum and trails. You may want to bring: sketchbook/journal, camera, binoculars, water bottle.</p> <p>Topic: ‘Bluff’ your way through a nature walk: interpreting along our trails/ Lefleur’s Bluff ecology basics</p>   |

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Oct. 5

12-1

**First Tuesday Lecture**

Speaker: Hyun Jung Cho, PhD., Associate Professor of Biology,  
Jackson State University  
Title: "Seagrass and Submerged Aquatics of the Mississippi  
Coast"

Oct. 8

8-12

**Eubanks Creek Clean-up**

Bring work gloves and wear knee-high rubber boots or hip  
boots. We will be removing trash from the creek and the banks  
as part of a community effort to clean up the creek.

Oct. 11

9-11

**Hike and Learn**

Topic: Discovery Kit Fitness Training  
New toys and new ideas! If you volunteer in the exhibit hall  
come see what we've got for you and...may the best team  
win! ☺ Doughnuts and coffee provided.

Oct. 13

7-6

**Adult Volunteer Field Experience**

Delta Blues Museum and BB King Museum: "Exploring the  
history and heritage of the unique American musical art form of  
the blues." Our focus will be on how exhibits can tell a story,  
and how we can bring meaningful connections to visitors  
through interpretation.

Meet at MMNS back parking lot at 7, depart for Clarksdale and  
guided tour of the Delta Blues Museum, with lunch at Ground  
Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale, followed by a tour of the B.B. King  
Museum in Indianola, MS on the way home to MMNS.

The van seating is limited-please go ahead and let me know if  
you want to join us. **By Sept. 30** I will need to let each place  
know the number in our party, so I need your **RSVP** by then at  
the very latest. Plan to spend \$11 for museum admission costs.  
Lunch is on your own.

Oct. 18

9-11

**Hike and Learn**

Topic: Tree Identification (with Scavenger Hunt) led by MMNS  
Natural Heritage Program botanist Heather Sullivan

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Oct. 21

5-7

**Members Night and Volunteer Recognition**

Featuring Teddy Roosevelt impersonator, Case Hicks. Enjoy food and fellowship and cheer on volunteers being recognized for milestones of service. For **all** volunteers. I hope to see teen volunteers and your families too! **Please RSVP to Ann by Oct. 15** if you are coming.

Oct. 25

9-11

**Hike and Learn**

Topic: Observing nature through art, led by MMNS preschool educator and artist Mary Alston. (Even if we think we “have no artistic talent” Mary will help us see the natural world in new ways. Don’t miss it!)

Oct. 26

8-until

**MMNS Native Plant Garden work morning/ Fall Plant Extraction Day**

Time to dig, divide and pot up plants for the spring native plant sale. This is a “come and go” volunteer opportunity. If you arrive after 8 just look for us out front in the gardens.

If you have a shovel you like to use, bring it. We have some to share also. Bring your own gloves and hand tools.

If you can only work in the afternoon, we need to know when you’re coming, so we can plan to be available to get you started on a task.

Oct. 30

9:30-12:30

**Slither, Crawl and Fly**

This is a volunteer opportunity for teens, college and adults. Help visitors discover the facts and myths about mysterious and often misunderstood creatures: bats, spiders, and snakes.

Nov.1

9-12

**Hike and Learn at the Jackson Zoo**

Education Director Anne Grinnan will lead us on a “hike” through the zoo and talk to us about the zoo’s education efforts. Meet at MMNS at 9 so we can load up to carpool over to the zoo. We plan to return to MMNS by 12.

**RSVP by October 27** if you are coming so we can plan for transportation. Senior adult (65 or older) admission is \$7.20, regular admission is \$8.

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Nov. 2

12-1

**First Tuesday lecture**

Speaker: Dr. Markus Telkamp, Assistant Professor of Biology, Millsaps College

Title: "Ecology of Kaxil Kiuc Biocultural Reserve: The Yucatan Peninsula"

Dr. Telkamp will talk about his research at this reserve where he studies the ecology of this 4,000 acre dry tropical deciduous forest.

November 8

9:30-11

**Hike and Learn**

Topic: A visit to the MS Sound...this is one of our most popular exhibits...so what can we say/do to build on our visitors' fascination? Led by aquatic biologist Karen Dierolf.

November 15

9-12

**Hike and Learn at the Clinton Community Nature Center**

Executive Director and Educator John Stark will introduce us to the trails and education efforts of the CCNC.

November 25

**MUSEUM CLOSED**

December 5

1:30-4:30

**Christmas for the Birds**

This is a teen, college and adult volunteer opportunity. Visitors create natural ornaments that will help feed the birds.

December 11

9:30-12:30

**Nature-made Christmas**

This is a teen, college and adult volunteer opportunity. Visitors will make fun ornaments using natural objects.

December 12

2-4

**Volunteer Holiday Party**

For all volunteers. Bring an appetizer to share and a SMALL ornament OR gift item (spend \$5 or less) to swap.

**\*\*December 24-25 and January 1**

**MUSEUM CLOSED\*\***

Hunters and hunting enthusiasts: Please note that there is a volunteer opportunity with the Department of Wildlife Fisheries and Parks. <http://home.mdwfp.com/wheelin/>

The "Wheelin' Sportsmen" event is an assisted hunting opportunity for disabled youth. During November 12-14, these young people register and participate in a number of activities including a guided/assisted hunt. The final day is completed with an opportunity to share their experiences with the larger group.

If you can't access the website and want more details, call me. On the site you can register if you wish to volunteer. (Please let me know also if you are registering.)