

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE
& CONTINUING STUDIES
THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



**NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEER MASTER NATURALIST
CERTIFICATE**

April 9, 2014 – May 14, 2014

Meetings take place Wednesdays (6:00pm – 9:00pm) and Saturdays (9:00am – 3:00pm)

Cost: \$249.00 This price includes 40 hours of training (classroom and field trip to Sedge Island). This does not include any additional materials.

Location: Edwin B. Forsythe National Refuge *There are scheduled Saturday field trips which will require participants to drive to another location.

Click here to register

Register

Scholarships are available for this program. After reviewing the application for scholarship please print and fill out completely. Due to the high volume of interest in this program, serious applicants only. [Click here for the application](#)

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The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, and other regional environmental organizations are offering a program to train New Jersey Volunteer Master Naturalists (VMN's). The 40 hour certificate program is based on a national model, currently offered in over 20 states, to develop volunteer citizen stewards of natural resources through science-based conservation, education and service programs.

The program, with both classroom and field-based learning components, will offer a broad range of natural resource and wildlife topics, delivered by field experts in environmental education. Certificate program instructors are: James Merritt, Terry O'Leary, Don Frieday, Patrick Hosay and Michael Hogan.

It will also provide trained volunteer opportunities for conservation services, interpretation activities and outreach at the Refuge and at other environmental organizations within local communities, focusing especially on the habitats of the southern New Jersey coastal region, Great Bay and Barnegat Bay and other local tidal areas and on coastal plains and forests in Atlantic, Ocean and Monmouth Counties. Other organizations participating in this program include:

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program
Ocean County Parks and Recreation
Forest Resource Education Center
Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center
NJ Invasive Species Strike Team



The VMN certificate program will take place primarily at the Oceanville (Atlantic County) site of the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge and also includes a full day field experience at and around the Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center, located in Barnegat Bay.

To receive the VNM certificate, participants must also complete, during the subsequent 12 months, 40 hours of approved environmental service, either at the Refuge or another environmental/wildlife site **(20 hours at the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)**, and complete an additional eight hours of advanced environmental training. The 40-hour service and eight-hour advanced training component must be completed each year to maintain one's Volunteer Master Naturalist status.

The VMN certificate program is open to staff of environmental organizations, teachers, retired persons

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and any adult interested in the environment. For more information and to register, contact Stockton College Continuing Studies at NJVMN@stockton.edu or call us at 609.652.4227.

Stockton College also offers the **National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG)**, an intensive 32-hour National Association for Interpretation certification program taught by credentialed Certified Interpretive Guide Trainers. For additional information about this certificate program, click on the title above or contact Stockton College Continuing Studies at continuingstudies@stockton.edu or call us at 609.652.4227.

Tuition for the VMN program

Volunteer Master Naturalist Certificate program: \$249*, includes 40 contact hours of training (classroom and field experience) and all participant materials.

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Division of Continuing Studies is an approved professional development provider by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ Dept of Education Approved Provider - #6500)

* Osprey photo by David Carr, 2007



U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is an equal opportunity college. It does not discriminate in admission or access to its programs and activities or in treatment or employment of individuals on the basis of race, gender, national origin or ancestry, age, religion, disability, affectual or sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, and/or liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States.