



TEXAS INVASIVE PLANT & PEST COUNCIL

FOUNDED 2007

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCILS

2014 TEXAS INVASIVE PLANT & PEST CONFERENCE
February 26-28, 2014 • Marine Science Institute • Port Aransas, Texas

FIELD TRIPS AND WORKSHOPS

Field Trip 1: Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center Bird Viewing Tour

Maximum: 20

Location: Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center

Date: Friday, February 28, 2013

Time: 9 am – 11 pm

Coordinator: Linda Fuiman (linda.fuiman@utexas.edu)

Description: A guided tour of extended boardwalks across wetlands at Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center. The Birding Center features a raised boardwalk that is wheelchair accessible that extends out into the cattails for a close-up encounter with wildlife. Participants can expect to see wintering ducks, herons, egrets, coots, hawks, gulls, terns and many others. The Birding Center is located 2 miles from University of Texas Marine Science Institute, at the south end of Ross Avenue behind the Trolley Stop. Participants will provide their own transportation to the Birding Center.

Field Trip 2: Wetlands Education Center and stern trawler field trip on Research Vessel Katy.

Maximum: 50

Location: University of Texas Marine Science Institute

Date: Friday, February 28, 2013

Time: 8 am to 11 pm

Coordinator: Sara Pelleteri (sarapel@utexas.edu)

Description: During trips aboard the R/V Katy, participants will explore the coastal marine environment through sampling marine life at different ecological levels. Specimens are collected through a plankton tow and a trawl. Participants examine, describe and help sort the organisms collected while they learn about adaptations, taxonomy and ecology. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to observe other coastal marine life such as dolphins, brown pelicans and sea turtles, as well as view some of the history of the area, such as the Lydia Ann Lighthouse, as the Katy travels the bays and channels where sampling takes place. The Wetlands Education Center is a 3.5 acre constructed wetland environment that highlights different habitats within coastal areas wetlands, including dunes, salt water marshes, sea grasses and oyster reefs. Participants will gain an understanding and appreciation for the role each facet of a wetland plays in supporting and maintaining the productivity of the coastal zone. The tour focuses on adaptations of organisms, the importance of these areas to both nature and people, and the incredible variety of plants and animals that are supported by these very important and productive habitats. Invasive species management will also be highlighted.





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Field Trip 3: Brazilian Peppertree Biology and Management Field Tour

Maximum: 20

Location: Various

Date: Friday, February 28, 2013

Time: 9 am – 12 pm

Coordinator: Mike Murphrey (mmurphrey@tfs.tamu.edu)
David Hyde (dyhde@cityofportaransas.org)

Description: Participants will visit multiple sites throughout Port Aransas to view the impacts of Brazilian peppertrees. Tour stops will include Charlie's Pasture Nature Preserve, the Joan & Scott Holt Paradise Pond, Leonnabelle Turnbull Birding Center and Mustang Beach Airport before returning to the University of Texas Marine Science Institute. City of Port Aransas and Texas A&M Forest Service representatives will share information on the biology and management of Brazilian peppertrees and update participants on the City's initiative to control the invasive species. Transportation will be provided by the Texas A&M Forest Service, departing from the University of Texas Marine Science Center Parking Lot.

Workshop 1: Invaders of Texas Citizen Science Train the Trainer Workshop

Maximum: 50

Location: University of Texas Marine Science Institute

Date: Friday, February 28, 2013

Time: 8 am – 11 pm

Coordinator: Justin Bush (jbush@wildflower.org)

Description: Invaders of Texas is a unique program whereby volunteer "citizen scientists" are trained to identify and report invasive species throughout Texas. That information is validated and delivered into a statewide database and to agency partners who can take action. This statewide initiative is supported by organized "satellite groups" which lead localized group efforts. This half-day workshop certifies individuals to serve as "satellite leaders" for their community, conservation organization, school group, or other institution. It will provide the tools necessary to conduct Invaders of Texas volunteer training events, including curriculum, citizen scientists resources (e.g., workbooks and field guides), and www.texasinvasives.org website navigation and data entry tutorial.

This workshop counts as "Continuing Professional Education" (CPE) hours through the Texas Education Agency, as the Wildflower Center is a certified provider. Also, training counts as "Advanced Training" for Texas Master Naturalists and data reporting counts as volunteer hours for the program as well.

