



Florida Master Naturalist Program Upland Habitats Module: Course Description

Summary Statement: Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) students will increase their knowledge of Florida's natural systems, of the plants and animals that depend upon those systems, and of the role of humankind in shaping our past, of determining our future, and as stewards of the land. The objective of the FMNP is to prepare persons to share their knowledge with others, to act in a positive manner, to help others feel a greater connection to the land and to help others to develop their own personal land ethic. Information on the ecology of Florida's systems is an integral part of the program, but we do not attempt to create experts in botany, herpetology, or any other discipline. Rather, we hope to initiate what is for many a life-long process of learning, of observation, and of sharing with others.

Upland Habitats Module Overview: Through classroom, field trip, and practical experience, this module provides instruction on the general ecology, habitats, vegetation types, wildlife, and conservation issues of Upland Habitats in Florida - Hardwood Forests, Pinelands, Scrub, Dry Prairie, Rangelands and Urban green spaces. The program also addresses societies role in uplands, develops naturalist interpretation skills, and discusses environmental ethics.

The total training consists of 40 contact hours, the scheduling of which will vary among different Instructor Organizations. The only requirements of students are enthusiasm, attendance, and completion of group final projects. There is no comprehensive examination required. Classroom learning includes 4 instructional videos and 12 presentations

Florida Master Naturalist Program Upland Habitats Video Series:

- Florida's Pine Habitats
- Florida's Scrub, Dry Prairie, Rangelands
- Florida's Hardwood Forests
- Upland Habitats in the Modern Human Society

Florida Master Naturalist Program Upland Habitats Presentation Series:

- General Ecology of Upland Habitats
- Pineland Communities
- Hardwood Forests and Urban Green Spaces
- Scrub, Dry Prairie and Rangelands
- Birds I
- Birds II
- Mammals
- Herptofauna (Amphibians and Reptiles)
- Naturalist Interpretation
- Invertebrates I
- Invertebrates II
- Environmental Ethics

What is the Cost and what will Florida Master Naturalist Students receive?

- The cost to students is \$225. See www.MasterNaturalist.org for course schedules and registration.
- Certificate of Completion and registration in the University of Florida IFAS database for Florida Master Naturalists as FMNP Upland Habitats Naturalist.
- FMNP/University of Florida Embroidered Patch and FMNP Upland Habitats lapel pin.
- FMNP Student Workbook -over 1,000 comprehensive pages on Florida Upland Habitats, plant and animal life, naturalist interpretation, green living, and additional sources of information (Student Workbook becomes property of the student).