**NORTH-CENTRAL TEXAS MASTER BIRDER (NCTMB) PROGRAM APPLICATION**

*Please type or print clearly and return your application to* [*jhhwth@sbcglobal.net*](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CJim%5CDownloads%5Cjhhwth%40sbcglobal.net)*. Applicants will be notified of acceptance status by August 1, 2018.*

**Please note: The application must be submitted by June 1, 2018.**

**Personal Information**

Name:

E-mail address: \_

Mailing address:

City, State, Zip

Preferred Contact Number: ( ) ( ) ( )

Emergency Contact Information (List name, relationship, and telephone number.):

1. What interests you most about the North-Central Texas Master Birder program?

2. How/where did you hear about the NCTMB program?

**Volunteer Experience**

3. Please list organizations / societies of which you have been a member in the last 3 years:

Organization / Position(s) Held Volunteer Hours Year(s)

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**Birding Experience**

4. How long have you been a “serious” birder? (Please elaborate.):

5. Please describe your birding habits (frequency, location(s), resources, etc.):

6. Please describe one of your best birding days:

7. How would you rate your birding skills on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being a novice and 5 being advanced? ­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_ Why did you choose this number?

8. What do you consider to be your strengths as a birder?

9. What are your primary “areas for improvement” as a birder?

10. Approximately how many birds can you currently identify by sight (with no field guide)?

€ 50 – 100 € 101-150 € 150-200 € over 200

11. Approximately how many birds can you positively identify by ear alone?

€ 10- 20 € 21-30 € 31-50 € 51-100 € over 100

12. How would you describe your familiarity with submitting checklists on the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's eBird? Please choose one option.

\_\_\_ I frequently submit checklists of my bird sightings to eBird

\_\_\_ I sometimes record my sightings on eBird and feel comfortable with the site

\_\_\_ I have submitted at least one checklist to eBird, but I am not confident using the site

\_\_\_ I have never used eBird to record my sightings

If accepted to the program, you will be asked to submit an eBird checklist that you have prepared to Chuck Carlson (mac.chuck@mac.com) between August 15 and September 15. Your current ability to use eBird will not affect acceptance into the Master Birder program, only our needs for instruction.

13. Have you led birding trips before? (If yes, please elaborate.):

14. Have you ever participated in a Christmas Bird Count or Breeding Bird Survey? (If yes, please elaborate.) :

15. Are there any other qualities, skills, and abilities not mentioned above that make you an outstanding candidate for the NCTMB Program?

**Interest Survey**

16. Please rank the following areas as they relate to your interest in applying to the NCTMB program? (Please number them 1-8, *with 1 indicating strongest interest*.)

* Identifying birds by sight
* Identifying birds by ear
* Identifying birds in flight
* Identifying birds by habitat
* Learning bird behavior and ecology
* Learning bird conservation
* Developing leadership skills; learning to lead birding field trips, etc.
* Developing teaching skills; learning to teach birding classes, etc.
* Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

17. Do you have an idea of the type of volunteering you would do after completing the NCTMB course? Please check the top three below that would suit your strengths and interests:

* Teach birding 101
* Participate in Christmas Bird Counts
* Participate in Breeding Bird Surveys
* Lead local bird hikes
* Lead specialty bird classes / hikes
* Lead destination bird trips
* Develop educational materials
* Develop bird checklists
* Participate in bird conservation / tagging / habitat restoration work
* Administrative work in support of the master birding program
* Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

18. Please describe how your birding life will be different upon completion of the NCTMB program.

19. Can you fulfill the 16 hours of volunteer time and 8 hours of advanced training on or before December 2020?
 € Yes € No (If No, please explain.)

*Optional: We invite you to list one or two names of people we might contact who are familiar with you and your birding background:*

Name Phone Email

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Commitment**

Your signature below indicates that you have read and agree to the following statements:

* I will participate in at least 80% of all classes and 80% of all field trips beginning September 22, 2018.
* I understand that I am required to complete 16 hours of approved volunteer service and 8 hours of approved advanced training on or before December 31, 2020 to retain certification.
* Upon acceptance in the class, I agree to pay the class fee of $150.00, due at the first scheduled class.
* I understand that I am responsible for my own additional expenses such as meals, transportation, lodging and entrance fees to birding areas for field trips.
* I am physically able to complete the physical challenges of all field trips which may include but are not limited to standing for long periods, walking on uneven surfaces, varying temperatures.
* I possess a valid driver’s license.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

If you have questions about the North-Central Texas Master Birder program, please email Janie Henderson at [jhhwth@sbcglobal.net](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CJim%5CDownloads%5Cjhhwth%40sbcglobal.net).

**Note: This application must be submitted by June 1, 2018.**

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