X. CODE OF ETHICS

Each member, in striving to meet the mission, goals and objectives of the Master Naturalist program, pledges to:

1. Subscribe to the highest standards of integrity and conduct.
2. Promote and support the statewide and local Master Naturalist program.
3. Respect the state sponsors of the University of Nebraska, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, and the Nebraska Environmental Trust, and their roles and expectations.
4. Disseminate information to promote understanding of, and appreciation for, the values of our natural resources.
5. Strive to increase knowledge and skills to advance as a Master Naturalist volunteer.
6. Promote competence as a Master Naturalist volunteer by supporting high standards of education, service and performance.
7. Encourage the use of sound biological information in education and outreach and in management decisions.
9. Know and follow established program guidelines and policies.
10. Avoid use of the Master Naturalist title, logos and trademarks for personal endeavors and/or profit.
11. Act as trustworthy and ethical stewards of the environment.
12. Never inappropriately disturb or harass wildlife, never inappropriately remove anything from its natural state or area.
XI. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Master Naturalist program volunteers shall at all times:

1. Uphold the agreement made to the program and the required volunteer and continuing education hours required by the program.

2. Uphold the dignity and integrity of the Master Naturalist program. They shall endeavor to avoid even the suspicion of dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or unprofessional demeanor.

3. Conduct themselves appropriately to context and setting at all times.

4. Be considerate and respect other’s points of view.

5. Keep accurate records of volunteer service, training and research, and regularly notify your Program Coordinator of these records.

6. Avoid performing service when such service is judged to be contrary to the Code of Ethics or detrimental to the well-being of the program and its sponsors.

7. Provide maximum possible effort in the best interest of each client and/or volunteer project.

8. Be mindful of their responsibility to society and the program.

9. Avoid discrimination in any form, or the abuse of program authority, certification, or membership for personal benefit.

10. Cooperate fully with professionals and other Master Naturalist volunteers in the best interest of our natural resources.

11. Avoid all use of alcohol and controlled substances while on duty as a Master Naturalist volunteer. Reporting for service while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance will result in termination from volunteer service.

12. Accept responsibility for decisions made and actions taken based on these decisions.