

MiBN Regional Hub Coordinator

Description:

The Michigan Butterfly Network (MiBN) is a citizen-science project of the Kalamazoo Nature Center. The project oversees the data collection of butterfly populations and species at census sites established across the state of Michigan over the course of the summer by citizen volunteers. MiBN is a part of a regional and national network of state initiatives, and contributes its results to a national database. There are no fees associated with the MiBN. The Biological Research Director at the Nature Center oversees the project, along with the Conservation Research Coordinator.

As we look ahead to grow and expand the network to other regions of the state, we are looking for collaborators and partner institutions. We are looking for people and organizations who are interested in helping citizens in their communities connect with nature and become engaged in significant data collection to be contributed to our state and national databases. The MiBN is, in general, looking for regional representatives to find and train volunteers in the MiBN protocol, help them locate natural areas to monitor, and answer the questions of the regional volunteers. Coordinators will develop a relationship with monitors and foster their curiosity and passion- encouraging them to return in future seasons.

Duties:

- Coordination and communication:
 - Send emails for information and updates on project happenings to volunteers and collaborators
 - Plan for upcoming seasons by coordinating with KNC to create a timeline for preparing for spring training
 - Recruit new volunteers and potential collaborating institutions
 - Train monitors in methodology and identification
 - Help establish census routes
 - Contribute to website and blog
 - Wrap-up season by distributing evaluation materials and ensure timely collection of datasheets

- Education:
 - Help educate volunteers with training materials (e.g. PowerPoint presentations, protocols, and worksheets) and offer in-field training sessions
 - Communicate protocol to volunteers. Encourage proper data collection and safety