

Thank you for your interest in taking this survey! Before we get started, we would like to share some information about this survey with you.

Virginia Tech is collaborating with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) Nongame Wildlife Program (NWP) to learn more about Minnesotans who are interested in nature and conservation. By sharing your thoughts, you can help us understand how the NWP can better serve all Minnesotans. This survey should take you under 10 minutes to complete. Your participation is voluntary and anonymized. The results of the survey will be published in summary form in reports and journal articles. Your de-identified survey responses may be made available to the MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program and may be archived online in a publicly accessible format. There are no known risks associated with your participation in this survey; there are no right or wrong answers to survey questions; and you can leave the survey at any time, for any reason. If you have any questions regarding this survey or would like more information, please contact Kelsey Jennings at mn.nwp@vt.edu. Do you consent to participate in this survey?

(Please select one)

☐ Yes

☐ No

In what year were you born?

Do you live in Minnesota for a majority of the year?

☐ Yes

☐ No

In which park where you prompted to take this survey?

☐ Fort Snelling State Park

☐ Itasca State Park

☐ Lebanon Hills Regional Park

☐ Ramsey Park

First, we want to know more about your volunteer behavior as it relates to the conservation of nature. We define the conservation of nature as any voluntary action taken to benefit habitats, wildlife, or nature in general. For example, actions taken to conserve biodiversity and/or foster healthy environments.

Have you participated in any of the following activities in the last 12 months?

☐ **Informing or teaching** others about the conservation of nature (such as naturalist programs)

☐ **Collecting data** on wildlife or habitat through a **website or phone application** (such as eBird or iNaturalist)

☐ **Using website or phone apps** to identify species (like eBird, Seek, iNaturalist, or Merlin)

☐ **Collecting data** on wildlife or habitat through **in-person event** (such as counting or observing animals)

☐ **Advocating or voting** for political candidates or policies that support the conservation of nature

☐ **Restoring lands** belonging to **me** or **my family** (such as removing invasive species)

☐ **Restoring lands** belonging to **someone else** (such as restoring lands in regional or state parks)

☐ **Cleaning up** trash or litter

☐ **None of the above**, I have not participated in these types of volunteering.

☐ Other

Next, we would like to know more about what might encourage you to volunteer more for the conservation of nature than you currently do.

(Please select one response per statement.)

I would be more likely to volunteer with programs that...

	Not at all	Slightly	Moderately	Very	Extremely
... provide an opportunity to have fun in the outdoors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... teach me more about nature (such as specific skills or information about rare species)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... allow me to experience interesting places in nature (such as unique or protected lands)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

... **conserve or restore**
environments that
have been damaged

☐☐☐☐☐

... **preserve the**
environment for
future generations

☐☐☐☐☐

How likely would you be to participate in **each of the following activities** in the next 5 years, if you had the opportunity to do so?

(Please select one response per conservation activity.)

Not at all
interested

Slightly
interested

Moderately
interested

Very
interested

Extremely
interested

Collecting data on
wildlife or habitat
through a **website or**
phone application
(such as oBird or
iNaturalist)

☐☐☐☐☐

Collecting data on
wildlife or habitat
through an **in-person**
event *(such as bird*
banding or animal
counts)

☐☐☐☐☐

Respondents were then shown one of the following four messages:



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

*Collect information about
Minnesota's at-risk wildlife
with us*



To volunteer with the MNDNR
Nongame Wildlife Program visit:
<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us>





VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Help Minnesota's at-risk
wildlife by collecting
information with us



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***Learn more about
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Please answer the following based on the message you saw.

How likely would you be to volunteer if you saw this posting?

☐ Not at all likely

☐ Somewhat likely

☐ Moderately likely

☐ Very likely

☐ Extremely likely

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements.

(Please select one response per statement.)

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
The content of the volunteer posting was compelling.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The content of the volunteer posting was interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Is there anything that would make this message more interesting or compelling?

Which, if any, of the following ways are you interested in **receiving information** about volunteering?

Note: Your responses are for data collection only. The MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program will not receive your specific response nor contact you as a result of this survey.

☐ MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program website

☐ Mailed newsletter or other publication

☐ Email update or e-newsletter

☐ Facebook

☐ Twitter

☐ Tik-Tok

☐ Instagram

☐ Text alert

☐ **None of the above,** I would prefer not to receive information from the MNDNR Nongame Wildlife Program.

☐ Other

What is your gender?

(Please select one.)

☐ Man

☐ Woman

☐ Non-binary

☐ Prefer not to say

☐ Prefer to self-describe

What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

(Please select one.)

☐ High school diploma, equivalent, or less

☐ Some college

☐ Associate's or technical degree

☐ Bachelor's degree

☐ Professional, master's or doctoral degree

What is your race and/or ethnicity?

(Please select all that apply.)

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

☐ Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish

☐ Middle Eastern or North African

☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

☐ Some other race or ethnicity

☐ White

Which of the following best describes where you currently live?

(Please select one per statement.)

☐ Rural area (Less than 2,500 people)

☐ Small town (2,500 - 9,999 people)

☐ Small city (10,000 - 49,999 people)

☐ Urban area (50,000 or more people)

Which county do you live in for most of the year?

(Please select one from the drop-down list.)

Thank you so much for taking the time to take our survey! Your responses will help Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources in their conservation efforts.