

2023 Naturalist Training Schedule Knowledge-Acquisition Component

Day	Date	Time	Location	Topic	Speaker(s) & Affiliation
Thurs	8/31/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Intro/Welcome to Naturalist Training	Hilary Cunningham Julie Ferguson
Thurs	9/7/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Estuary Ecology & Endangered Species	Dick Zembal, NBC & OCWD
Sat	9/9/23	9:00am-12:00pm	Muth	Geology of the Bay	Phil Hughes, NBC & SAC
Thurs	9/14/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Post-Colonial History of the Bay	Cassandra Radcliff, author of Saving Upper Newport Bay
Sat	9/16/23	9:00am-12:00pm	Irvine Ranch Water District (details to come)	Watershed & Water Quality Lecture & Activity	Sheryl Parsons, IRWD
Thurs	9/21/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Climate Change: Science, Impacts & Solutions	Shahir Masri, UCI
Sat	9/23/23	8:30am-12:00pm	To Be Assigned	Coastal Cleanup Day at the Bay	
Thurs	9/28/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Insects & Spiders Lecture	Peter Bryant, NBC & UCI
Sat	9/30/23	9:00am-12:00pm	Muth Library	Insects & Spiders Microscope Lab	Peter Bryant, NBC & UCI
Thurs	10/5/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Reptiles & Amphibians Lecture	Barry Nerhus, ICRE
Sat	10/7/23	9:00am-5:00pm	BBSC	First Peoples Discussion & Activity	Lazaro Arvzu
Thurs	10/12/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Plants Lecture	Ron Vanderhoff, CA NPS
Sat	10/14/23	9:00am-12:00pm	Big Canyon (details to come)	Plants Walk	NBC Naturalists
Thurs	10/19/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Mammals Lecture	Don Millar & Judy Booth, OC Trackers
Sat	10/21/23	9:00am-12:00pm	BBSC	Restoration Lecture & Activity	NBC Restoration Team
Thurs	10/26/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Fishes & Tides Lecture	Dennis Kelly, OCC
Sat	10/28/23	12:00-4:00pm	TBA	Marine Biology Lecture & Field Trip	Laura Elsberry, CSUF
Thurs	11/2/23	6:00-8:00pm	Muth Theater & Zoom	NBC Annual Meeting	NBC Board of Directors
Sat	11/4/23	8:45am-1:00pm	BBSC	Marine Life Inventory	CDFW Staff
Thurs	11/9/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Birds Lecture	Bettina Eastman, NBC & Sea&Sage Audubon
Sat	11/11/23	TBA	TBA	Birds Walk	Bettina Eastman, NBC & Sea&Sage Audubon
Thurs	11/16/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Diversity & Environmental Justice	NBC Board & Staff
Sat	11/18/23	9:00am-12:00pm	Muth Library	Know Your Audience Workshop	NBC Board & Staff
	11/23/23-11/25/23	THANKSGIVING	NO CLASS		
Thurs	11/30/23	6:00-8:00pm	Zoom	Student Proposal Presentations	Naturalist Trainees
Sat	12/2/23	9:00am-12:00pm	Muth Library	Putting What You Learned Into Practice	Current NBC Naturalists Hilary Cunningham
Sat	12/9/23	1:00-3:00pm	Muth	Holiday Party	

Muth = Peter & Mary Muth Interpretive Center

BBSC = Back Bay Science Center

Attendance Policy

Attendance and participation in the activities is vital to ensure that you have the breadth and depth of knowledge necessary for our naturalists. Therefore, if you miss any Thursday meetings, you will be expected to watch the recording of the session. If you miss any Saturday meetings it is important that you speak with Hilary Cunningham as soon as possible to discuss how to make up missed material to complete your training. In cases where a participant encounters significant emergencies/challenges that prevent them attending more than 3 Saturday meetings, we may ask them to complete the training the following year.

2023 Naturalist Training

Skills-Building & Practice Component Requirements

1. Program Trainings: Each trainee must **complete at least two (2)** of the following training options. Trainees must attend all 3 meetings in a series to receive credit. Dates below are *tentative*. Confirmed dates will be announced in November and trainees will select from the options at that time.

OPTION 1: Friends Tour	Attend the Tour	Sat, 1/13/24, 9am-11am
	Shadow a Naturalist Station	Sat, 2/10/24, 9am-11am
	Present a Naturalist Station	Sat, 3/9/24, 9am-11am
OPTION 2: Elementary School Programs	School Program Training	Tues, 1/23/24, 9am-12pm
	Lead a Practice Program	Tues, 2/6/24, 9am-12pm
	Shadow a Scheduled Program	Most Tues, 9am-12pm
OPTION 3: Outrigger Program	Outrigger Training Part 1	Wed, 2/21/24, 9am-1pm
	Outrigger Training Part 2	Wed, 3/6/24, 9am-1pm
	Lead a Practice Program	Wed, 3/20/24, 9am-1pm
OPTION 4: Walking Tours	Walking Tour Training Part 1	Sat, 4/6/24, 9am-12pm
	Walking Tour Training Part 2	Sat, 4/27/24, 9am-12pm
	Lead a Practice Tour	Sat, 5/18/24, 9am-12pm
OPTION 5: Kayak Tours	Kayak Tour Training	Sun, 5/5/24, 9am-12pm
	Shadow a Scheduled Tour	Any Sat, 9am-12pm
	Lead a Practice Tour	Sun, 5/26/24, 9am-12pm
OPTION 6: Restoration	Three 3-hour sessions with the restoration team	Scheduled depending on availability

2. Program Design & Implementation: Each trainee will propose a spring program idea at the end of the fall session. Top programs will be selected and trainees will work in groups to produce these programs in the spring. This will include:
- Five meetings with staff (Community Programs Admin and/or Education Specialist)
 - Meeting 1, Thu, 1/11/24 (1hr): review proposal & receive guidance on next steps
 - Meeting 2, Thu, 3/14/24 (30min): progress check-in
 - Meeting 3, Thu, 5/9/24 (30min): confirm last remaining action items
 - Meeting 4 (30min): final check-in scheduled 1 week before your program date
 - Meeting 5 (30min): debrief scheduled within 1 week after your program date
 - Group members will work together to...
 - Determine ideal audience and how to recruit participants/attendees
 - Clarify and develop the curriculum & talking points
 - Obtain and/or create materials for any activities
 - Schedule a date for the program
 - Create flyers and advertising to potential participants/attendees
 - Train other volunteers on curriculum/activities if necessary

NOTE: If these requirements would pose personal or logistical challenges, alternative options can be discussed with the program administrator, such as additional volunteer shifts, committee involvement, or other projects.