

Donna Long, Saturday 10 am - Noon
The Scientific Nature Journal Workshop

The Scientific Nature Journal Workshop provides the easy-to-understand framework needed to help with the collection of data for climate monitoring, habitat restoration, reintroduction of extirpated species, and other ecosystem management projects.

Imagine an amateur naturalist who wants to create a detailed plant survey of their locale. The data collected will be much more scientifically useful if certain information is recorded. It will be easy to find in notebooks if it is organized in a standard system. This workshop teaches the Grinnell Scientific Method, a standard note-taking system.

The Grinnell Scientific Method is used by field biologists to create scientifically accurate and useful field notes. This method is useful for animal behavior, plant studies, and other field research disciplines.

Neither the workshop nor the method needs special equipment except for a pencil and paper (and perhaps a GPS tracker). It doesn't use hard to understand scientific terms or require detailed scientific knowledge to use. It is a method that can be taught to naturalists of all ages.

Master Naturalists can use these techniques as they lead citizen science projects for children and adults in their local areas. It is a useful method to teach homeschoolers and scientifically-minded students. It can also be used by amateur naturalists, of any age, who want to create their own independent research study.

What you will learn:

- How to record data that is scientifically accurate and useful.
- How to design collection data forms for use by citizen scientists and amateur naturalists
- How to choose and use a GPS tracking system to accurately records locations.
- How to manage volunteers in citizen science projects.

Andrea Lani, Saturday 9am - Noon
Story Mapping

Story maps predate grid maps—the type you keep in your glovebox or phone—by thousands of years. While the grid map is an abstract, geometric representation of the landscape, the story map is a visual depiction of an individual's particular journey through a place. In this workshop, we'll use words, simple drawings, and mapping symbols to recreate on paper the world around us—both elements of the landscape, like trees and hills, and events, like a visit from a chickadee or a dragonfly that zooms across our path. We'll start indoors with a brief introduction to nature journaling and story mapping and a few quick drawing skills. Then we'll head outside to create our own story maps. By noticing and recording the sights, sounds, and moments that draw our attention, we'll sharpen our observation skills and deepen our connection to the natural world.

Please bring: a journal, notebook, or blank paper and clipboard and simple drawing tools (pencil with sharpener and/or waterproof pen, and colored pencils or a small paint set). You may also bring binoculars, a hand lens, and field guides if you would like, though this workshop will be less about identifying and more about observing and experiencing. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and sunscreen or bug repellent if needed. We'll carry our journals and pens in our hands, but you may want a bag or backpack to keep everything else in.

Kim Ridley, Saturday 1 pm- 4 pm

Jean Mackay, Saturday 2pm - 5pm

Laurie Murray, Sunday 8am- Noon
The Power of Observation

The power of observation is key to successful nature journaling. In this workshop we will explore ways to enhance your observational skills while in the field through the practice of awareness and understanding how our sensory receptors take in information and then transferring that information into your nature journal. We will also examine ways to establish place and to build into your nature journal page elements regarding habitats and ecosystems as a way for you grow in your understanding about the natural world.

Alison Dibble, Sunday 10 am - Noon

Catherine Schmitt, Sunday 1pm-3pm

Turning journal notes into stories for sharing with others - incorporating observations, etc. I will read from my books and show how experiences in nature translate into published text.