



**PRESS
RELEASE**

Contact: Mary Pearl Meuth, ANROSP Vice President
Email: mpmeuth@tamu.edu
Phone: 979-845-7294

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs Honored for Outstanding Work, Showcased at National Conference

Minnesota Master Naturalist Program's North Woods, Great Lakes Curriculum wins ANROSP Outstanding Educational Materials Award

PORTLAND, OR (September 21, 2017) – The Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP) concluded its national conference with an awards ceremony held at the World Forestry Center in Portland, Oregon.

The Minnesota Master Naturalist Program's "North Woods, Great Lakes: An Introduction to the Natural History of Minnesota's Coniferous Forests" received the 2017 ANROSP Outstanding Educational Materials Award. This award recognizes ANROSP member programs for their development and use of educational materials including print, video, online technology, or other program materials/applications.

The "North Woods, Great Lakes: An Introduction to the Natural History of Minnesota's Coniferous Forests" curriculum is designed to help the reader build their knowledge while moving through the [Minnesota Master Naturalist](#) class. Text is at a grade 10 reading level, vocabulary is approachable without being too scientific or difficult, and graphics are carefully chosen to reflect the content. Materials were reviewed for technical content, readability, and layout by volunteer editors from the Minnesota Master Naturalist volunteer pool in addition to a copy editor. The result is a beautiful book that covers topics such as geology, plants, animals, humans, ecology, inland waters, Lake Superior, interpretation, and how to be a master naturalist. Reviews from Minnesota Master Naturalist trainees include "great mix of science content." Congratulations go to ANROSP members Amy Rager, Andrea Lorek Strauss, Rob Blair, and Dawn Flinn of University of Minnesota Extension. For more information please contact Amy Rager, Minnesota Master Naturalist Program Director, at rager001@umn.edu or call 320-589-1711.

Michelle Prysby, ANROSP President and Virginia Master Naturalist Program Director, said "ANROSP provides member programs an opportunity to share their best work in the areas of Outstanding Educational Materials, Outstanding Volunteer Project, Outstanding Team, Outstanding Program Evaluation and Program of the Year. Each year ANROSP is proud to highlight programs from across the United States in each of these categories." Award applications are peer reviewed and selection is made by the ANROSP Awards Committee, chaired by the ANROSP Vice President.

About ANROSP: The Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs is a national network of natural resource education and service programs which provides leadership, information, and resources to support the establishment and expansion of its member programs. For more information please visit ANROSP.org

Photo caption: Amy Rager (center) and Andrea Lorek-Strauss (right) accepted the 2017 Outstanding Educational Materials Award from ANROSP President Michelle Prysby (left) on behalf of the Minnesota Master Naturalist Program, University of Minnesota Extension. *(photo credit: Michele Richards)*

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