

THE ENVIRONMENTATOR

For more details:
www.earthreminder.com

Earth Day 2022 Theme
Invest In Our Planet



Vol. 10, No. 5.

The Internet Site for Environmental Information in Oklahoma

April 2022 — May 2022

The Environment Influences Art

At Factory Obscura (25 NW 9th, OKC):

Seed Reef

Every day 11:00 AM-7:30 PM

through April 24th, \$6-\$8

"Seed Reef is an immersive, sculpted paper installation of a coral reef, created by artists Emma Difani and Malcolm Zachariah, in collaboration with Factory Obscura (25 Northwest 9th,



OKC, info@factoryobscura.com, <https://www.factoryobscura.com>). Participants will walk "underwater" through the kirigami (cut and folded paper) reef as it transitions from a colorful, vibrant section full of corals, fish, and other sea life to a barren wasteland of bleached coral skeletons.

Participants are invited to restore Seed Reef by constructing and adding their own corals and other reef animals to the installation. By crafting corals, you are helping seed the reef, bringing it back to a healthy, thriving state. Together, we will reanimate the bleached region of Seed Reef, discovering the beauty and complexity of this unique environment and understanding humankind's impact upon the planet."

At Spark! Creative Lab
(11 NW 11th, OKC):

YIELD: WE BELONG TO THE LAND

April 16 | Sowing the Seeds: Theater

May 8 | Sowing the Seeds: Visual Art

May 14 | Cultivation

May 26 | YIELD | Performance

"SPARK! Creative Lab invites the public to experience and participate in creating YIELD: WE BELONG TO THE LAND, a 10-week creative investigation into our collective presence at 11 NW 11th St. — the site of Oklahoma Contemporary's new home — culminating in an immersive, interactive public performance on May 26."

"Visit our website for individual workshop details and ticket availability dates."



Photo by Zachary Burns.

On Page 3 see:

Nature, Sweet Nature
Public Art Installation at Lions Park
Nature's Course

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May 15-16, 2022 Total Lunar Eclipse

(A Blood Moon) Should be visible in Oklahoma.
Click on the URL above to get more information.

Quiz!! Quiz!! Quiz!!

An important event happened in Oklahoma on April 3-4. The flowering of the plant seen below. People came from all over to witness this event.



For the answer to this quiz, go to Page 7.



An environmental education newsletter for the citizens of Oklahoma sponsored by the Department of Biology at Oklahoma City University. Items appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions or endorsement of the sponsoring organization.

Editor: Beth Landon
blandon@okcu.edu

Please send any submissions to
The EnvironMentor Newsletter
or The Calendar to:
Environmentator@okcu.edu

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If you wish to receive an email
announcing when a new issue
has been uploaded, please send
an email to Environmentator@okcu.edu.

Download your EnvironMentor Newsletter in
pdf form from:
<http://www.okcu.edu/environmentator>

Visit The EnvironMentor Calendar at
<http://www.okcu.edu/environmentator/>
Regularly updated as information becomes available.

(Continued from the Cover)

Public Art Installation at Lions Park, Norman, OK:

Cool Cats Keep It Clean #LionsPark

9:00 Am to 5:00 PM

April 22-23: Watch as 5 new art pieces are installed around and throughout Lions Park. We have wonderful works by Sam Douglas, Roxxann Murphy, Ginna Dowling, Ken and Sarah Hall and Michael Wilson!

April 23 (9:00 Am to Noon): During the installation on Saturday, members of Norman's Environmental Control Advisory Board (ECAB) will have educational stations in the park for visitors.

* * * *

At the Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center (11 NW 11, OKC):

Maren Hassinger: Nature, Sweet Nature (A Traveling Exhibit from Aspen Art Museum)

Every Day through August 31, 2022

Free -- 11:00 AM - 11:59 PM



Maren Hassinger, Garden, 2020.
Wire rope and concrete (144 units), 61.5" tall
© Maren Hassinger.
Photo by Simon Klein
Courtesy Aspen Art Museum.

At the Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center
(11 NW 11, OKC):

John Newsom: Nature's Course

Every week through Aug 15
Free -- 11 AM - 6 PM (Thursdays: 11 AM - 6 PM)

"Focusing on the artist's body of work over the last 20 years, John Newsom: Nature's Course presents large-scale, richly textured, oil on canvas paintings of flora and fauna. The exhibition will include the brand-new, 9 x 18 foot Nature's Course and Homecoming, another new painting referencing Oklahoma. Newsom's work layers and combines elements of Abstract Expressionism, minimalist geometric shapes and hyperrealistic representations of animals to create complex allegories of the natural world. The mid-career retrospective of the Oklahoma-raised and New York-based artist runs March 24 to Aug. 15. Image: John Newsom, Love Flies In, 2005. Photo courtesy of the artist."



* * * *

info@okcomtemp.org, <http://www.okcontemp.org>.

"Rendering the metal malleable, Hassinger references the movement of reeds, grass and the wind itself. In particular, the dance of shadows cast on the ground by the curved lines of Paradise Regained will track the movement of time through the course of the day and over the year that it will be installed at Oklahoma Contemporary. The accessibility of the Sculpture Garden to visitors entering the building provides a space for what Hassinger underscores as "our tenuous relationship to nature," connecting each viewer to what might be fragile or responsive in the interdependent nature of our ecosystem."

Spring BioBlitz! OK 2022
Friday, April 22 - Friday, April 29
Click [here!](#)



OKLAHOMA COUNTY
EXTENSION

EARTH KIND EARTH DAY



ONLINE REGISTRATION
LUNCH IS INCLUDED

WILL ROGERS GARDENS
3800 NW 36TH ST., OKC, OK 73112

APRIL 16TH, 2022

WORKSHOP 9AM - 12PM

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES 12PM - 2 PM



Gardening is tough. Natural or organic gardening is even tougher, but we can help you be successful. Join us for our annual "Earth Kind, Earth Day" workshop at Will Rogers Gardens on Saturday, April 16th, 2022, for the workshop and fun outdoor activities that we have planned. The workshop costs \$10, is from 9am until 12:30 pm, and includes lunch from Kam's Kookery. Our outdoor activities and giveaways are from 1pm until 2 pm.

This year we will feature how to create a garden to attract pollinators such as Monarchs and other butterflies, and we will give you the tools so you can create your own earth friendly landscape and garden. Registration is limited and will close on April 13th at noon, so don't delay!

(405) 713-1125, ladonna.hines@okstate.edu, <http://oces.okstate.edu/oklahoma>



Earth Day with NASA

Live Day April 22

Open On-Demand through May 2, 2022

NASA'S VIRTUAL EARTH DAY EVENT HOW TO GUIDE

REGISTER AT go.nasa.gov/EarthDayEvent2022

- ❖ Live Talks
- ❖ Live Kahoot Games
- ❖ Chat with Scientists
- ❖ Fun Zone, Learning Zone



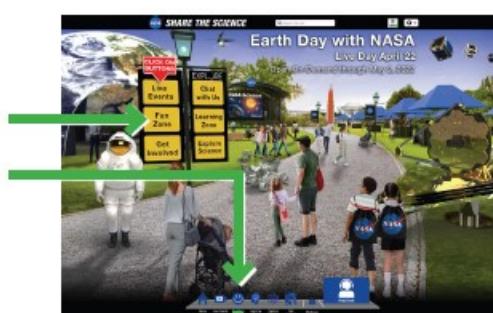
NEED HELP GETTING STARTED?

From the MAIN LOBBY you can navigate to 5 different rooms as well as the NASA HELP DESK



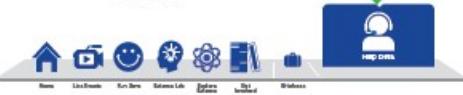
MAIN LOBBY

To enter rooms click buttons on the main screen, or on the navigation bar.



NAVIGATION BAR

Don't miss the rotating promo buttons!



EXPLORE ROOMS

Click on a button of choice within a room and have fun exploring NASA Science!



VIEW CONTENT!





Earth Day Celebration

Tulsa Arts District April 22-23, 2022

*Environmental Speakers,
Music & Arts, healthy
cuisine, community booths,
more...*

"Artists, musicians and environmentalists all come together for the annual Tulsa Earth Day Celebration. At this fun-filled event, festival-goers can take a walk through an Earth Day-themed art show, listen to live music and browse through handmade crafts by talented artisans. The event will include a host of nationally-prominent environmental speakers and educational booths and demos to teach about ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. Family activities will take place in the Kids Zone, and area food trucks will offer plenty of delicious options for a quick and convenient bite to eat."

For more information
call:
918-284-0728
OR
918-592-3382



"WING-IT (Wildlife In Need Group – In Tulsa) is a part of the Tulsa Audubon Society dedicated to the rehabilitation of orphaned, sick, injured or otherwise displaced wildlife with the ultimate goal of releasing them back into the wild. The organization allows rehabbers to assist and support each other in the demanding commitment of rehabilitating wildlife. It also provides a basis for educating the public regarding assisting wildlife in need and recruiting additional volunteers to work as licensed rehabilitators."

Be sure to [like them on WING-IT's Facebook page](#) to follow the latest news and events and visit their website www.wingintulsa.org for more info.



NORMAN EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

- Date(s): Sunday April 24th, 2022
- Time: Noon to 5 p.m.
- Location with address: Andrews Park
201 West Daws Street., Norman, OK 73069
- Don't miss this opportunity to engage in hands-on activity, exhibits, demonstrations. Learn to respect and protect our earth's air, water, soil, forests, wildlife and all natural resources. Learn about the wonder and beauty of nature, the value of a healthy community, a backyard wildlife habitat, art from recycled objects, cultural diversity and respect for one another ... the list goes on and on! Oklahoma Blue Thumb will have a booth at the event.
- Contact: Michele.Loudenback@normanok.gov
405-292-9731
- This is a free event; no admission charge.

Not an Endorsement , but ...

"Currently, we are new and still growing day by day with the hope that one-day earth reminder will be your one-stop destination when it comes to environment-related information."



Earth Reminder

VISION: To Raise Awareness among people about everything bad happening to the earth and what we can do as a common man to save the earth.

MISSION: To give people the best articles that will be directly or indirectly related to the earth and discuss the possibilities to save natural resources.



Editor's Note:
Please be aware we cannot find any indication that this website is non-profit or not-for-profit.

SPOIL YOUR SOIL

May 14, 2022
9:00 AM -- 4:00 PM
The Red Barn
35210 Choctaw, Road
Waynoka, OK



Lunch Provided. **\$50/person**

Learn How to:

Build a Johnson-Su Bio-reactor

An excellent method to make compost

Create Biochar

Makes High Carbon Content to improve soil.

Spread Worm-casting slurry

Known to increase the Brix level in the plants substantially.

Read Brix with a Refractometer

Brix scores improve soil, increases available energy and mineral content of the plants

Perform Water Infiltration Test

Shows the importance of soil health

Watch a Yeoman's plow in action

Lifts the soil from underneath and protects the soil microbes, fungi and good bacteria

Contact Juli Barker for questions and registration

Text or call (405) 833-7919

bowenjulianne@gmail.com

Venmo, Paypal and Pay at the Gate are available

or mail name, contact info, and check to:
1127 Church Street Waynoka OK 73860

Answer to Quiz! Quiz! Quiz!: 'Corpse Flower'

To read the News 4 article "Oklahomans wait in long lines to see rare and smelly 'Corpse Flower' bloom," click [here](#).

This flower only blooms once in 10 years. Crystal (the Myriad Botanical Gardens has named this one) began as a seedling 8.5 years ago.



The Met
The Metropolitan
Environmental Trust



The Friends of The M.e.t. and ONEOK
presents

The 2022 Enviro Expo will be **April 20th**
from **11:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.** on the
Guthrie Green. 111 E Reconcil-
iation Way, Tulsa, OK 74103.

There will be giveaways, live music by Randy Brumley, and Food Trucks. Plus, a chance to win a two-night stay at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Tulsa. There will also be a chance to test drive a new model Electric Vehicle. Join us to learn more about the M.e.t. and many other environmental groups April 20th!



"Created in 2020, the Lake Thunderbird Watershed Alliance is a coalition of local governments and stakeholders within the Lake Thunderbird watershed. The Alliance seeks to promote environmentally sustainable practices within the watershed through education, collaboration, and community involvement."

Lake Thunderbird Watershed Alliance

The quote from the website continues:

"This page is intended to serve as a virtual Public Meeting to contribute in the development of an Integrated Watershed Management Plan and Public Education and Outreach Materials to be distributed by the Alliance. We want to hear from YOU - our valued stakeholder within the watershed! As such, please feel free to browse through the content on this page, leave a comment on the interactive map, and complete the survey ... [click on the URL above]. Thank you for your interest in a healthy Lake Thunderbird watershed!"

Great American Cleanup 2022

The Keep America Beautiful®

Great American Cleanup®
has been scheduled for

March 21 - June 22

in communities throughout the country.



Keep Pride In McAlester
McAlester Beautiful
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

McAlester, Oklahoma, is taking part. "Beginning this [April 9th] until April 27th on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sundays from noon until 3 p.m. bulk trash, metal, tires and

electronics will be accepted at the former National Guard Armory, located on the corner of 3rd Street and Taylor Avenue."

"The PIM organization is a nonprofit group organized to "clean up and keep up the McAlester community for the enjoyment of residents and visitors." quoted by Pride in McAlester.

"For more information on the clean up or to volunteer call 918-426-4444 or visit www.prideinmcalester.com."

A N D

Norman

is getting into the swing of things:

Northeast Lions Park, 11800 Northcliff Avenue

April 9th, 10 AM - 12 PM

Meet at the shelter. "Join us as we remove trash from this park located in the Lake Thunderbird watershed.

* * * *

Prairie Creek Park, 2025 Pendleton Drive

April 16th, 10AM - 12 PM

Meet at the shelter. "Join us as we remove trash from this park located in the Canadian River watershed. Also, volunteers will help with pollinator/rain garden planting and concrete painting!"

* * * *

Lake Thunderbird State Park , 13101 Alameda Drive

May 7th, 10 AM - 12 PM

Meet at Park Office. "Join us as we remove trash from the State Park which is located withing the Lake Thunderbird watershed."



SATURDAY, MAY 7 | 9AM-4PM

MYRIAD BOTANICAL GARDENS

Gardeners, cooking enthusiast, home decorators and other plant lovers are invited to the Myriad Botanical Gardens' annual Oklahoma City Flower & Garden Festival 9am-4pm May 9.

The event, which is free to the public, features flowers, herbs, succulents, jewelry, art, crafts and other garden-related items sure to brighten anyone's home.

Vendors will be arranged along S. Hudson Avenue between W. Reno and Sheridan Avenues. Ample parking is available throughout downtown Oklahoma City.

THEY HAVE 50 VENDORS!

Make plans, get your wagon ready, get the list of vendors! <https://bit.ly/37e6hVx>



OKLAHOMA CITY



What: Blue Thumb Volunteer Training

When: Saturday, June 11 - Sunday, June 12, 2022

Where: 2800 N Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City

Registration: \$25, www.bluethumbok.com

Stream Protection Through Education

Give Oklahoma's Water a Hand, Volunteer Today!

www.bluethumbok.com

Project WILD®



July 23, 2022
Growing Up WILD
UCO Boathouse at Arcadia Lake
Edmond
9 am to 3 pm



July 24, 2022
Project WILD
UCO Boathouse at Arcadia Lake
Edmond
9 am to 3 pm

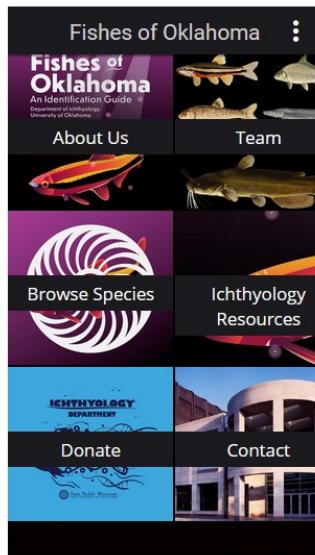
General Workshop Information

- You must pre-register for all workshops. See contact information below.**
- The workshop fee is **\$20 per person**.
- Workshops are designed to be interactive and hands-on. Please be prepared to participate in the activities.
- An* after the time indicates a working lunch, where participants bring lunch and work on assignments as they eat. You will need to bring a sack lunch as you will not have time to go out and get lunch.
- Dress casually, comfortably and appropriately for the outdoors. Some activities may be conducted outdoors, even if it is hot, cold or wet.
- Workshops involve moderate physical activity. Special arrangements can be made for persons with disabilities. Please call (405) 990-1292 two weeks in advance if special arrangements need to be made.
- Participants in college credit workshops must also pay for the college credit in addition to the workshop fee. Contact the university or college listed for costs on credit classes.

If there isn't a workshop scheduled near you, check back at a later date or schedule a workshop for your area.

Contact Lisa Anderson: email okprojectwild@uco.edu to register.
7100 East 2nd Street, Edmond, OK
Turn south at Midwest Boulevard
and drive all the way to end of the road
near the shore of Lake Arcadia.

The Fishes of Oklahoma app ...



is now available for download in the Apple and Android stores!

Download our ichthyology department's new app, Fishes of Oklahoma, to have information about fishes across the state at your fingertips.

The app currently has photos and information such as scientific and common names, ecology

and distribution on 183 fishes. Use the app to aid in challenging fish identification and share information about your catches to help grow the database!

Check out the new webpage!

<https://okbiodiversity.org/>

BioBlitz! OK 2022

Celebrating Oklahoma's Biodiversity All Year Round!

"As you know, BioBlitz! OK 2022 is going to have four seasonal inventories: winter, spring, summer, and autumn. We will recognize the effort of our dedicated and ambitious BioBlitzers who contribute to every seasonal inventory. The **BioBlitz! OK Superior or Community Scientist Award** will be given to all BioBlitzers who submit at least 20 different research grade species observations in iNaturalist and an eBird checklist of at least 10 species during each seasonal inventory. Everyone that completes this challenge will be given a certificate, invited to a special celebration, and be entered into a drawing for a gift basket of made in Oklahoma items.

Winter Inventory - January 28 - February 4
Spring Inventory - April 22 - April 29
Summer Inventory - June 17 - June 24
Autumn/Fall Inventory - TBA



Virtual BIRDING CALENDAR

Looking for a Virtual Birding Meeting/Event? Ron Huebner is maintaining this calendar of free virtual birding events nationwide, offered by bird clubs, Audubon societies, nature centers, etc. The calendar can be viewed on the TAS website at www.tulsaaudubon.org/virtual



Some upcoming events:

Saturday Morning Birders

April 9th -- 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

May 14 -- 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Anyone who would like to bird with us (whatever your skill level!) is welcome. Meet at the monument at Lake Yahola at 8:00 a.m. in Mohawk Park, 3730 Mohawk Blvd (just north of the water plant). For more information contact leader Terry Mitchell at 918-697-3198

<https://www.tulsaaudubon.org/calendar>



In-Person Meeting - Research on Bird Collisions with Windows with Dr. Scott Loss

"Dr. Loss studies multiple aspects of global change ecology and management. Global change consists of climate change as well as other large-scale human-related impacts on the environment. His presentation will focus on bird collisions with buildings and energy infrastructure."

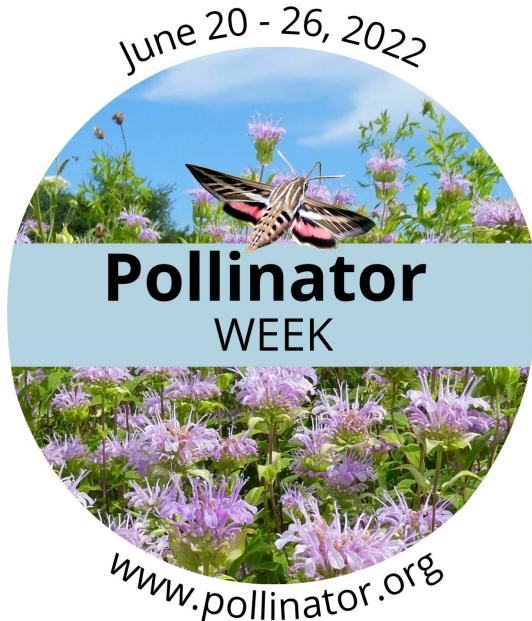
"Please note this is an in-person meeting at the Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S Peoria Ave in Tulsa. We will meet for social time at 7:00 pm, but we will not be serving refreshments (though you may BYOB!). The program begins at 7:30 pm. We will have spaced out seating and do **request everyone wear a mask.**"

"Our meetings are free and open to the public."

POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP

Protect their lives. Preserve ours.

We are excited to announce that Pollinator Week 2022 will take place from June 20th - 26th, 2022! Check out the new official logo featuring beautiful bee balm flowers and the energetic white-lined sphinx moth!



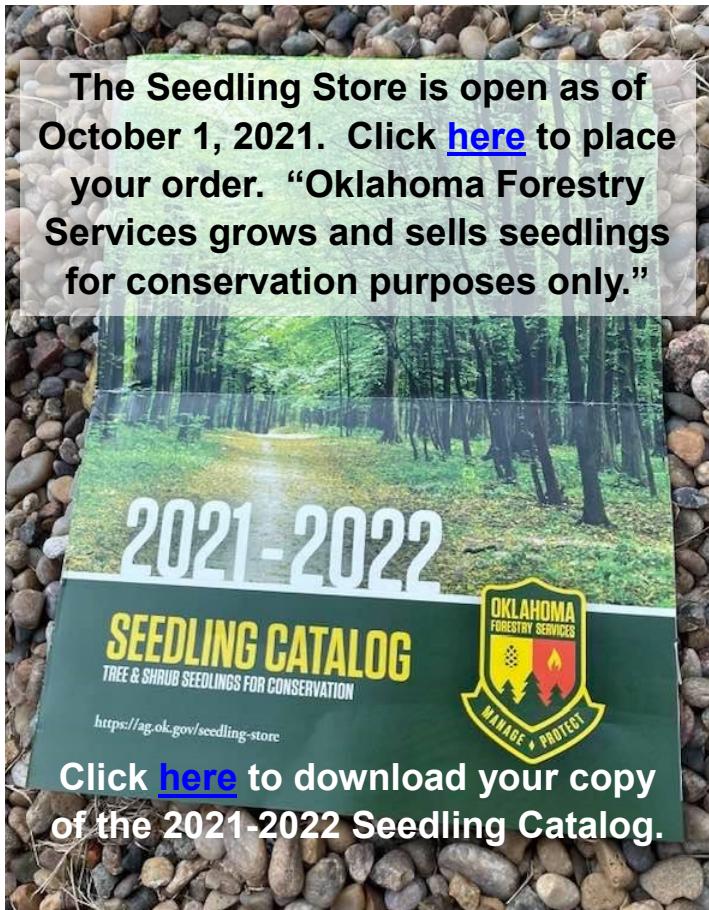
At first glance, these fast flying moths can sometimes be mistaken for hummingbirds because of their lightning fast wings and quick flight behavior. White-lined sphinx moths have incredible flying abilities and are capable of hovering over flowers while extending their long proboscis to feed on nectar.



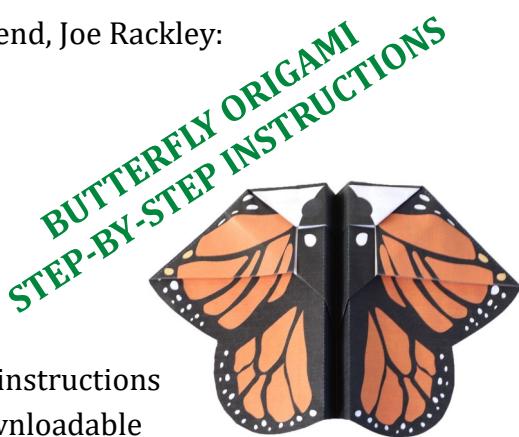
from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Moths are often underappreciated in comparison to other insects, but are so important with many species being key pollinators of native plants as well as a crucial food source that birds and other animals depend on for survival.

Save the date for Pollinator Week next year and join us as we celebrate pollinators, raise awareness for their conservation and health, and work together to protect them. We're looking forward to next year's celebrations and continuing to shine a spotlight on the vital role pollinators play in our ecosystems!



From our friend, Joe Rackley:



For the instructions and downloadable PDF, click [here](#).

Editor's Note: As far as we can tell this is a for-profit company, but they have some free, downloadable activities. They conduct workshops and sell kits in the upstate New York area. The Environment Mentor will keep them on our radar and keep you informed.

Team up with coworkers, friends, family, and civic groups to keep our city clean!

LitterBlitz

Organize a team, pick a day, and we'll provide the supplies and help coordinate! Register at okcbeautiful.com/programs/litterblitz or contact natalie@okcbeautiful.com.

LitterBlitz provides the opportunity to give back and connect with friends, neighbors, and coworkers as well as the environment in a safe and easy way. LitterBlitz teams clean up one site, one time, during the April LitterBlitz campaign. Each team selects the location and the day to hold your cleanup. If you don't have a place in mind, OKC Beautiful helps identify a location in need of a cleanup. Trash bags, gloves, and safety tips are provided to teams.

To register a LitterBlitz group, visit www.okcbeautiful.com/programs/litterblitz or email natalie@okcbeautiful.com.

Every day through April 20 12PM-5PM

HOW TO MAKE AN
ASIAN LONGHORNED
BEETLE (ALB) ORIGAMI GLIDER



"The Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) is an invasive insect pest from Asia that is destroying trees at an alarming rate in the United States. In real life, they're pests that need to be stopped from taking over our ecosystems. But they make great origami gliders that kids and their parents can enjoy!"

For instructions and downloadable PDF, click [here](#).



April 6, 2022

If you're learning, you're winning!

Since 2013

CHAMPIONSHIP: Orca vs. Lionesses

To read the final article for this year's March Mammal Madness, click [here](#).

We are in the process of combining ALL the Read All About It pdfs from the 2022 tournament, and some other materials, into a #2022MMM Booklet. This will be a freely available Open Educational Resource so you can continue to revisit the facts and fun. This will be posted at the Lib-Guide and in the [March Mammal Madness KEEP Collection](#) at the ASU Library.

If you have enjoyed March Mammal Madness, as you await next year's tournament, please search into conservation efforts in your local community and get involved- each of us helping a small amount improves our world! Until next year remember- from all of us at March Mammal Madness- if you're learning, you're winning!

2022 IVSS Focuses on “Engineering Solutions for a Changing Climate”

A graphic with the text "We Are All Engineers." in large white letters on a blue background. Below it, a green bar contains the text "Engineering is about making a difference in the world." followed by two bullet points: "→ Develop tools and technology to better understand the Earth." and "→ Develop practical innovations to solve problems and help people." The background has faint engineering-related drawings like gears and blueprints.

The 2022 International Virtual Science Symposium (IVSS) is focusing on “Engineering Solutions for a Changing Climate.” Students are encouraged to think creatively about solving environmental issues through engineering-minded solutions concerning climate change; and are encouraged to present their research in creative ways, such as through storytelling tools (including video, online media, storyboards, drawings, and more).

There are many different ways to think about engineering. Engineers are problem solvers; they help improve our world through invention and design. There are many classic engineering specialties: mechanical (designing and developing power-producing machines), civil (designing and developing infrastructure), chemical (developing and designing chemical manufacturing processes), and computer (designing and developing computer systems and technological devices). Engineers can also be biologists, ecologists, artists, and environmental scientists.

Important 2022 IVSS Dates to Keep in Mind:

Informational Webinar: 06 October 2021 (To view the recording, [click here](#).)

Projects Accepted: 01 January through 11 March 2022

Project Due Date: 11 March 2022

Judging Webinar: 30 March, 10:00 a.m. MT (To join, [click here](#); passcode: 2022IVSS)

Judging Period: 30 March through 06 April 2022

Feedback and Virtual Badges Shared: 22 April 2022

Drawing for Stipends: 22 April 2022

For more information on the 2022 IVSS, including resources for students and teachers, [click here](#)

Eagle Watch Cancelled



Unfortunately, Eagle Watch this year is cancelled at the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge due to low eagle numbers. One potential reason for low eagle numbers is the mild winter.

More ducks are staying north and eagles like many predators follow their prey.

The best time to view eagles is in the winter at Jet Recreation Nature Trail or Cottonwood Point.

Directions to Cottonwood Point: go south on State Highway 38 towards Nescatunga and stop at the boat ramp on the first curve.

For Selenite Crystals

"April 1 through October 15 the crystal digging area at the Salt Plains Wildlife Refuge will be open for visitors. It is open daily, from sunrise to sunset, and it is free. Bring the family out to the refuge and harvest your own selenite crystals (the state crystal of Oklahoma) and create memories that will last a lifetime. Address to the digging area gate is: 66003 Garvin Road, Cherokee, OK"



from State Symbols USA

Introducing NEW Experience Passes!

from The Metropolitan Library



System

"Metro Library customers now have the opportunity to experience the

Oklahoma City metro area in a new way using their Metro Library account. Customers can visit a local library to check out an Experience Pass to one of three museum experiences including Oklahoma City Museum of Art (OKCMOA), the Oklahoma History Center and Skeletons: Museum of Osteology.

Each library has one experience pass for each of the three locations available to loan for up to seven days. Only one pass per family at a time can be checked out. Each pass includes the following:

Oklahoma Museum of Art
Oklahoma History Center
Skeletons: Museum of Osteology

Become a member!

There is always
a lot going on.



www.oknativeplants.org/

Doug Tallamy, native gardening author, will be rescheduled for later in the year.

For updates on the rescheduling of these events please watch the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, The Tulsa Audubon Society and WildCare Oklahoma websites and Facebook pages.

Until then check out the video of him speaking about this new book

"Nature's Best Hope."

The video is on You Tube.



Northeast Chapter:

Fabulous Wildflower Fridays

at Panera Bread, 41st Street, Tulsa, 5:30 PM

April 15

May 20

Chapter Meeting

at the Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa

At our May 2nd Chapter meeting our program

will feature Lynn Michael sharing photos

of native plants from the spring field trips

and the WOW weekend.

Central Chapter:

In-person and Live Streaming Program

Beginning with the March meeting, the venue will

change to Oklahoma City University

Dawson-Loeffler Math and Science Building

Room 208

Parking behind building next to Freede

April 7, 6:30 for gathering, 7:00 PM for meeting

May 5, 6:30 for gathering, 7:00 PM for meeting

Dr. Adam Ryburn, Professor, and Chair of Biology at Oklahoma City University will give a presentation/workshop on **Basic Plant Identification**. He will teach introductory skills for identifying plants, for when folks decide to venture out on field trips in the future. Doors open at 6:30 for socializing and seed swap (if you've got 'em); the presentation begins at 7:00. For those that can't attend in person, this meeting will also be live-streamed.



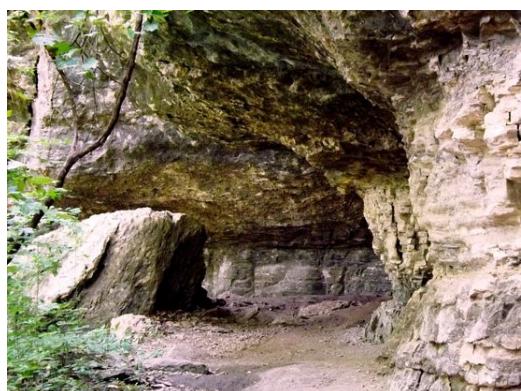
Oklahoma Native Plant Society Wonders of Wildflowers

April 29-May 1, 2022

Riverbend Arena and Event Center, Inola, OK

Please [register](#) as early as possible but no later than April 15, 2022!
Questions: Contact Mary Korthase at mkorthase@sbcglobal.net or (918) 743-2743

This year's location is new and we are excited to be invited to Riverbend Arena's 200+ acres between Inola and Catoosa. Activities will be field trips to the Redbud Valley Nature Preserve with privileged access, on- site workshops in the Arena Event Center, as well as presentations on lichens, and wildcrafting and foraging. Learn how to identify lichens on trees and rocks. Learn how to make a tea or salve from plants you've collected in the field.



Friday, April 29th	
6:30-7:30 PM	Dinner on your own Registration and Social Time
7:00-8:30 PM	Program by our event location host Stephanie Lewis with Riverbend
Saturday, April 30th	
8:30-9:00 AM	Registration
9:00-10:00 AM	Welcome
10:00-12:00 AM	Redbud Valley Nature Preserve guided tour off-trail to the mitigation acreage, a buffer zone between the preserve and the quarry. Optional work project to help ready Redbud to reopen.
10:00-12:00 AM	Explore the trails at Riverbend with other botanists.
10:00-12:00 AM	Lichens with Sheila Strawn at the Event Center
12:00-2:00 PM	Box Lunch
2:00 – 4:00 PM	Wildcrafting and Foraging with Ashley Clouse at the Event Center
2:00 – 4:00 PM	Redbud Valley Nature Preserve guided tour off-trail. Optional work project to help ready Redbud to reopen.
2:00 – 4:00 PM	Explore the trails at Riverbend with other botanists.
4:00 – 6:00 PM	Free time to explore the grounds at Riverbend
6:00 PM	Dinner - to be determined or on your own
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Program by Donna Horton - Gardening for Butterflies
Sunday, May 1st	
9:00 AM	ONPS Board Meeting



Oklahoma Native Plant Society Spring Field Trips

Field trips are listed for
every Saturday in April 2022.

The last Saturday of April will be the
awesome Wonders of Wildflowers weekend.

Meet at Park Office or Nature Centers



Email Lynn Michael at zebraweeds@sbcglobal.net
to register, get directions or additional info,
and to make suggestions.



from *Nasrudin Stories*

Dilution

One day when Nasrudin Hodja answered a knock at his door, there stood his old friend Hassan from the next village! Even better, Hassan had brought a nice plump duck. "For you, my friend," said Hassan. "I raised it myself!"

"Wonderful! My wife will roast it. We will have a feast. Come in, come in."

Nasrudin's wife was an excellent cook. Soon beautiful smells filled the house. They sat for a long time over dinner eating duck with rice and vegetables, and telling stories.

After Hassan had left, Nasrudin was happy to see that they had enough leftovers for another good meal.

The next afternoon, Nasrudin's wife made a tasty pilaf from the leftover duck meat with the leftover rice and vegetables. They were about to sit down to their dinner when another knock came at the door.

There stood a man whom Nasrudin recognized, though he could not recall the name. "Good day," said the man. "I am the neighbor of your friend Hassan from the next village, who brought you the duck." This man's hands were empty.

Nasrudin realized that they had met months ago. And he knew the rules of hospitality. "A friend of Hassan's is a friend of mine. Come in and join us. We were just about to have supper."

So they ate the tasty pilaf, but they didn't have much in common to talk about, and Hassan's neighbor left right after they finished eating.

Nasrudin's wife saw that they still had the bones of the duck, and some vegetables. "These will make a good soup for tomorrow."

Next day, she simmered the duck bones with herbs and more vegetables. She was indeed a good cook. The soup smelled wonderful! Nasrudin was looking forward to it when –

There was a knock at the door. Nasrudin reluctantly opened it to a man who looked only vaguely familiar. "I am a friend of the friend of Hassan, who brought you the duck." The man sniffed the air appreciatively. His hands were empty.

But Nasrudin knew the rules of hospitality. He sighed. "Come in then, and eat with us."

This man enjoyed the duck soup so much that only a few bones and shreds of carrot remained.

The next day, another stranger came to the door empty-handed. "I am a friend of the friend of your friend Hassan, who brought you the duck!" He sniffed hopefully, but there was no smell of cooking. Nasrudin sighed and invited him in. "Be seated," he said, "I was about to prepare supper."

He went into the kitchen and spooned bits of many-times-cooked carrot into two bowls. He filled the bowls with hot water from the kettle, and brought them to the table with two spoons.

"What is this?" asked the guest.

"For you – the friend of a friend of a friend of Hassan – I serve the soup of the soup of the soup of the duck. Enjoy."

But the stranger soon left, and no more visitors came from the next town.

From The Earthteller,

Fran Stallings

(Continued on Page 19)

(Continued from Page 18)

Hassan's roasted duck was full of flavor and nutrition the first night, but every time Nasrudin and his wife had to stretch the leftovers by adding less nutritious ingredients (rice, water) each portion provided less protein, minerals, and vitamins as well as less flavor.

When plants grow unusually fast, they can build a lot of tissue out of carbohydrates, cellulose, and water but they are not laying down as much protein, minerals, or vitamins as in normal growth. Animals who depend on such plants can experience what scientists call "nutrient dilution." They may fill their bellies, as Nasrudin and his guests did on rice and broth, but will not thrive.

Climate change skeptics point out the carbon dioxide (CO₂) is essential to photosynthesis. Plants trap the sun's energy by converting CO₂ and water into sugars from which they make starch, cellulose (wood), protein, and other cell biochemicals. Increased CO₂ in the atmosphere ("CO₂ fertilization") will feed plants and make them grow bigger/faster, right? What's wrong with that?



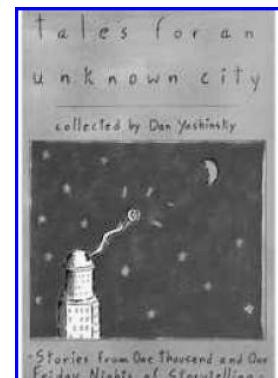
from Vox.com

The problem is that plants also require Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, and trace minerals (Calcium, Magnesium, etc). When scientists enrich a plant's environment with extra CO₂ but do not provide other increased minerals, they find that many crop plants (wheat, rice, peas, soybeans) and wild prairie plants can indeed grow bigger/faster – but the nutrient value of the resulting grain or hay is significantly lower than in control plants. This "Nutrient Dilution" can have bad effects on the health of animals that depend on these plants.

Scientists studying 20 years of grasshopper populations on the Kansa prairie in Kansas found that 5-year fluctuations in climate combined with long-term CO₂ increases to reduce the capacity of this tall grass prairie to support a dominant herbivore. Scientists studying artificial "CO₂ fertilization" of fruits and vegetables measured declines of 5-40% in mineral content. Some experiments also found increased susceptibility to insect attack in the fast-growing plants.

The climate change skeptics are right: CO₂ indeed acts like a fertilizer for plants! But the force-fed plants are not as nutritious for animals or humans. They are "the soup of the soup of the soup" compared to plants that grow at normal rates.

Folktale: "Soup of the Soup" – a Sufi tale
<https://www.learningtogive.org/resources/soup-soup>



Nutrient dilution facts:

To read the State Impact article, "A world of wounds': Decline in grasshopper populations offers window into consequences of climate change." by Beth Wallis, click [here](#).

To read the original research report, "Nutrient dilution and climate cycles underlie declines in a dominant insect herbivore," click [here](#).

To read the article, "High CO₂ Makes Crops Less Nutritious" by Eli Kintisch, click [here](#).

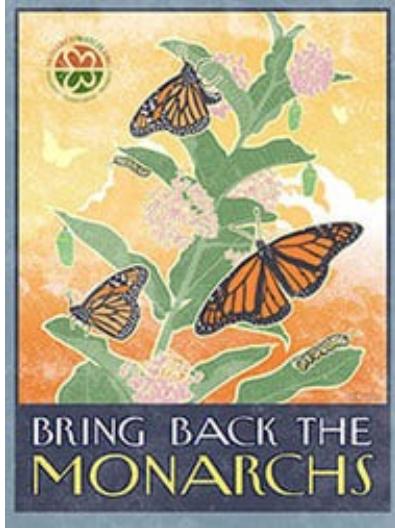
Certified Oklahoma BioDiversity Steward

An educational and outreach project of the Oklahoma Biological Survey.

Oklahoma BioDiversity Steward Program is a science-based education and conservation program that includes hands-on learning, volunteer, and services

For more information and to signup, click [here](#).





Free Milkweeds for Schools & Non-Profits

Monarchs and pollinators need our help due to habitat loss.

If your school or non-profit educational organization is interested in this conservation measure, we can help you create a habitat for monarchs and pollinators.

Please apply using this form: <http://monarchwatch.org/application-free-milkweed...>

A link to a sample form is provided below to allow you to gather all materials prior to completing the application.

Who will be considered for free milkweeds?

Applicants that demonstrate the following will be given higher rankings:

- ◆ Schools and Educational Non-Profits will be given highest priority
- ◆ Educational goals of garden clearly described
- ◆ A clear, long-term maintenance plan for the garden space
- ◆ Adequate space (>100 square feet) and light (>6 hrs per day)
- ◆ Spring/Summer/Fall nectar sources existing or to be added in addition to milkweed
- ◆ Administrative support
 - Demonstrate in writing that landscape crews will not pull the plants or re-purpose the space in the foreseeable future
- ◆ You will commit to sending an evaluation of the garden success and spring/summer/fall photos of the planting and maintenance of the garden
 - We will send a survey in the Fall for photo submissions and garden evaluations
- ◆ All application materials must be complete prior to review by Monarch Watch

Once you have applied, save the confirmation email that you receive. If you do not receive a confirmation, your form was not submitted! Answer all questions to the best of your ability.

Your application progress cannot be saved mid-way through, so we have created a sample form with the questions for your review, which can be found here: monarchwatch.org/a/sample-free-milkweed-form.pdf. If you have all of the materials ready when you sit down to apply, the application will not take as long (some materials may take a few days or more to collect).

Questions? Email Angie Babbit at monarch@ku.edu.

Thank you for your interest in restoring habitat for monarchs and pollinators!

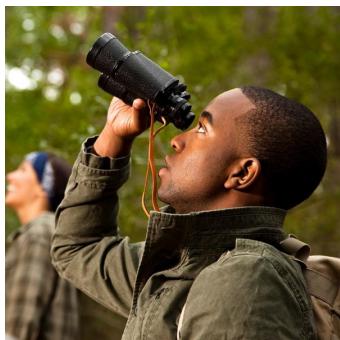
If your organization qualifies, we will provide a free flat of 32 milkweed plugs as well as guidance on how to create a new habitat or enhance an existing garden. The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) has provided funds for this project.

Clear, digital photos, maps of the garden and a letter of support are required for consideration. You will be prompted to upload these documents.

Applications will be reviewed in the order that they are received.



Use This Free, Handy Guide To Help You Get The Most Out Of Your Binoculars!



As you probably already know, binoculars are the most important tool for watching birds. But no one is born knowing how to use them. This **free** PDF guide will help you understand

the basics of how to fit, adjust, and use binoculars to look at birds, and even answer some common issues as well.

To download, click [here](#). They will ask you for your name and an email address.

From the US Fish and Wildlife Service:

THE FEATHER ATLAS FLIGHT FEATHERS OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS

"Have you ever found a feather along the trail and wished you knew who left it? Try the Feather Atlas! You can use the Identify My Feather tool to enter the characteristics of your found feather and the Atlas gives you options. <http://ow.ly/jBq250GQ2k2>

If you find feathers in nature, please appreciate, study, photograph them, and leave them where you found them. Under federal law, it is illegal to take them home. <http://ow.ly/9pch50GQ2zk>"



Photo: Pepper Trail/USFWS

This info came from The Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge.
Thank you!

3-D Thursdays for Rural Educators



3-D THURSDAYS FOR RURAL EDUCATORS



A monthly webinar series that enhances rural teachers' access to NASA resources, networking, and professional development opportunities.

Join Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator hosts Rachael Arens and Michael Guarraia at NASA's Science Mission Directorate the first Thursday of each month from 7-8 pm CT as they present a webinar series for rural educators across the nation. The webinars highlight NASA's assets and connect rural educators to resources, networking, and further professional development opportunities.

For more information, please contact [Rachael Arens](#).

The graphic features the National Storytelling Network logo (NSN) in the top left corner. The main title "Earth Up" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, the subtitle "STORIES AND SCIENCE" and "Eco-Justice, Action, & Hope" are displayed. The date "April 8-10, 2022" is also included. A hand holding a microphone is visible on the left side. At the bottom right, there is a call-to-action: "Learn more at Storynet.org/Earth-Up".

National Storytelling Network will bring together a virtual international group of artists, scientists, teachers, students, and activists to explore the use of story in addressing the climate crisis and issues of environmental justice. Often when facts do not succeed, stories can align the listener with a human experience and allow for new understandings.

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation



Submit your Birdy photos [here!](#)

This slam is all about Oklahoma's incredible native bird community. Complete the slam by submitting photos of at least one Neotropical songbird (a bird that nests in Oklahoma but does not winter in our state; like barn swallows, or scissor-tailed flycatchers), one Oklahoma resident bird, one wetland obligate bird, and at least one bird nerd in action. This slam has an optional bonus shot: a photo of a bird that only migrates through Oklahoma.



Submit your Explorer photos [here!](#)

This slam features naturalists enjoying Outdoor Oklahoma. Complete the slam by submitting photos of at least one naturalist actively watching wildlife, building habitat for wildlife (examples: bird house, toad hole, native pollinator garden, brush pile, etc.), exploring a Wildlife Management Area, and a photo that helps reflect the diversity of Oklahoma's naturalist community. This slam has an optional bonus shot: a photo of at least one naturalist sharing Outdoor Oklahoma with someone new to the outdoors.

Shutter Slams

Are you feeling birdy? - Or are you more of a budding naturalist? Take the ODWC Shutter Slam Challenge and get a limited edition all-weather sticker! Amateur and professional work is accepted, and all entries will receive a sticker from their respective Slam. Take the challenge and start your Shutter Slam sticker collection today! Submissions for 2022 are now being accepted. <http://ow.ly/wQK350FCwr4>



Submit your Herptile photos [here!](#)

This slam features Oklahoma's native amphibians and reptiles. Complete the slam by submitting photos of at least one snake, one turtle, one frog, and one lizard. This slam has an optional bonus shot: a photo of a juvenile Oklahoma native herptile. (If animal is handled to get the shot, a valid hunting or fishing license is required, unless exempt. Species with a closed season may not be handled to get the shot.)



Submit your Naturalist photos [here!](#)

This slam is for photographers 16 and under! Complete the slam by submitting three photos of native Oklahoma animals and two photos of native landscapes or plants. This slam has an optional bonus shot: a person (or people) in nature.



Upcoming Events Hackberry Flat Center—2022

Jan. 8	Duck! Duck! Goose! & Hawks! Tour	1pm-3:30 pm
Feb. 5	In Search of Chicken Hawks & Hoot Owls Tour	1– 4pm
April 15	Bird Migration Tour	6 pm – 8 pm
April 16	Bird Migration Tours	8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm
April 22	Bird Migration Tour	6pm - 8 pm
April 23	Bird Migration Tours	8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm
April 29	Bird Migration Tours	6pm –8pm
April 30	Bird Migration Tours	8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm
May 6	Bird Migration Tour	6pm - 8 pm
May 7	Bird Migration Tours	8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm
June 4	Breeding Bird Tour	6am – 10am
June 7-10	The Mystery at the Wetland Day Camp	(Tillman County Students)
Sept. 10	Bats of Oklahoma Traveling Exhibit	2pm- 4pm
	Wetland At Night Tour	7pm – 10 pm
	Full Moon Walking Tour	10:30 pm—12:30am
October	Monarch Watch	TBD



Tours require reservations. Due to length of tours & provided transportation, children must be at least 8 years old.

For more information go to: www.wildlifedepartment.com;

Friends of Hackberry Flat Facebook

To make a reservation: melynda.hickman@odwc.ok.gov



On February 23, 2013 The EnvironMentor dipped a toe into social media. We made this decision because, at this time, there are two to three months between issues of the Newsletter. During this past gap an important event had an application deadline of April 1st so an announcement went out from Facebook. We won't bother you with anything trivial, so ...

“Like” The Environmentor on Facebook!!



QUIList Oklahoma

Leopold Education Project

[http://www.aldoleopold.org/Programs/
lep.shtml](http://www.aldoleopold.org/Programs/lep.shtml)

Type in Oklahoma

Oklahoma Blue Thumb

<http://bluethumbok.com/>

Oklahoma Blue Thumb Association

ok.bluethumb.association@gmail.com

Oklahoma Envirothon

<http://www.oklaenvirothon.org/>

Oklahoma Green Schools

<http://www.okgreenschools.org/>

Oklahoma Master Naturalists

<https://okmasternaturalist.wixsite.com/website>

Oklahoma Native Plant Society

<http://oknativeplants.org/>

Oklahoma Recycling Association (OKRA)

<http://www.recycleok.org/okra/>



10301 South Sunnyside Road
405-814-0006

[http://
www.museumofosteology.org/](http://www.museumofosteology.org/)
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Project Learning Tree (PLT)

<http://www.plt.org/>

<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/project-learning-tree>

Project WET

(Water Education for Teachers)

<http://www.bluethumbok.com/project-wet.html>

Project WILD

<http://www.projectwild.org/>

As with all hyperlinks in The EnvironMentor Newsletter, these are clickable.

Do you know an environmental group in Oklahoma that should be listed. Send that information to:

environmentor@okcu.edu