

*"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."
-- Albert Camus*



Tinker "Toads" Land at OKC Zoo for Temporary Duty

The Plight of the Horny Toad

Editor's Note: In the third issue of the first volume (Winter 2013) of The Environmentor Newsletter, the cover story was "The Plight of the Horny Toad" by Katie Talbott from the Texas Horned Lizard Research Cooperative. We were just notified about this article on the website of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation written by Jena Donnell, a past contributor to The Newsletter and are happy to bring it to everyone's attention with this cover article. The research at Tinker has been in



operation since 2003. At the time of Talbott's article, she states: "Unfortunately, researchers have also found that over the last ten years, survival rates for these lizards have declined. More research is needed to find out exactly why survival rates are declining, and what can be done to help the horny toads at Tinker and throughout the American southwest." Nearly 20 years on, read about how the research has evolved.

Year	Survival Percentage
First	33%
Second	Less than First Year
Third	47%

"...Tinker's natural resources staff also has called in reinforcements from the Sam Noble Museum at the University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden."

Head Start for Horny Toads

Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

"The trial head start procedure calls for two batches of eggs and hatchling lizards to be raised and deployed back to Tinker. The first batch consisted of lizards hatched in 2019 and the second batch from 2020 and both groups were housed at the Lizard Lab until their joint return to Tinker in the summer of 2021."



Photo by Sam Eliades

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Quiz!! Quiz!! Quiz!!

This Quiz! comes from the Monday Quizzes on Facebook uploaded by Wild-CareOklahoma.

"I am a small waterbird. I migrate at night to the southern U.S., Mexico, and Central America from the Northern U.S. and Canada. I am only passing through Oklahoma. Who am I?"



"Like" WildCareOklahoma on Facebook!!



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:
Environmentor@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 Environmentor@okcu.edu.

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

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

What is a planisphere? "A planisphere is a rotating star locator. It shows you the view overhead any night of the year." To make your own planisphere (see the photo to the right), click [here](#).





North American Lake Management Society

"We are planning the 2021 symposium as our first chance to get back to face-to-face meetings. However, we understand that not everyone will be able to attend in person, and so will also be coordinating limited live virtual opportunities during the conference as well as asynchronous programming. Abstract submitters will be asked as to their intended participation and given the choice of "in-person" or "virtual only." All presenters will be encouraged to submit their presentation pre- or post-conference for online asynchronous viewing."

Tentative Schedule

Monday, November 15

Workshops

Welcome to Oklahoma City Events

Tuesday, November 16

Opening Plenary Session

Technical Sessions

Exhibits Open

NALMS Membership Meeting

Exhibitors Reception

Wednesday, November 17

Technical Sessions

Clean Lakes Classic

Field Trips

Workshops

Vendor Demonstrations

Exhibits Open

NALMS Awards

Thursday, November 18

Technical Sessions

Exhibits Open



Important Dates

September 24, 2021

Early bird registration deadline

October 22, 2021

Hotel room block closes

November 5, 2021

Regular registration

In-person registration opened in July and virtual registration will open in October with more details to follow as the program is finalized.

- Harmful Algal Blooms
- Invasive Species
- Nutrients & Internal Loading Dynamics
- Bioindicators in Reservoirs
- Water Quality Standards
- Wetlands
- Climate Change Impacts
- Watershed Planning
- Lake Management & Restoration
- Water Planning
- Drinking Water
- Water Reuse
- Measuring the Value of Water
- Drilling Impacts to Water Quality
- Western State Water Issues

YOU could be the winner of the 2021 NALMS Annual Photo Contest!

Two winning images will be selected, a Member's Choice winner selected by Symposium attendees and an Editors' Choice winner selected by the editor and production editor for the entry that will make the best *LakeLine* cover. Prizes will be awarded to the contest winners, and your favorite lake or reservoir photo could grace a cover of *LakeLine*!

Entries will be judged as part of the 2021 NALMS Symposium.

You must be a NALMS member to submit an entry.

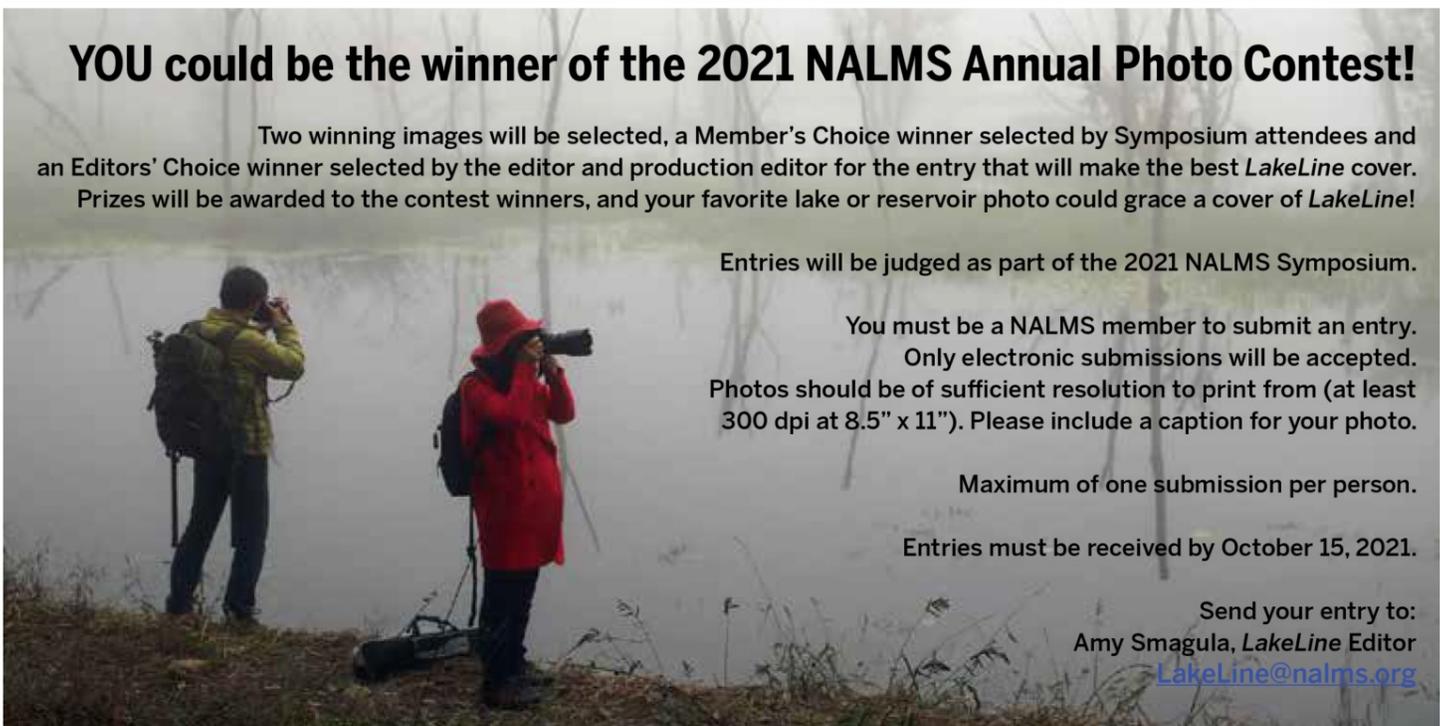
Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

Photos should be of sufficient resolution to print from (at least 300 dpi at 8.5" x 11"). Please include a caption for your photo.

Maximum of one submission per person.

Entries must be received by October 15, 2021.

Send your entry to:
Amy Smagula, *LakeLine* Editor
LakeLine@nalms.org





NASA Oklahoma Space Grant Consortium STEM Engagement Center

UP AND COMING NASA OKSG EDUCATOR PD FOR FALL 2021

“Good morning, educators! Below, you will find all of our NASA OKSG Educator Professional Development (PD) for Fall 2021. Please note that all of these PD's are FREE and open to all educators (in-service and pre-service; formal and informal). Lunch will be provided for each of the following PD opportunities.”

Wednesday, October 6th 10AM-3PM

Telling the Story of NASA's Artemis Missions Through Hands-on STEM PD

NASA OKSG STEM Engagement Center (OSU Campus; Stillwater, OK)

Audience: Pre-K through 12th Grade Educators

Over the course of 5 hours participants will be immersed in hand-on activities which tell the story of NASA's Artemis Missions: How do we travel back to the Moon? SLS (foam rockets, fizz rockets, stomp rockets, straw rockets, etc.) How will we land on the Moon? SpaceX's HLS Starship (lunar lander) How will we travel on the Moon? lunar rovers (balloon/rubber band powered rovers). Rocketry, Newton's Laws, trajectory, lunar landers, lunar rovers etc.

Tuesday, October 19th 10AM-3PM

Stafford Air and Space Museum (Weatherford, OK)

NASA OKSG Speedfest Curriculum Preview PD

Audience: Middle School and High School Educators (curriculum can be adapted for Elementary)

Concepts taught through hands-on activities: Properties of Air, Bernoulli's Principle, Lift vs. Weight, Center of Balance, Chord, etc.

This PD includes a tour of the B-17, Yankee Lady, which will be at the Weatherford Airport

On-line Registration Link: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSfALNDMcKE.../viewform...>

Max Participants: 20 Educators

***Registration closes at 12Noon on Tuesday, October 12th, 2021

(Continued on Page 5)

(Continued from Page 4)

Saturday, November 6th 10AM-3PM

Exploring the Solar System PD

NASA OKSG STEM Engagement Center (OSU Campus; Stillwater, OK)

Audience: Pre-K through 12th Grade Educators

Concepts taught through hands-on activities: modeling distance of the planets to scale, modeling the size of the planets to scale, dark matter, space telescopes, spray painting the solar system

Guest Co-Presenter: Bela Power, Classroom Educator for STARBASE Oklahoma

On-line Registration Link: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScqWBep7Uf.../viewform...>

Max Participants: 16 Educators

Registration closes at 12Noon on Saturday, October 30th, 2021.

Wednesday, November 17th 10AM-3PM

Robotics on a Dime and Coding PD

NASA OKSG STEM Engagement Center (OSU Campus; Stillwater, OK)

Audience: Elementary, Middle, and High School Educators

Concepts taught through hands-on activities: robotic arm, end effectors, engineering design behind robotic arms/ end effectors, coding using Lego WeDo 2.0/ Ozobots

Guest Co-Presenter: Doris Biegler, Technology Educator at Lawton Public Schools

On-line Registration Link: <https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSc6DjAN5rP.../viewform...>

Max Participants: 16 Educators

Registration closes at 12Noon on Wednesday, November 10th, 2021.

Wednesday, December 1st 10AM-3PM

STEAMing through Remote Sensing

NASA OKSG STEM Engagement Center (OSU Campus; Stillwater, OK)

Audience: Upper Elementary, Middle, and High School Educators

Concepts taught through hands-on activities: 3-D topo map modeling, creating topo maps for a mystery landscape, digital 3-D models, Earth as Art

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSd07bLy3dw.../viewform...>

Max Participants: 16 Educators

Registration closes at 12Noon on Wednesday, November 24th, 2021. .

Questions? Need further information? Please contact our Education Coordinator
at dorinda.risenhoover@okstate.edu or 405-314-9161



Claremore Blue Thumb Volunteer Training

November 6 & 7, 2021
Rogers State University
Loshbaugh Hall, Room 112
Claremore, OK 74017



To register for this training, click [here](#).

October 21 AND November 4*
4:00 - 5:30 (both days are required)

VIRTUAL PROJECT WET WORKSHOP

To register for this workshop, click [here](#).

project WET
WATER EDUCATION TODAY



New Hope for Tar Creek

by Chip Minty

Editor's Note: Nicholas Shepherd, an OU Graduate Student in Environmental Engineering and interviewed for this article, is a longtime Blue Thumb Volunteer.

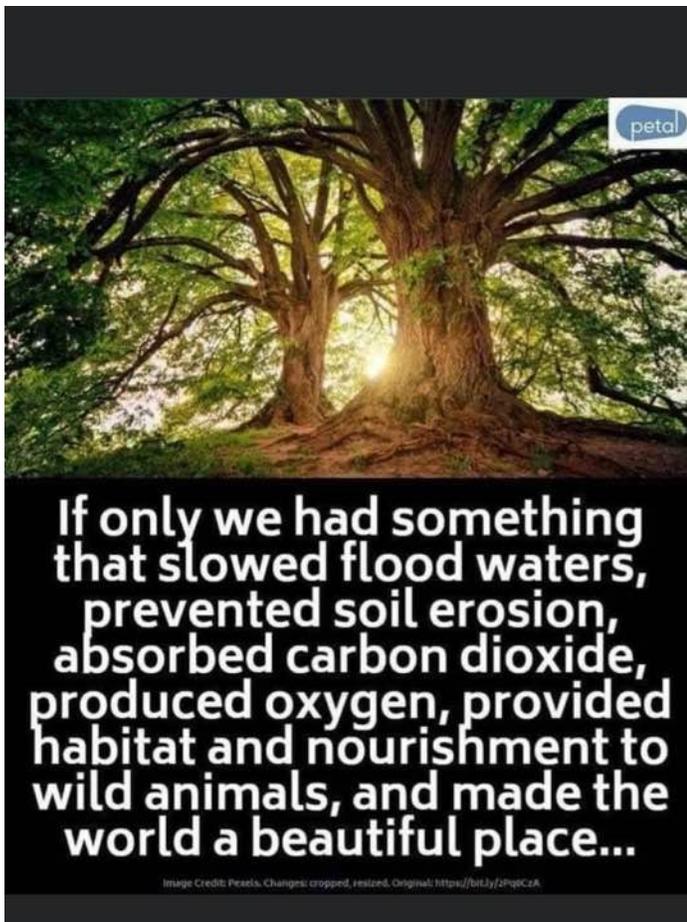


Bluegill sunfish -- one species making a comeback.

“Numbers have grown from near zero to 15 species. Bass and catfish are back, and beaver have moved in as well, building dams, having kits, and helping the small stream look normal again.”

Click below to read the entire article.

[New Hope for Tar Creek • Sooner Magazine \(oufoundation.org\)](#)



If only we had something that slowed flood waters, prevented soil erosion, absorbed carbon dioxide, produced oxygen, provided habitat and nourishment to wild animals, and made the world a beautiful place...

Image Credit: Pixels, Changes: cropped, resized. Original: <https://bit.ly/2PqCzA>

New Podcasts

Meet the Experts - Leann Bunn, State Park Naturalist, Tenkiller State Park

BioBlitz! Oklahoma podcast is highlighting a state park, but also meeting an expert - long-time park naturalist Leann Bunn!

Angelina takes the reigns again in this episode. She sits down with Leann Bunn to talk about Tenkiller State Park, Leann's passion for being a naturalist and talking with kids and adults about our state wildlife – eagles and loons in particular - and they talk about the annual Women in the Outdoors event that Leann has organized for 21 years!

Oklahoma State Park Spotlight -- Greenleaf

Angelina Stancampiano, with Oklahoma State Parks interviews the new full time naturalist at Greenleaf State Park. Kristen Perry is the newest park naturalists in one of our oldest state parks. Listen in and learn about the park and all the fun things you can do at the park this fall!

“I highly recommend hiking out to the swinging bridge! It is one of my favorite things on any trail in our state parks!”

Click [here](#) to listen to all the podcasts.



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

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

November 13th -- 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

December 11th -- 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>

Birding Personals

"Here is a new feature for our newsletter, a "Personals" section to put birders in touch with each other, since we currently have so few organized events to meet other birders, and also to help new birders or folks who have recently moved to Tulsa. If anyone else would like to be listed just send your info (name, location, when you are available to bird, perhaps a bit about your birding experience) to me share and maybe find some new folks to go birding with. Send it to:"

johnkennington@gmail.com.

Project WILD®

At UCO's

Outdoor Adventure
Recreation Center



October 9, 2021
9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Workshop Fee \$20.



October 30, 2021
9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Workshop Fee \$20.

Contact Lisa Anderson

(email address below) 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.

General Workshop Information

- **You must pre-register for all workshops. Email Lisa Anderson to register at okprojectwild@uco.edu or contact Lisa at 405-990-1292.**
 - 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.



Theme: October 17-23, 2021



The information buttons on the website:

- ◆ Chemists Catalyze Change
- ◆ Chemistry Advocacy Day
- ◆ Educational Resources
- ◆ General Interest Resources
- ◆ Plan an Event
- ◆ Find an Event
- ◆ Spread the Word

Go to the Official Website for more information and to register for events [here!](#)

Save the Date:
4/22/2022



The staff at the Noble Research Institute are looking forward, optimistically, to set the date for the Oklahoma Envirothon for April 22, 2022.

The National Conservation Foundation's Envirothon Competition will be held at the Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, July 24-30, 2022 with the topic: Waste to Resources Teams will be expected to present on this topic at the Oklahoma Envirothon Competition.



Become a member!
There is always
a lot going on.



www.oknativeplants.org/

**Rescheduling Doug Tallamy
for February 4 and 5, 2022 in OKC and Tulsa.**

More information will be forthcoming. Until then check out the video of him speaking about this new book

"Nature's Best Hope."

Click on the URL above for access
to the video archive.



Northeast Chapter:

Fabulous Wildflower Fridays

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

October 15 November 19 December 17



In-person Meeting at Tulsa Garden Center
December 6, 2021 at 6:30 PM



Central Chapter:

OSU/OKC Horticulture Building, Room 196
400 North Portland, OKC at 7:00 PM

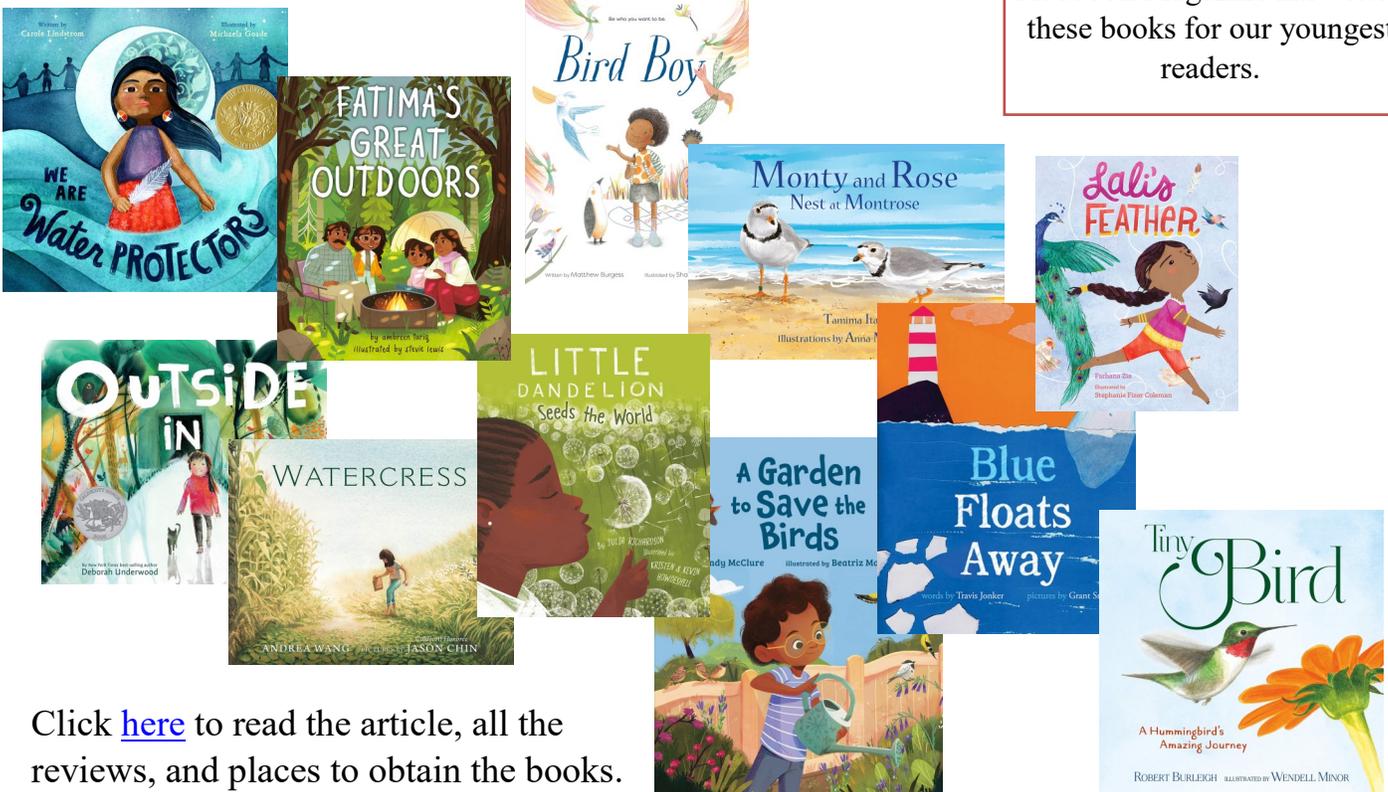
October 21 -- Jenna Messick, assistant professor of Biology and Herbarium Curator at the University of Central Oklahoma. Dr. Messick will give a timely (just right for fall planting/seed harvesting) talk on *Native Plant Seed Germination: What Works and Why.*

November 11 -- Kyle Johnson, staff biologist, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Kyle will give a presentation on a couple of award winning private lands native plant/prairie restoration projects that merited "best of the year" recognition by the ODWC.

Green Words for All Ages

Eleven New Birdy and Nature-Themed Books for Kids

Editor's Note: Not a review by our own Sarah Markham this time, but we feel that Audubon Magazine has vetted these books for our youngest readers.



“The Lake Murray Endurance Run is held annually in late October at Lake Murray State Park near Ardmore, Oklahoma. Lake Murray State Park is Oklahoma’s first and Largest State Park, with over 12,500 acres of forested rolling hills surrounding Lake Murray.”

“The park also has an extensive trail system for hikers and mountain bikers. New Deal, Anadarche, Buckhorn and a new system from the park office to Tucker Tower all combine for more than 30 miles of scenic trails offering a wide variety of hiking and biking experiences.” “The trails offer a wide variety of terrain ranging from simple and flat, to moderately difficult sections with rocks and roots.”

Mark your calendar.

<https://blazetrails.com/lake-murray-endurance-run/>



THE 2021 COMEDY WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS ARE NOW CLOSED!

“Wowza!! That was quite a blast!! Unbelievably, given the state of travel in the world right now, we have been overwhelmed by your comedy wildlife entries. How did you do that, you clever lot!? We are now looking forward to the enviable and delicious task of going through them all to pick the top 40 shortlist, which is such a tricky job (as they’re all so good) to be announced in a couple of months.

If you have missed the entry deadline for this year, don't worry, we'll be back for next year's competition in early 2022 so keep your images in a safe until then.

For those of you that have entered, here are the key dates for you all:

Finalists (top 40) announced and open for voting on the Affinity Photo People's Choice Award. View finalists [here!](#) Vote [here!](#)

October 22nd: Winners announced!



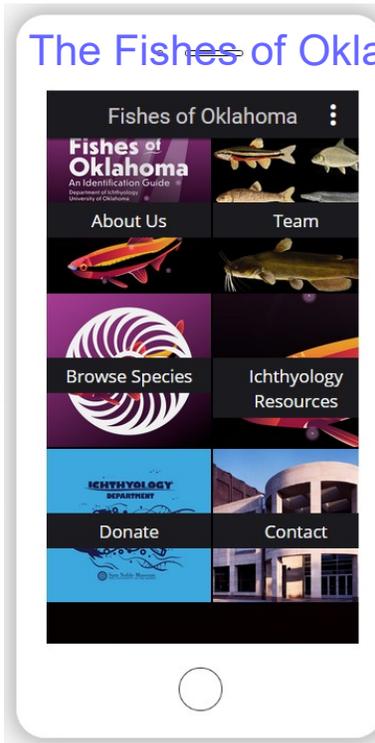
Due to the ongoing travel and social distancing issues, it is very likely that our awesome awards night will have to be an online affair – again this year. But with even better gags, larger moustaches and brighter shirts! Much more info to follow when we know more, so keep checking in here and following us on social to be the first to know!

Thanks again to all of you for being part of our competition and keeping us all smiling again this year, we really couldn't do it without you

And more importantly, helping us support our brilliant conservation partners this year - the **Gunung Palung Orangutan Conservation Program** and the wonderful but endangered wildlife and habitat that they protect.”



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!

LEAVES ARE NOT LITTER!



**Expand the 'wild area' of your property and rake your leaves there
You'll see more butterflies and birds**



Tigress and kit at the Tulsa Zoo

How many offspring?

Aesop says that the animals once began to argue among themselves, about who had the largest family.

“I have six or eight kits at a time,”
boasted Fox.

“So do I,” said Skunk.

“I usually have more than that!”
boasted Rabbit.

“Five or fewer for me,” said Beaver.



“I’m happy to raise four,” said Robin.

“Two eggs for me,” added Hummingbird.

“Ha,” bubbled the fishes, “we can lay hundreds !”

“That’s nothing,” buzzed the queen bee. “I can lay a thousand a day! Luckily I don’t have to take care of them. (You fish don’t even try,)” she zinged.

“I can lay my weight in eggs,” said Monarch butterfly, “and I’m always careful to put them on plants that the babies can eat.”



Finally they turned to the Tigress, who had remained tactfully silent. “What about you?”

“I only have one,” she said. “But that one is a TIGER...”

From The Earthteller,

Fran Stallings



Ask listeners how many babies their pets have produced. Do the parents take care of them?



Ask listeners if they know how many offspring other kinds of animals produce. What care do they take for the babies' survival?

Facts: Survival by the numbers

Zoologists have noticed that there's usually a connection between how many offspring/eggs an animal produces, and their “investment” in ensuring the offspring's survival. Some animals have only one or a small number at a time, often after a long pregnancy that allows the baby to grow fairly big before coming to the outside world. And they take care of the baby until it is big enough to fend for itself.

(Continued on Page 12)

(Continued from Page 11)

Think of whales, and elephants.

Others produce many, only some of which will beat the odds of survival. Think of fishes and frogs. Sea turtles gather to lay their eggs together on a beach: when they all hatch on the same day, birds will feast but can't catch them all!

Plants use similar strategies, some making large seeds with protective coats and generous stores of food (think of coconuts, which can float for months in the sea to a new island). Others send out an abundance of tiny seeds (dandelion): some will beat the odds and survive.

Trees such as oak and pecan put a lot of energy into their acorns/nuts, but every few years produce them in huge numbers: a "mast year" ("mast" refers to the fruit of forest trees and shrubs). Scientists figure that forest animals can't eat them all! Some will beat the odds and survive. In fact, the squirrels will probably forget where they've buried every one, helping to plant next year's seedlings.

SOURCES

Story: This is a classic Aesop fable:

https://aesopsfables.org/F166_The-Lioness.html

I changed the Lioness to Tigress because of the wonderful recent photo from the Tulsa Zoo!



Facts: Many websites telling numbers of animal offspring.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/10/what-is-a-mast-year/>

<https://www.hobbyfarms.com/mast-years-trees-acorns-nuts-seeds/>

October #BigYearAtHome Challenge From Partners in Flight: --"Sing, Fly, Soar – Like a Bird," with World Migratory Bird Day



*"This year we celebrate the freedom of birds,
the beauty of their songs,
and the spectacular phenomenon
of their migrations."*

Click [here](#) to join World Migratory Bird Day **LIVE!**

Click [here](#) to read the introductory article.

Click [here](#) to view events, access education resources. You can enter your email address for updates.



Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation

Shutter Slams



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.

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 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.



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.

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.



“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!”

From Oklahoma Native Plant Society:

Sadly, nandina is pretty common in home landscapes... If you have one, please consider removing/ replacing it. American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa Americana* - see photo to the right) is a fantastic native alternative!



from Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center

**SAVE OUR BEAUTIFUL
CEDAR WAXWINGS
FROM JAPANESE NANDINA!**



**NANDINA
KILLS
BIRDS**

Answer to Quiz! Quiz! Quiz!

Clapper Rail

(*Gruiformes Rallidae Rallus crepitans*)



The rail on Page 2 was seen as passing through Oklahoma, presumably, on its way to the Gulf Coast. These Rails have an orangish neck in contrast to those on the Atlantic coast which have a grayish-brown neck. You may hear the sound “kek,”

2021 Barred Owl Cam Season Highlights



Click [here](#) to access the YouTube video.

From  and 

Not an Endorsement , but ...

From Earth911, an article by Mary McDonald.

To read the entire article, click on the title below:

[Recycling Mystery: Water Filters](#)

From the article:

There are options for recycling water filters and composting water filters.

“Here are some ... types of water filters you may have in and around your home:

- Faucet-mounted filters
- Cartridges for refrigerator filters
- Under-the-sink filters
- Faucet filters
- Whole house filters”

From: Jet Propulsion Lab’s YouTube Channel



To access the videos, click [here!](#)

Webcasts:

Click here to watch the event live on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/playlist...>

The Warm Glow of our Cool Universe

October 14, 2021, 9:00 P.M.

In order to explore the mysteries of our universe, we need to look at it in different ways. Astrophysics missions like SPHEREx and Euclid will use infrared astronomy to deepen our knowledge of unseen phenomena, such as inflation and dark matter. Join us as we explore how infrared observations are changing our understanding of the cosmos and its origins.

Speakers:

Dida Markovic, Research Scientist, NASA/JPL

Dr. Phil Korngut, Research Scientist at Caltech

SPHEREx instrument scientist

Rising Tides: First Year in Space

for NASA’s Earth Flagship

November 11, 2021, 9:00 P.M.

Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich will continue a decades-long mission to measure our global ocean height from space, an effort which began in the early 1990s. Tune in to hear all that we’ve learned from the newest sea-level monitoring satellite, since its recent launch in November 2020.

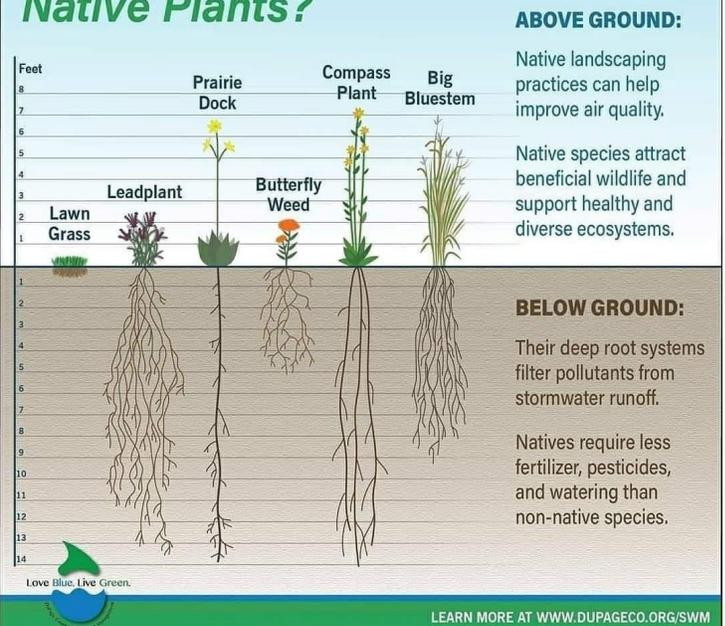
Speaker:

Josh Willis, Lead NASA Scientist for Sentinel-6,

NASA/JPL

Thank you to our own Earthteller, Fran Stallings, for sharing this find on Facebook.

What’s So Great About Native Plants?



The Seedling Store is open as of October 1, 2021. Click [here](#) to place your order. “Oklahoma Forestry Services grows and sells seedlings for conservation purposes only.”

Click [here](#) to sign up for Seedling News.



Click [here](#) to download your copy of the 2021-2022 Seedling Catalog.



BLOG

Backyard

Monarch Enthusiast

to Citizen/Community Scientist

by Candice Annen, Monarch Stewards Program

“Currently, I participate in 5 national Monarch Citizen/Community Science projects to help track trends, OE (*Ophryocystis elektroscirra*), and the monarchs themselves. As one of the [National Wildlife Federation’s Monarch Stewards](#) certification program trainers, I teach participants to test for OE and encourage them to only have native milkweed species in their yards.”



Photo by Eleanor Dietrich

Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

Editor’s Note: The Soil Food Web School is a for-profit site, but you can take the quiz without spending money. They ask for your name and an email address.

How much do you *really* know about composting?

“Test your compost knowledge. Learn all the answers. Impress your friends. And, most importantly, *create amazing nutrients for your plants!*”

To take the quiz, click [here](#).

And yet another quiz!

They say that it takes 7+ minutes. The EnvironMentor took the quiz. It took less than 7 minutes. We found that we have a bit to learn about composting. You may fare better than we did. There is a 6-minute video at the end of the quiz.



How “soil savvy” are you?

“Don’t worry if some of these questions are a little challenging — soil health is a deep subject!”

To take the quiz, click [here](#).

Again they say it takes 7+ minutes. We took the quiz in about 7 minutes. We fared better on this quiz, but we came upon some questions from which we generated our own questions. We received an invitation to a Free Interactive Webinar Series to which we would have to register. We haven’t done that at this time.

(Continued from Page 17)

Activity: Tour of Redbud Valley Nature Preserve

Leaders: Mary Seabourn, Redbud Valley Nature Preserve, and Lynn Michel, Oklahoma Native Plant Society

Location: Redbud Valley Nature Preserve, Catoosa, OK

Description: Learning more about Redbud Valley Nature Preserve's history, its environments, and why nature preserves matter. There is a hike through forest, limestone cliff face, and prairie/savanna.

Activity: Invertebrate Inventory

Leader: Vonceil Harmon, Oklahoma Biological Survey

Location: Eastwood Park, Norman

Description: Counting the terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates

Activity: Roman Nose Plant Walk

Leader: Abby Moore, OU Bebb Herbarium and Oklahoma Biological Survey

Location: Meet at the trailhead at the lodge parking lot, Roman Nose State Park

Description: We looked at trees and wildflowers at Roman Nose State Park.

Activity: Using the "Lichen Field Guide" to identify lichens

Leader: Sheila Strawn, Lichenologist, Visiting Scholar, University of Central Oklahoma

Location: Sutton Urban Wilderness, Norman

Description: Lichen hike

Activity: Herp Hike

Leaders: Derek Bateman, Sammi Todd

Location: Robbers Cave State Park

Description: Hiking through woods. Looking under cover for reptiles, amphibians, and other small animals.

Activity: Aquatic Macro Invertebrates

Leader: Rickey Cothran, SWOSU Biology

Location: Roman Nose State Park, Watonga

Description: Exploring the aquatic macro inverts that live in the springs, stream, and lake of the park.

Activity: Small Mammal Survey, Animal Tracks, & Fluorescent Dusting

Leader: Tony Stancampiano, Oklahoma City University

Location: Roman Nose State Park, Watonga

Description: Discussion of mammal sampling strategies and techniques. Setting out live traps Saturday evening and collect/check Sunday morning. Setting out track stations and track powder coated mammal using UV lights.

Activity: Moth Night

Leader: Zach DuFran

Location: Thunderbird Chapel, east of Norman

Description: We will have multiple lights and sheets setup to attract moths and other nocturnal insects.

Sunday, Oct. 3

Activity: Morning at Blackbird Marsh

Leader: Amy Morris, Oxley Nature Center

Location: Oxley Nature Center, Tulsa

Description: What is a wetland, and what special adaptations are needed to live here? We explored the wonders of plants and animals that make this area their home.

Activity: Small Mammal Survey, Animal Tracks, & Fluorescent Dusting

Leader: Tony Stancampiano, Oklahoma City University

Location: Roman Nose State Park, Watonga

Description: Discussion of mammal sampling strategies and techniques. Checked traps Sunday morning.

Activity: Blossoms, Birds and Bugs

Leader: Lynn Michael, Oklahoma Native Plant Society

Location: Claremore Lake

Description: Walked the trail for plant species, then added shoreline plants and the birds and insects that accompany them.

(Continued on Page 19)

(Continued from Page 18)

Activity: Discovery Walk

Leader: Rusty Grimpe, retired zoo curator, Oxley Nature Center Volunteer

Location: Oxley Nature Center, Tulsa

Description: What can you see in October? Plenty!! We walked and talked about all the things we saw!

Activity: Pond Investigation

Leader: Julie Monnot, Oxley Nature Center

Location: Oxley Nature Center, Tulsa

Description: Learning about the importance of clean water while netting the small critters in the Oxley ponds.

Activity: The Natural World at Night

Leaders: Eddie Reese and Mary Seabourn, Oxley Nature Center

Location: Oxley Nature Center, Tulsa

Description: There was a guided hike through the forest at night, looking for tracks and learning about various nocturnal species, especially mammals, bats, and owls.



Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation



Upcoming Events Hackberry Flat Center—2021

Reserve your free ticket to witness the incredible migration of the monarch butterfly during the Oklahoma Wildlife Diversity Program's Monarch Butterfly Watch.

The Monarch Watch event is a participant in the North American Monarch Watch Tagging Program, a large-scale citizen science project that was initiated to help understand the dynamics of the monarch's spectacular fall migration through mark and recapture. During past years, tags from Monarchs tagged at Hackberry Flat Wildlife Management Area have been recovered in two different overwintering areas in Mexico. This October, the general public will have five opportunities to help tag monarchs captured on the WMA on October 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10 starting promptly at 9am at the Hackberry Flat Center and four opportunities to watch Monarchs glide in to their traditional roost sites by the hundreds on the evenings of October 3, 4, 5 and 9 to start promptly at 6:30pm. Please, no pets.

October Monarch Watch October 2, 2021 - October 9, 2021

Nov. 6 Wetland Tour 1pm - 4 pm

Tours require reservations. Due to length of tours & transportation, children must be at least 8 years old unless otherwise noted . There is no fee.



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!!



QUIKList Oklahoma

Leopold Education Project

<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 Sunnylane Road
405-814-0006

<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



The Calendar

Most people who remember The EnvironMentor Newsletter know that the pages at the end of the issue were reserved for The Calendar. Being online has some great advantages. When you downloaded your copy of the newsletter you may have noticed the box on the right side of the webpage. This is a convenient listing of the next events from The Calendar. This will always be up-to-date because it happens automatically. For more information on the event just click on it and a window will open up with all the details. If you wish, you can access the rest of the calendar from the there.

To have your event posted to The Calendar, copy and paste the following list into an email, fill in as much information as you wish, and send it to: Environmentor@okcu.edu

Title of your event:

Start Date and Time

End Date and Time

Location

Location Address

Contact Name

Contact Phone

Contact Email

Details in Narrative Form

Location Link

Event Link

Map Link

Please note: We are not able to publish for-profit information.

To go directly to The Calendar click on:

<http://www.okcu.edu/environmentor>