

THE ENVIRONMENTOR

Looking forward to being outside this autumn!



Vol. 9, No. 2. The Internet Site for Environmental Information in Oklahoma October 2020 - November 2020

We all need a little levity right now ...

Hilarious Finalists of the 2020



“Though this lighter aspect of wildlife isn’t often highlighted, the awards use this levity to bring much-needed attention to conservation issues.

The category and overall winners will be announced on October 22 in an online ceremony. The top image will win an incredible one-week safari with Alex Walker's Serian in the Masai Mara, Kenya as well as a unique handmade trophy from the Art Garage in Dar es Salaam, [Click here](#) to read the “My Modern Tanzania.” [Met](#)” article and see more photos.



“Crashing into the picture” © Brigitte Alcalay Marcon / Comedy Wildlife Photo Awards 2020. Animal: Giraffe, Location: Etosha National Park, Namibia

“Surprise Smiles” © Asaf Sereth / Comedy Wildlife Photo Awards 2020. Animal: Dwarf Mongoose, Location: Lake Bogoria, Kenya

More finalist pictures from the **Contest** can be found in an article in *The Guardian*.
Click [here](#) to see them.
Even more photos can be found with an interview [here](#) on the *Bored Panda* website.

Look for the **Contest** next year at this [website](#).

In this issue ...

The Comedy Wildlife Awards	Cover
Editorial Page	2
Quiz!! Quiz!! Quiz!!	2
2020 BioBlitz! OK	3-4
Tire and eWaste Collection Event	5
Lake Thunderbird Watershed Clean-Up Blitz	6
Fall Plant Swap	6
Scaling the Compost Mountain	7
Staying Green in Quarantine	8
A Facttale from The EarthTeller	8
Greenhouse and Teaching Gardens Dedication	9
Beginning Farmer Workshops	10
QuestaGame from SciStarter	11
Not an Endorsement, but ...	12
The 6 R's	13
Soil Food Web Composting Quiz	13
Coyote and the Powerful Berries	14-15
Oklahoma Academy of Science Technical Meeting	16
Upcoming Events 2020 -- Hackberry Flats Center	16
Oklahoma Envirothon Save the Date	17
Oklahoma Native Plant Society Virtual Presentations	17
Humans Growing Stuff	17
Wetlands Mapper	17
Read For Adventure Challenge	18
Oklahoma Geo Team Open House	18
Camp Trivera Fall Break Day Camp	18
The Oklahoma Green Schools Program on Facebook	18
Bird Academy	19
When Did the Storm Begin	19
Wild Care Foundation	19
Oklahoma Blue Thumb Volunteer Training	19
Audubon Prints	20
BeastBox	20
Oklahoma State Parks and Outdoor Guide	20
Healthy Soil for Life	20
The EnvironMentor on Facebook	21
QuikLIST	21
Calendar Form	22

Quiz!! Quiz!! Quiz!!

Just in time for Halloween!! Who is this young gentleman? After you take this quiz, find the answer at the bottom of Page 13. Then check out "Not an Endorsement, But ..." on Page 12. If you follow the link you will be able to see the larger photo of this little guy -- a much better visual!



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

Published bimonthly each year.
 The next deadline is November 20, 2020.

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.

From the National Wildlife Federation:





Check out the [launch video!](#)

How Do I Participate in 2020?

- Participate where ever you feel comfortable
 - online, backyard, local park, or travel to a nature park in the state
- Record species observations online through iNaturalist and eBird
- Download checklists of your favorite taxa groups for your area
- Attend virtual field trips, watch online presentations, and listen to interviews with expert biologists
- Attend small, in-person BioBitz activities at parks across the state
- Engage with Community in Facebook Group
- Download biodiveristy activities
- Learn more about the region you plan to explore
- Purchase a 20th anniversary t-shirt
- Be flexible!

BioBlitz! OK 2020's **Virtual Nature Center!**

The Virtual Nature Center is the hub of information for BioBlitz! OK 2020. We will be adding information and resources as we get closer to BioBlitz! weekend, October 2-4.

Come in and learn about Oklahoma's biodiversity! Download nature activities to do at home or to take to a park, take virtual field trips, and much more!

Sign up at the Virtual Nature Center <https://biosurvey.ou.edu/bioblitz2020/>
(scroll down to the orange button)

BioBlitz! OK 2020 registration is free!

Everyone that signs up will receive a weather-resistant sticker commemorating this 20th BioBlitz! OK!

This sticker is perfect for laptops, water bottles, and bumpers! Registrants will also receive regular updates about BioBlitz! weekend.

B i o B l i t z !								
 Find a colorful leaf	 Look for an evergreen tree	 Find a yellow flower	 Spot a mosquito	 Look for a deciduous tree	 Listen to a bird sing	 Find a nut from a tree	 Look for an egg	 Watch squirrels in the trees
 Go for a hike in nature	 Find beetles	 Watch ducks in the water	 Watch clouds change shape in the sky	 Find a purple flower	 Look out for deer at dawn & dusk	 Go to a quiet place and listen to nature	 Watch the activity at an ant hill	 Spot a lizard sunning
 Find a caterpillar	 Look for hawks soaring	 Cook food over a fire	 Listen for owls at night	 Look for animal tracks	 Spot a rabbit nibbling on plants	 Look for fluffy seeds that float on the breeze	 Spot a fox or coyote	 Watch for bats at dusk
 Look under leaves and logs for snails	 Use your nose to find a skunk	 Look for a bone	 Watch butterflies feed on flowers	 Find a shell	 Look for fungus	 Find a tree that has lost its leaves	 Look for fish in a pond, lake, or creek	 Sit in the woods
 Watch a spider build its web	 Look for a tree with flowers	 Spot a snake	 Count the rings of a tree	 Find a rock with crystals	 Find a feather	 Look closely at something tiny	 Look for frogs at the edge of water	 Use your sense of smell to explore

Download this BioBlitz! BINGO sheet to help guide your investigations!

<https://biosurvey.ou.edu/.../2020/09/BioBlitz-BINGO.pdf>

INVENTORY INCENTIVE! Everyone that joins the iNaturalist project and submits observations of at least 20 species or submits an eBird checklist of at least 10 species will earn our inventory incentive.

You can choose from an educational packet filled with biodiversity posters and booklets or a pollinator plant seed packet suitable for planting in Oklahoma.



Click here to submit your lists for your incentive:

<https://biosurvey.ou.edu/bioblitz2020/submit-observations/>



Tire and E-Waste Collection Event

Saturday, October 3rd, 2020

9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Destiny Life Church

Owasso Hwy 20 & Hwy 169

14003 E. 116 ST. N. - Collinsville, OK



Tires: FREE Recycling!

Up to 10 tires per person.
No wheels/rims.
No tractor tires. No dealers.



E-Waste Recycling!

Free to recycle: Computers, printers, flatscreen monitors, VCR/DVD players, radios, office machines, appliances, anything that uses batteries or has a power cord and weighs less than 50lbs.

A Fee to Recycle:

Computer monitors (CRT only) = \$10 each

Televisions = \$21

Items must weigh less than 50lbs.

Pre-pay online using code above or www.metrecycle.com and click on green e-waste icon.

No Refrigerators or AC Units (due to regulations involving freon)



Also Accepting Mercury Thermostats and Thermometers

This free event is open to residents of:

Bixby, Broken Arrow, Claremore, Collinsville, Coweta, Glenpool, Jenks, Owasso, Sand Springs, Tulsa, and Tulsa County

Brought to you by:
The M.e.t.,
Oklahoma Department of
Environmental Quality,
and Natural Evolution



The Metropolitan Environmental Trust

One West Third Street, Suite 110 | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103 | 918-584-0584 | MetRecycle.com

4th ANNUAL LAKE THUNDERBIRD WATERSHED CLEAN UP BLITZ

TWO PARKS, TWO DATES

OCTOBER 4: CRESTLAND PARK

501 CRESTLAND DR
MEET AT SHELTER
1PM-3PM

OCTOBER 25: JOHN H. SAXON PARK

3016 36TH AVE SE
MEET AT PARK ENTRANCE SIGN
1PM-3PM



PERENNIALS, ANNUALS, HOUSEPLANTS, HERBS, SMALL SHRUBS, TREE SPRINGS

FALL PLANT SWAP

Saturday,
October 10th
10:00am

Yukon Community Center
2200 S. Holly Ave.

CSA CANADIAN COUNTY EXTENSION Yukon's BEST PARKS & RECREATION

They would love to see you there!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. BRING LABELED PLANTS TO SWAP.
2. BRING SOMETHING TO CARRY YOUR PLANTS.
3. RECEIVE A TICKET FOR EACH REASONABLY SIZED PLANT.
4. EXCHANGE EACH TICKET FOR A NEW (TO YOU) PLANT.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

YUKON STATE UNIVERSITY COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE V AND THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT

CSA CANADIAN COUNTY EXTENSION Yukon's BEST PARKS & RECREATION

Note: This poster was too long for the page and scaling down was not realistic. Go to this website <https://www.okcompostconference.org/> for complete information.

SCALING THE COMPOST MOUNTAIN

2020 OK Compost Conference



Virtual Series
Thursdays in October

12:00-1:00 p.m.

Register at: [okcompostconference.org](https://www.okcompostconference.org/)



October 1

SMALL-SCALE COMPOSTING

Speakers: Malarie Gotcher & Josh Campbell

This session focuses on residential or backyard composting setups and uses. Malarie brings her expertise as a water conservation specialist with the City of Oklahoma City; while Josh joins us as OSU Extension-Oklahoma County Agricultural Educator.



OKRA

Oklahoma Recycling Association

We're cross-promoting the great work of this organization, as they offer their conference virtually this year. Find more information and register at [recycleok.org](https://www.recycleok.org).

MID-SCALE COMPOSTING

Speaker: LaTasha Timberlake

This scale of composting includes community composting, where blocks and neighborhoods work together to compost and garden. Our speaker, LaTasha Timberlake, comes to us from Lillian Timber Farms.



October 15

\$10 PER SESSION, \$35 FOR ALL 4 + COFFEE CHAT, OCTOBER 30, 4:20 P.M.

REGISTER AT: [OKCOMPOSTCONFERENCE.ORG](https://www.okcompostconference.org)



Staying Green
in Quarantine

The Oklahoma Recycling Association (OKRA) invites you and your students to attend the 2020 Oklahoma Recycling Conference, "Staying Green in Quarantine," scheduled for **Wednesday & Thursday, October 7-8**, via Zoom.

On day one, we will hear about challenges in Oklahoma and the United States for the recycling industry because of the pandemic, and the effect on the market.

The second day will include exploring why recycling glass is so complicated, along with a variety of breakout sessions covering: food waste, batteries, electronic waste, and glass.

We will also hear from the Product Stewardship Institute about how Producers can play a bigger role in taking responsibility for the products they make and what happens to those products or the containers at the end of use.

We have discounted rates for students or classrooms, \$30.00 for both days or \$15.00 for one day. If you are an OKRA Member, you pay only \$20.00 for both days, or \$10.00 each day.

We will also have a "Talking Green" social hour on Wednesday evening, where attendees can network, and our very own Michael Patton will be telling recycling jokes.

We hope you and your students can join us to learn more about what is happening in the world of recycling in Oklahoma!

Fran Stallings, The EarthTeller, has shared with us the account of the persimmon-bearing tree and a photo of the exquisite fruit in her yard:

"We bought two Prok trees ... already grafted on wild rootstock. They started bearing at 5 years old. We realized belatedly that they could grow as much as 30' tall, but since the soft fruit falls from the tree when ripe, that height wasn't allowable! So we lopped them off at 10', and they are reaching their branches horizontally instead. We check for freshly fallen fruit at least once every afternoon. From early September through late October there are few to many waiting for us every day."





OKLAHOMA COUNTY
EXTENSION

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, October 9th, 2020

2 pm

Oklahoma County OSU Extension
requests that you
SAVE THE DATE
for our:

Greenhouse and Teaching Gardens Dedication

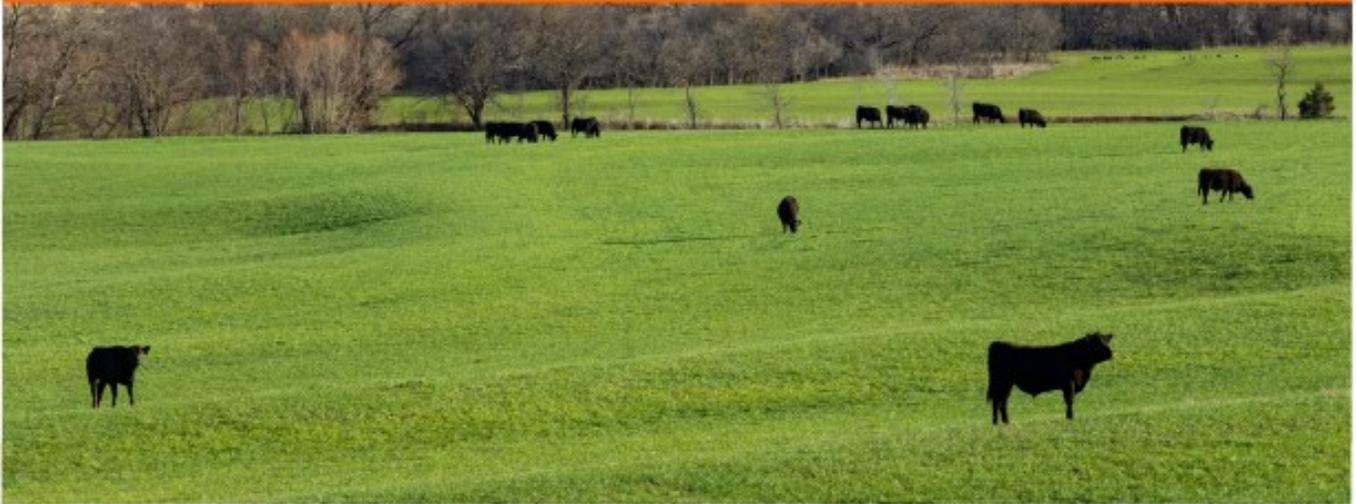
We will have a special, short Dedication Ceremony followed with refreshments to celebrate our new greenhouse, beautiful gardens, and the many volunteers who made it happen. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there!



2500 NE 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
405-713-1125

*If you are planning on attending, please RSVP to our office at 405-713-1125.
We would love to have you join us in our celebration and dedication!*





EXTENSION

BEGINNING FARMER WORKSHOPS

Livestock Production

Join our beginning farmer workshops and tours to explore beginning a farm operation. Learn about risk management and how to begin farmer training for livestock production, with an emphasis on cattle, small livestock and alternative operations such as poultry.

WORKSHOP DATES

- ▶ **Friday, October 16, 2020** | Cattle
- ▶ **Friday, October 23, 2020** | Small Ruminants (Sheep and Goats)
- ▶ **Friday, October 30, 2020** | Poultry

LOCATION

- ▶ **Oklahoma County Extension Office**
2500 NE 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111



SOUTHERN
EXTENSION
RISK
MANAGEMENT
EDUCATION



United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

This material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2018-70027-28585.

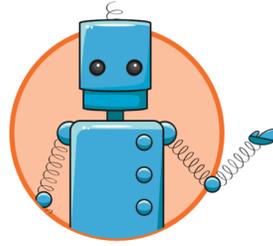
REGISTRATION

- ▶ **Registration Fee: \$25**
Fee covers all three events.
Limit 45 members per class.

For registration and additional information, call 405-713-1125.

CONTACT

- ▶ **Joshua Campbell**
Urban Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator
Oklahoma County Extension
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405-713-1125
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Area Agricultural Economics Specialist
jj.jones@okstate.edu
580-332-7011



Please note:
 QuestaGame is affiliated with SciStarter, but it is an off-site project. This project was recommended to The EnvironMentor Newsletter.

QuestaGame

QuestaGame

GOAL

QuestaGame is a free-to-play, outdoor mobile adventure game

TASK

Find plants and animals, photograph, join quests, clans, and challenges.

DESCRIPTION

Submit sightings of your local flora and fauna while having fun playing a game. Join and create quests, earn gold, join clans/teams, compete against other players, identify sightings, gain levels, build your collection, move up the leaderboard, all while helping to document and protect your local biodiversity. Are you a parent, teacher or scout leader? We're offering free school@home teams, so students can play together as teams even while at home. Same for scout groups.

You can play it anywhere – be it in your backyard, a local park, a remote hiking trail. The game accepts both online and offline sightings, and includes data on over a million species. Your sightings are geo-tagged with location, date and time, so you're not only mapping your conquests, but if you allow the game to share the data, you're also helping researchers record and protect your local biodiversity. The game is fun, addictive and easy to play.

HOW TO GET STARTED

Good news! This is a SciStarter Affiliate project. You can earn credit in your [SciStarter Dashboard](#) for your participation.

Click the Visit button on this page. You will be directed to the project's website or app and invited to create a project account there. **Use the same email address (case sensitive!) you used to create your SciStarter account to join this project.**

Download the QuestaGame app and start your Quest. It is great fun for all ages.

SOCIAL MEDIA

[Follow QuestaGame on Twitter](#)
[Find QuestaGame on Facebook](#)
[Follow the QuestaGame](#)

HOW-TO VIDEO

[Check out the how-to video](#)

TOTAL EXPENSE

0.00

ANDROID APP

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mobisys.biod.questabird>

IOS APP

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/questabird/id886141835?mt=8&ign-mpt=uo%3D4>

IDEAL AGE GROUP

[Graduate students](#), [Families](#), [Seniors](#), [Middle school \(11 - 13 years\)](#), [Elementary school \(6 - 10 years\)](#), [Adults](#), [College](#), [High school \(14 - 17 years\)](#),

IDEAL FREQUENCY

Unspecified

TOPICS

[Nature & Outdoors](#), [Insects & Pollinators](#), [Animals](#), [Ocean, Water, Marine & Terrestrial](#), [Ecology & Environment](#), [Education](#), [Biology](#), [Birds](#),

TRAINING MATERIALS

<http://questagame.com>

CLASSROOM MATERIALS

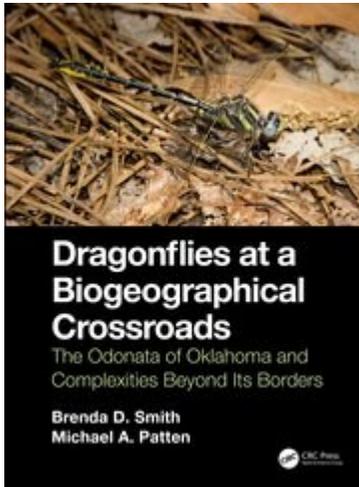
<http://questagame.com>

WEBSITE

[QuestaGame](#)

PROJECT UPDATED

09/12/2020, 11:55 am CDT



The authors, Brenda D. Smith and Michael A. Patten, are Oklahoma Biological Survey biologists.

Copies are available for pre-order through CRC Press

738 Pages 569 Color & 55 B/W Illustrations

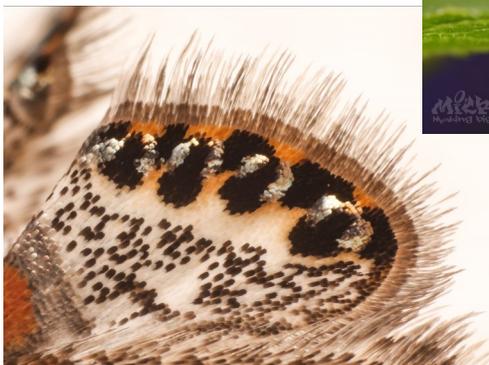
October 23, 2020
Forthcoming
by CRC Press

“This lavishly illustrated book examines the distribution, ecology, conservation status, and biogeography of 176 species of dragonflies in the southern plains of the United States, where twelve ecoregions converge. The topics discussed, such as phenotypic variation and ecology, are applicable and of interest across the United States and much of north America, and will appeal to researchers and dragonfly enthusiasts alike.

A series of maps, including a distributional map by specific locality of occurrence, indicate level of documentation and allow the reader to visualize the biogeographical associations of a given species. These maps also encourage citizen scientists to contribute documentation wherever they spend time in the field. Context-driven chapters, including one on the region’s rich paleontological history, blend environmental history and biogeography, giving the book a fresh perspective on the natural world while providing a rich summary of the odonates.

Dragonflies at a Biogeographical Crossroads: The Odonata of Oklahoma and Complexities Beyond Its Borders will be sought out by dragonfly researchers and enthusiasts, entomologists, amateur naturalists, paleontologists, conservation biologists, educators, regional historians, and those seeking to meld the disciplines of cultural and environmental history with biology. It will also be readily accessible to the lay public. Dragonflies combine the visually stunning with acrobatic fireworks in ways no other insect can hope to combine.”

The EnvironMentor met this photographer, a young man, in Will Rogers Park one Sunday morning. Check out all the pictures and videos on his Facebook page.



“Subjects are alive. I shoot freehand single shots on a Canon T7i /Laowa 100mm 2X Dreamer macro lens / 44mm extension tube. If you enjoy my photography follow and share TY!”

<https://www.facebook.com/JaySunLen/>

From the M.E.T.:



And to continue along a line of thought from above:

The EnvironMentor took the Composting Quiz at this website:

<https://soilfoodweb.typeform.com/to/ziA8lQ>

We have to admit that we could have done better, but if you take the quiz, you will receive an email with your score, resources to help you improve, and the following message:

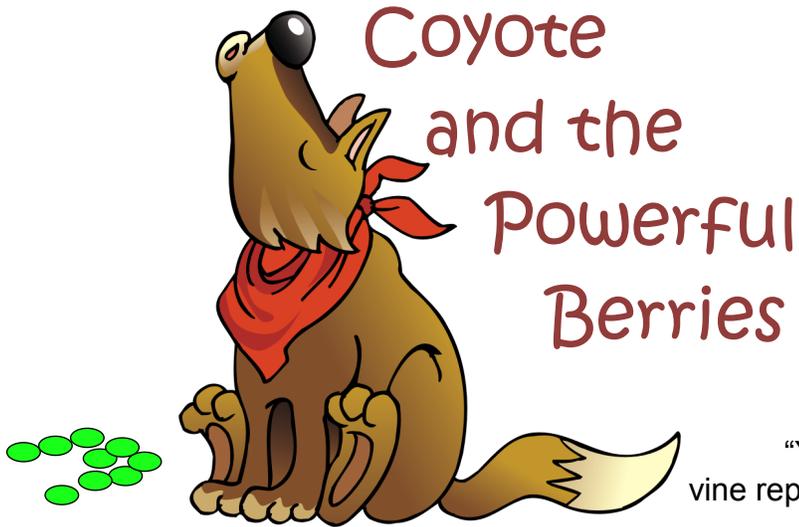
“We’re excited to share our decades of research and practical advice for regenerating soils the way nature intended. **Heads up:** Over the next 4 days, you’ll receive our popular Soil Series, a quick primer into the world of soil regeneration! Please feel free to reply to this email if you have any questions whatsoever.

Our team would be thrilled to get to know you!

Answer for Quiz!! Quiz!! Quiz!!: Subadult male *Phidippus audax*

Cheers,
The Soil Food Web Team”





They say that one day Coyote passed a vine loaded with small berries, black and soft. They looked ripe. "Yum!" said Coyote, and reached out to pick some.

"You better not eat these berries," said the vine.

Coyote was surprised and angry. "Who are you to tell me what I can do! I'm stronger than you. I'm an animal! You are just a plant."

"You better not eat these berries," the vine repeated. "You'll be sorry."

"Sorry! No I won't. Your ripe berries look delicious," and he picked a few. They were sweet.

"You're going to be very sorry," warned the plant. But Coyote just ate more and more berries.

"You can't stop me," he bragged. "I'm stronger than you."

"We'll see about that," muttered the vine.

Just then, Coyote's stomach began to feel funny. Coyote sat down. "Maybe I ate too much at once," he thought. But his stomach began to rumble.

He patted his swelling belly. "Maybe I just need to drink some water to go with them," he thought, and he started walking toward a creek. But his insides rumbled more and more.

Suddenly he felt like passing some gas. He looked around and saw no other animals who would be bothered by the smell, so he let some go: Pif!

But it didn't make him feel better for long. More and more gas rumbled in his belly. Poof! Puff! The gas was so powerful that each poot pushed him along like a strong wind. Then the puffs became even stronger. He flew up in the air like a rocket! And that wasn't all. Coyote poo was coming out too. He couldn't control it!

Pooooof! He flew up trailing poo. Crash! He landed on rocks. Poooooof! Another blast, and this time he landed in a pile of his own poo. P-p-p-pooooof! When he finally stopped blasting into the air, he was completely covered in poo.

"I don't think I'll try any more of those berries," decided Coyote.

From The Earthteller,

Fran Stallings

When I heard this story, the teller explained that it was usually told when people saw a certain plant whose berries would cause [less dramatic!] stomach upsets. It's fun to imagine a plant challenging Coyote "You'd better not eat my berries!" knowing full well that he can't resist a dare.

Often a funny gross story is more memorable than a serious warning. Listeners would pay attention, and remember to leave those ripe berries alone.

When I heard this story we weren't outdoors, and the teller didn't say the name of the story's plant. But this next summer I found "creeping cucumber" (*Melothria pendula*) growing in my yard. The unripe berries of this native vine, the color and size of green grapes, taste like cucumber. They

(Continued on Page 15)

(Continued from Page 14)



are very tasty and harmless. But some websites label the plant as toxic because when its berries are RIFE (black & soft) they can cause diarrhea. I wonder if creeping cucumber is one of the plants about which this Coyote story was told?

Many plants make sure their seeds get transportation + fertilizer by wrapping the seeds in fruit. Usually the fruit is sweet and nutritious, a fair reward for the animal who takes the trouble to pick it, swallow the seeds, and carry them to a new location. I find seedlings of mulberry, red cedar, wild cherries, and other fruit-bearing plants, coming

up along fence lines and under the trees in my yard where birds have carried them. In autumn I have seen coyote scat packed with persimmon seeds.

Attractive tasty fruits are just one way that plants help their seeds move to new locations. In autumn we can see parachutes, barbs and prickles that stick in fur (or socks), and other modes of transportation.

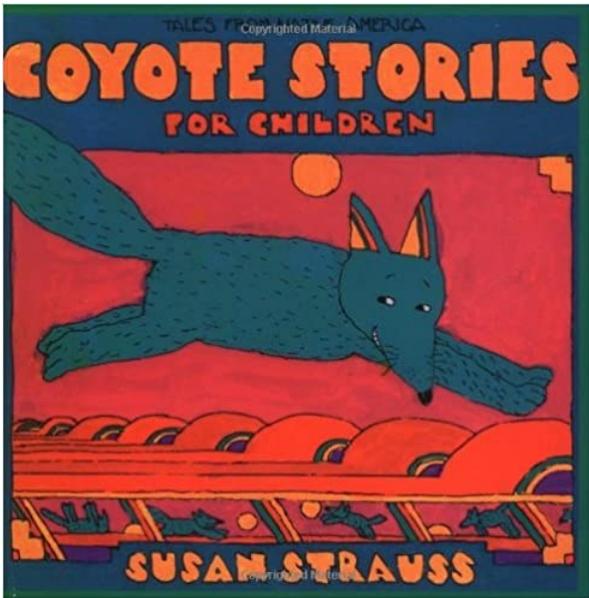


from iNaturalist

Plants can't move around like Coyote, but they have other powers!

Folktale:

I heard this story orally decades ago, and regret that I can't recall the teller's name or Nation. The only print source that comes anywhere close is "Coyote and the Grass People" in Susan Strauss' *Coyote Stories for Children: Tales from Native America* (Beyond Words Press 1991). She writes that she adapted it from Robert Lowie's *The Assiniboin* (4:239-244 in *The Anthropological Papers of the American Museum of Natural History*, New York: American Museum of Natural History, 1909). This story has the grasses murmuring "We are the strongest people in the world" (which I like, because certainly grasses hold the plains together). Despite their warning, braggart Coyote asserts his power by eating some grass which makes him fart so dramatically that he rockets into the air. Finally he grabs the trunks of some poplar trees and hangs on until the farting stops. Conclusion: that's why poplar roots appear to be pulled part-way out of the ground.



Facttale:

For more information about "creeping cucumber, see

<http://www.eattheweeds.com/creeping-cucumber-melothria-pendula/>



The 109th Annual Technical Meeting
of the Oklahoma Academy of Science
will be held VIRTUALLY
on Friday, November 6, 2020

To All Participants: All participants must register for the 2020 Virtual Technical Meeting by completing the online registration form [click here](#). The Virtual Technical Meeting will primarily take place in Section Breakout Rooms in **Zoom**. It is therefore essential that you provide the email address that is linked to your Zoom account so you can be automatically placed in the appropriate Section Breakout Room when you "arrive at the meeting". If you do not have a Zoom account, visit www.zoom.com to sign up for a free account. If your institution would like to submit a group registration, please contact OAS Executive Director Adam Ryburn (aryburn@okcu.edu) for details.

Registration costs are \$15.00 for student participants, \$35.00 for Professional and/or Life OAS Members, and \$45.00 for Professional Non-Members. The deadline to register for the Virtual Technical Meeting is **Wednesday, November 4 @ 5:00pm**. **NOTE:** If you are presenting your research, the deadline for providing research presentation information (title, authors, abstract, ect.) is **Wednesday, October 28 @ 5:00pm**.

To Presenters: All presenters must register for the 2020 Virtual Conference. More information about *POAS* can be found at the [POAS page](#) and in the form (see above). If you have any questions or concerns, please contact OAS Executive Director Adam Ryburn (aryburn@okcu.edu).

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation



Upcoming Events Hackberry Flat Center—2020

October 3,4,5 & 9 Monarch Watch Evening Roost Activity

October 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 Monarch Watch Morning Tagging Activity

(Reservations Required for Evening & Morning activities)

Nov. 14 Wetland Tour 1pm - 3:30 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

Save the Date:
5/7/2021



The staff at the Noble Research Institute are looking forward, optimistically, to set the date for the Oklahoma Envirothon for May 7, 2021.

The National Conservation Foundation's Envirothon Competition will be held at the end of July with the topic: Water Resource Management: Local Control and Local Solutions. Teams will be expected to present on this topic at the Oklahoma Envirothon Competition.

Gather your teams and
Research! Study! And Practice!



Gardening is about more than just roots and leaves, it's about human connection, successes and failures, moments of mindfulness and growing some good.

This is the most delightfully human podcast about plants you'll ever listen to! Hosted by Mangesh Hattikudur and collaboration between iHeartMedia and you by your friends at Miracle-Gro "Humans Growing Stuff" is a show about growing and gardening for everyone. We'll share sweetly inspiring stories, tips and tricks to nurture your plant addiction and just enough science to make you sound like an expert! So join us as we dig into "Humans Growing Stuff."

To go to the podcast, click [here](#).



Music, radio and podcasts, all free. Listen online or download the iHeartRadio App.

Become a member for access to the upcoming enticing on-line events.

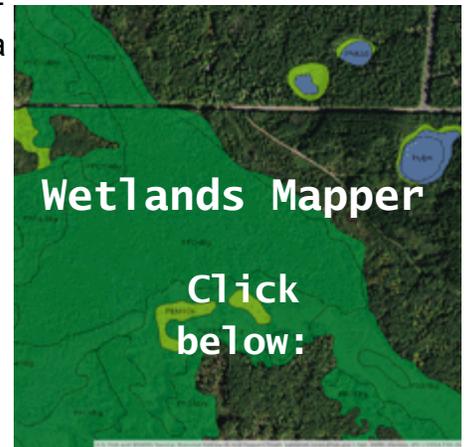


A virtual presentation on October 1st, 7:00pm: "Our own Rahmona Thompson will be giving a (most insightful?) talk on "Sex in the Flower Bed". She assures me native plants will be mentioned, at some point..."

Another virtual presentation on November 5th: "Dr. Rick Lupia, curator of the Sam Noble Museum at OU. A paleobotanist, he gives a fascinating overview of the evolution (going back to the very beginning) of plants in Oklahoma."

Wonders of Wildflowers Weekend and Doug Tallamy in 2021!

This Wetlands Mapper, from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, was found in the latest Oklahoma Wetlands Program Bulletin. This Mapper "integrates digital map data along with other resource information to produce current information on the status, extent, characteristics and functions of wetlands, riparian, and deepwater habitats." There is a bit of training needed to operate it properly, but there is a step-by-step process with a manual and a video to help you.



https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=



"[OG&E is] proud to partner with Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden and its statewide literacy program, Read for Adventure.

This program and new book, *Juniper's Butterfly Garden*, (published by Southwestern Stationery, Oklahoma City) helps encourage kids to read with an inspiring story of a child's journey as she learns about monarch butterflies.



Learn more about monarch butterfly conservation by checking out *Juniper's Butterfly Garden* from a participating library (most libraries across Oklahoma are participating and have stocked up with many copies; there is a list on the OKC ZOO website or check with your local library). You'll then receive one voucher redeemable for FREE admission to the OKC Zoo for up to four people. Vouchers are redeemable through June 30, 2021."



Oklahoma Geo Team
Prospective Board Members
Open House
Saturday, October 10th at 5pm

The Oklahoma Geo Team is the only nonprofit in Oklahoma dedicated to increasing GIS and STEM skills in 6th-12th grade students, particularly those from historically underserved populations such as tribal students.

The team needs YOUR help! We are looking to add up to 8 more board members to make the nonprofit even better.

Since we can't meet in person, we are hosting a virtual open house where you can ask questions about the team and get to know us.

To register for the Open House:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvf-CsqT8pHdBdJ8oUFIQIFLHVzlttM2FC>



For more about the team, visit OklahomaGeoTeam.com.



Fall Break Day Camp is coming..
October 15-October 17



Brownies through Cadettes, come join us at our first Day Camp at Trivera!! This will be a camp to truly experience the wonders of Trivera. Enjoy touring and hiking the grounds, participate in STEM activities, arts & crafts, outdoor skills, camp songs and of course Saturday Smores! Come join the fun as we celebrate our new camp with it's first official Day Camp Make sure you are registered for the 2021 Membership year!

To register please visit the link below!

https://www.gswestok.org/.../2020/fall_break_day_camp.html

If you join Oklahoma Green Schools on Facebook, you can enjoy frequent informational posts like the one below, as well as timely communications about the Program.

SATURDAY SUGGESTIONS

CELEBRATE THE FIRST WEEKEND IN FALL BY TAKING A NATURE WALK AND OBSERVE THE BEAUTY OF THE FALL COLORS SETTING IN AMONGST THE TREES.

YOU CAN EVEN MAKE IT AN ART PROJECT FOR CHILDREN BY HAVING THEM RECREATE THE COLORS SEEN ON THEIR WALK WITH A ONE OF A KIND PAINTING USING THE VIVID COLORS OF MOTHER NATURE.



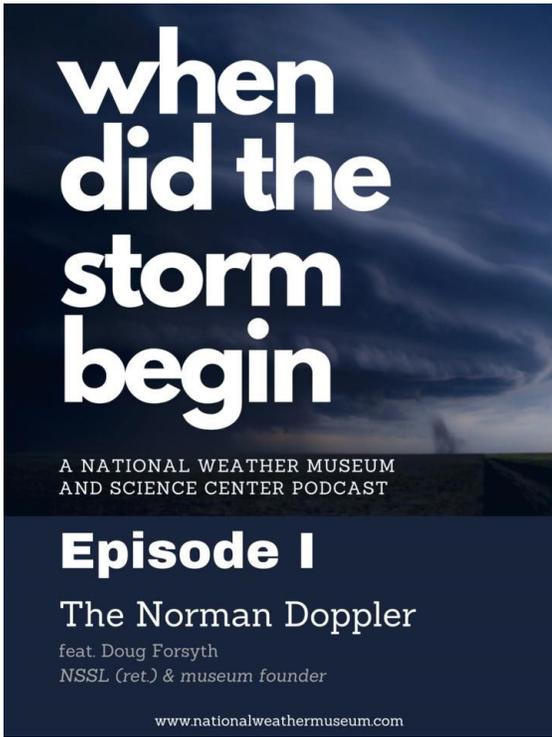
www.okgreenschools.org



Become familiar with the diversity of shorebirds from plovers to peeps, and more! Get tips on the best ways to get started identifying them—for shorebirds that means paying attention to shape, size, and behavior.

Whether you're at home or out in the field, this helpful shorebird ID guide has full-color photos, ID tips, and a size reference chart. You can download, print out, and bring this guide with you when you go birding, courtesy of Dr. Kevin

FREE Download: <https://bit.ly/33oFIIX>



We are so excited to announce the inaugural episode of our brand-new podcast series: When Did The Storm Begin-bringing the history of weather to the forefront!

Our first episode features Museum Founder, Douglas Forsyth discussing The Norman Doppler.

We release this inaugural episode in honor of Doug for his vast contributions to the field of meteorology, especially with regard to the Norman Weather Enterprise, and his vision and leadership in establishing a museum to preserve the rich history of meteorology in Norman, OK.

nationalweathermuseum.com/podcast/



Saving the intricate fabric of life ... one thread at a time.

The WildCare Foundation is a supporting organization with the following mission:

"Our mission is to provide people a place to bring native wildlife struggling to survive with the goal of releasing healthy individuals back to nature."

The homepage for the Foundation is: <http://www.wildcareoklahoma.org/>

Part of what they do is to publish a quarterly newsletter. The issue is available at the following URL:

The archive is available at this URL: <http://www.wildcareoklahoma.org/index.php?news>



November 7, 2020 (Stream Ecology Education)
November 8, 2020 (Stream Monitoring)*

Stream Ecology Education Training is a pre-requisite to take this training

Visit the Blue Thumb website [here](http://www.bluethumb.org) at a later date to sign up.



“You can hang Audubon’s prints in your home for **free!** Browse all 435 vibrant images from Birds of America, then download your favorites in crisp, clear high resolution—ready to be printed, framed, and enjoyed.”

“High-resolution images courtesy of the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove, Audubon, PA, and the Montgomery County, PA, Audubon Collection. [Learn more about the John James Audubon Center.](#)”

[Click here to go to the image website!](#)



**Be a DJ
With
Animal
Sounds!**

An experience from The Cornell Lab and All About Birds. We would like to give you more information, but there really isn't any more. You just need to click [here](#) and then click on PLAY!

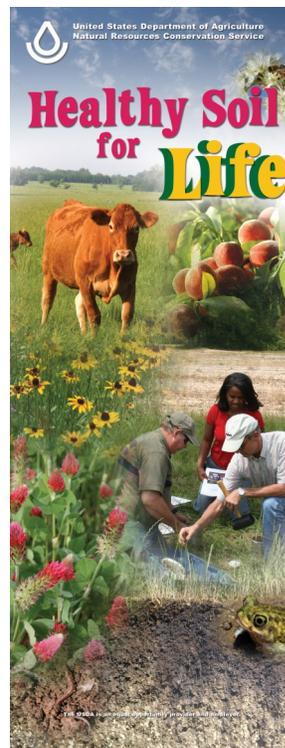
Roar On!!

- Oklahoma State Parks & -
Outdoor Guide

Order your free Guide and free brochures [here!](#)

Fig. 1 *Sialia sialis*
(Oklahoma State Wildflower)

With more than 30 state parks and the most diverse terrain in the nation, Oklahoma is an outdoor lover's paradise. In the 2020 Oklahoma State Parks & Outdoor Guide, you'll find detailed information and photography from each Oklahoma State Park. There are also pages highlighting some of the state's top spots for fishing, rock climbing, golfing and other outdoor activities. The guide's directories for outdoor activities, campgrounds, cabins and lodges around the state will make travel planning easy.



There may be new workshops in 2020 (not posted yet), but in the meantime the website has piles (no pun intended) of pdf resources for your wintertime reading.

- ◇ Oklahoma Conservation Commission -- Soil Health 201
- ◇ It's not just Dirt Anymore
- ◇ McPeak Case Study
- ◇ Our Shared Journey
- ◇ Building Your Soil Health Team
- ◇ Emmons Slides
- ◇ Oklahoma State University -- Soil Health CIG

Also check out the Oklahoma Soil Health Card -- a testing tool for gardeners, farmers, or anyone who wants to know more about the soil around them.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ok/soils/health/>

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 Sunnyslane 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>

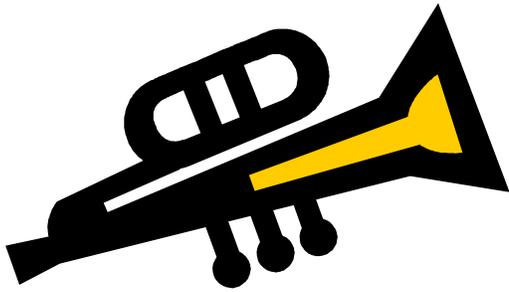
Project WILD

<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>