

**AGENDA**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Tulsa County Conservation District**  
**6660 S. Sheridan Rd. Suite 120**  
**Tulsa, OK 74133**  
**September 8, 2016 - 4:00 PM**

1. Meeting called to order
2. Roll Call
3. Consider, Discuss, and Take possible action on the following agenda items:
4. Consideration of Consent Agenda:
  - A. Approval of Minutes from the August 11, 2016 Special Meeting
  - B. Approval of Financial Statements & District Budget for Period Ending August 2016
  - C. Approval of District Reimbursement Claims and Payment of Bills Owed by the District
  - D. Approval of District Employee Timesheet & Leave Records for the Month of August 2016
  - E. Acceptance of NRCS Farm Bill performance worksheets
5. Consideration of and Possible Action on Items to be Removed Consent Agenda
6. Cost Share Program Year 17
7. Discussion and/or Possible Action on the Following District Operation Items:
  - A. TCCD Monthly Outreach Report
  - B. Discussion and Acceptance of District Conservationist Agency Report
    - a) Discussion of Local Work Group Meeting, and Locally Led Meeting Changes
    - b) Future Outreach Ideas
  - C. The Month of August in Conservation
  - D. TCCD Appointed Director Position Recruitment Update
    - a) Vote to appoint Tom Tolbert from the City of Broken Arrow to Craig Thurmond's vacant director position
    - b) Administer the Loyalty Oath
    - c) Administer the Oath of Office
  - E. Approval of Time Change for the Remainder of 2016 Scheduled Meetings
  - F. RMC Update
  - G. Land Legacy Dinner Invitation
8. Public Comments:
9. Adjourn:

Next regularly scheduled meeting is October 13, 2016 at the Tulsa County Conservation District Office: 6660 South Sheridan Rd, Suite 120 Tulsa, OK 74133.



Tulsa County Conservation District  
5401 S. Sheridan Road, Suite 201 \* Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145-7522  
918-280-1595 Fax: 280-1594 E-Mail: [Tulsaccd@conservation.ok.gov](mailto:Tulsaccd@conservation.ok.gov)

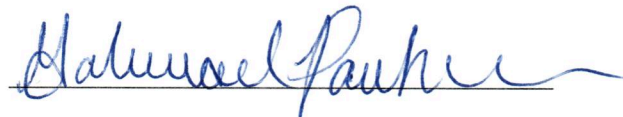
## STATEMENT OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES

I certify that the minutes of the **Special Meeting** of the Tulsa County Conservation District Board of Directors held on **September 8, 2016** were approved as written by a vote in the **Special Meeting** of the Board of Directors held on **October 13, 2016**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Directors

10/21/16  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Minutes  
Tulsa County Conservation District  
Special Board Meeting**

Date: September 8, 2016

Time: 4:00 PM

Members Present: Zach Kilburn, Chairman  
Melissa Gray, Member  
Jana Black, Member

Members Absent: John Beasley, Member

Others Present: Gabrielael Parker, District Secretary  
Cleaoon Bradford, Acting District Conservationist  
Tom Tolbert, City of Broken Arrow Stormwater  
Department

**1. Meeting Called to Order:**

Chairman, Zach Kilburn called the meeting to order at 4:20 PM He noted this was a special meeting and is held in compliance with the Open Meeting Act, Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes, Section 301 and following, as amended. Notice of this meeting is on file with the county clerk's office. The agenda for this meeting was posted on September 6, 2016 in the front window at 6660 S. Sheridan Rd. Suite 120, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133.

- 1. Meeting called to order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Consider, Discuss, and Take possible action on the following agenda items:**
- 4. Consideration of Consent Agenda:**
  - A. Approval of Minutes from the August 11, 2016 Special Meeting**
  - B. Approval of Financial Statements & District Budget for Period Ending August 2016**
  - C. Approval of District Reimbursement Claims and Payment of Bills Owed by the District**
  - D. Approval of District Employee Timesheet & Leave Records for the Month of August 2016**
  - E. Acceptance of NRCS Farm Bill performance worksheets**
- 5. Consideration of and Possible Action on Items to be Removed Consent Agenda**

After a brief discussion, Melissa Gray made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 11, 2016 Special Meeting. Jana Black 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Nays: None. The motion carries.



**6. Cost Share Program Year 17**

No action needed to be taken at this time.

**7. Discussion and/or Possible Action on the Following District Operation Items:**

**A. TCCD Monthly Outreach Report**

After a brief discussion, Jana Black made a motion to accept the TCCD Monthly Outreach Report. Melissa Gray 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Nays: None. The motion carries.

**B. Discussion and Acceptance of District Conservationist Agency Report**

**a) Discussion of Local Work Group Meeting, and Locally Led Meeting Changes**

Cleao Bradford said the original plan was to have the Locally Led meeting on 9/8, but decided to hold off and combine that meeting with an outreach event for the High Tunnel Systems. He decided to do it this way, because we could get a better idea of what the resource concerns are for Tulsa, from the people who attend the tour. Once we get that information, we can hold a Local Work Group meeting in November, to get the concerns from other community partners. This will eventually help with the ranking, as well as reduce time and paperwork to hold a special meeting. With that being said, the new date for the Locally Led Meeting/Outreach event is October 20, 2016 from 10-12 PM. We decided instead of having another workshop like last year, we would do a high tunnel demonstration. We have a producer who is willing to show people a high tunnel that he put on his property. Similar to the on farm demonstrations NRCS and OCC did last year.

Cleao said we currently have three CSP participants obligated and should be ready to implement conservation practices. We did have a fourth, but they had to cancel. As far as EQIP is concerned, there is no more funding available for FY 2016, and we do not have specifics on funding for Tulsa for FY 2017. Other than that NRCS is cleaning up files from FY 2016 and gearing up for the start of FY 2017 beginning October 1, 2016.

**b) Future Outreach Ideas**

Cleao talked about the need to participate in future outreach events. In the NRCS staff meeting, Gabriela mentioned that it would help her if an NRCS staff member could attend some events to talk more in depth about NRCS programs and basic issues. Gabriela mentioned NRCS having a presence at the Monarchs on the Mountain event on September 24, 2016. She thought it would a good event to talk about NRCS's new Monarch Butterfly Initiative. Cleao said he would work on having more of a presence at outreach events like the Fair as well as the Home and Garden Show. Melissa Gray made a motion to accept the District Conservationists Agency Report. Jana Black 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Nays: None. The motion carries.



**The Month of July in Conservation**

Gabriel said this was just an FYI. No further action needed to be taken at this time.

**C. TCCD Appointed Director Position Recruitment Update**

**a) Vote to appoint Tom Tolbert from the City of Broken Arrow to Craig Thurmond's vacant director position**

After a brief introduction Tom said that he was excited and delighted to be on the board. Everyone was really excited to have him join the TCCD family. Melissa Gray made a motion to accept Tom Tolbert's appointment to the board. Jana Black 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Nays: None. The motion carries.

**b) Administer the Loyalty Oath**

Gabriel Parker administered the Loyalty Oath to Tom Tolbert. No further action needed.

**c) Administer the Oath of Office**

Gabriel Parker administered the Oath of Office to Tom Tolbert. No further action needed.

**D. Approval of Time Change for the Remainder of 2016 Scheduled Meetings**

Gabriel Parker said that she had talked to Lisa Knauf at OCC about whether or not changing the time would set the schedule back to regular meetings. Lisa said if they were originally special meetings, changing the time would not revert them to regular meetings. Gabriel said she thought that would be the case before she submitted the changed meeting times. Gabriel said that since the time change would not change the meeting classification, she did not bother submitting the paperwork to the county clerk. Instead of submitting paperwork twice, she would have the board vote to reinstate the old time of 4:00 PM. Melissa Gray made a motion to accept the 4:00 PM time change for the remainder of the 2016 scheduled meetings. Report. Jana Black 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Nays: None. The motion carries.

**E. 2016 RMC Update**

Gabriel Parker said we had raised about \$7,000, which was not bad at all given that about 65 people attended. We did hit a few hiccups in the morning, when the agenda was altered. Gabriel said that she ran out of name tags, because Eventbrite does not give names of all the attendees when multiple tickets are purchased on one order. She said that next year she will send an email to confirm the names of the people who plan on attending. Scott VanLoo and Don Hinson expressed their frustration with having an RMC on the construction permit. They said it is very hard to get developers to these all day conferences. Maybe in the future we can look at having a half day conference. Vernon Seaman suggested that maybe we look into having a conference on alternative energy, and electric fill stations for electric cars. Vernon said that INCOG is developing projects related to alternative energy. The committee liked the idea. The only problem is that it would be completely new territory. We would be starting from scratch. The board seemed to be interested in the alternative energy conference as well. Gabriel said that she was still planning on sending out a meeting request to start planning the next RMC in October. No further action needed to be taken at this time.

**F. Land Legacy Dinner Invitation**

Gabriel Parker said that we received the invitation and she would pass the information on. No further action needed to be taken at this time.

**Public Comments:**

None

**8. Adjourn:**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:39 PM

Next regularly scheduled meeting is October 13, 2016 at the Tulsa County Conservation District Office: 6660 South Sheridan Rd, Suite 120 Tulsa, OK 74133.

9:36 AM

09/07/16

Accrual Basis

**Tulsa County Conservation District**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**August 2016**

	<u>Aug 16</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Administrative Income	0.20
OCC Reimbursements	<u>2,044.46</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	2,044.66
<b>Expense</b>	
Administrative Expense	238.54
Employee Benefits	453.84
Payroll	1,698.52
Payroll Tax	731.61
Telephone and Internet	123.12
Travel	<u>97.31</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>3,342.94</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>-1,298.28</u></u>



**Tulsa County Conservation District**  
**Profit & Loss Detail**  
**August 2016**

9:37 AM  
 09/07/16  
 Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
<b>Income</b>								
<b>Administrative Income</b>								
Deposit	8/31/2016		Arvest	Interest Pay...		Arvest Checki...	0.20	0.20
Total Administrative Income							0.20	0.20
<b>OCC Reimbursements</b>								
Deposit	8/9/2016		OCC	August 2016 ...		Arvest Checki...	2,044.46	2,044.46
Total OCC Reimbursements							2,044.46	2,044.46
Total Income							2,044.66	2,044.66
<b>Expense</b>								
<b>Administrative Expense</b>								
Check	8/11/2016		Wal-Mart	Board Meetin...		Arvest Checki...	9.46	9.46
Check	8/16/2016	8485	Fuzzelli's Copier	Quarter Copi...		Arvest Checki...	139.83	149.29
Check	8/23/2016		Check Depot.com	Reorderd Ch...		Arvest Checki...	89.25	238.54
Total Administrative Expense							238.54	238.54
<b>Employee Benefits</b>								
Check	8/1/2016	8478	OCC	July 2016 Pr...		Arvest Checki...	151.28	151.28
Check	8/4/2016	8482	OCC	August 2016 ...		Arvest Checki...	151.28	302.56
Check	8/29/2016	8487	OCC	September 2...		Arvest Checki...	151.28	453.84
Total Employee Benefits							453.84	453.84
<b>Payroll</b>								
Check	8/16/2016	8484	Gabriel S Parker	August 1st -1...		Arvest Checki...	849.26	849.26
Check	8/31/2016	8486	Gabriel S Parker	August 16th ...		Arvest Checki...	849.26	1,698.52
Total Payroll							1,698.52	1,698.52
<b>Payroll Tax</b>								
Check	8/10/2016		IRS	941 Tax Pay...		Arvest Checki...	646.61	646.61
Check	8/16/2016		Oklahoma Tax Com...	July 2016 Pa...		Arvest Checki...	85.00	731.61
Total Payroll Tax							731.61	731.61
<b>Telephone and Internet</b>								
Check	8/29/2016		COX Communicatio...	August 2016 ...		Arvest Checki...	123.12	123.12
Total Telephone and Internet							123.12	123.12
<b>Travel</b>								
Check	8/16/2016	8483	Gabriel S Parker	July 2016 Mil...		Arvest Checki...	97.31	97.31
Total Travel							97.31	97.31
Total Expense							3,342.94	3,342.94
<b>Net Income</b>							<b>-1,298.28</b>	<b>-1,298.28</b>

12:51 PM  
09/07/16  
Accrual Basis

**Tulsa County Conservastion District**  
**Profit & Loss**  
**July through August 2016**

	<u>Jul - Aug 16</u>
<b>Income</b>	
Administrative Income	5,200.28
OCC Reimbursements	4,088.92
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>9,289.20</u>
<b>Expense</b>	
Aministrative Expense	344.05
Cost-Share Payments	2,016.41
Employee Benefits	453.84
Payroll	3,397.04
Payroll Tax	1,463.21
Telephone and Internet	246.24
Travel	166.43
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>8,087.22</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>1,201.98</u></u>



P O BOX 1670  
LOWELL AR 72745

## Statement Ending 08/31/2016

TULSA COUNTY CONSERVATION

Page 1 of 4

Customer Number:

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TULSA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
6660 S SHERIDAN RD STE 120  
TULSA OK 74133-1768

### Managing Your Accounts

	24-HOUR ACCOUNT INFO (800) 601-8655 LINE
	CUSTOMER SERVICE (866) 952-9523
	MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 799 LOWELL AR 72745
	WEBSITE <a href="http://www.arvest.com">www.arvest.com</a>

### Summary of Accounts

Account Type	Account Number	Ending Balance
NON-PROFIT INTEREST CHECKING		\$3,339.51
<b>Total Current Value</b>		<b>\$3,339.51</b>

### Track, Save and Spend Your Money Smarter

Arvest Bank's Online Banking with BlueIQ™ provides easy, secure access to your financial accounts anywhere you're connected to the internet via computer or tablet. In addition to standard features like viewing balances and transferring funds, Online Banking with BlueIQ™ offers personal money management tools and other extras. Learn more at [arvest.com/BlueIQ](http://arvest.com/BlueIQ).

### NON-PROFIT INTEREST CHECKING

#### Account Summary

Date	Description	Amount
08/01/2016	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$4,637.79</b>
	2 Credit(s) This Period	\$2,044.66
	12 Debit(s) This Period	\$3,342.94
08/31/2016	<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$3,339.51</b>

#### Interest Summary

Description	Amount
Annual Percentage Yield Earned	0.00%
Interest Days	0
Interest Earned	\$0.00
Interest Paid This Period	\$0.20
Interest Paid Year-to-Date	\$0.91
Interest Withheld Year-to-Date	\$0.00

DORMANCY: A MONTHLY FEE WILL BEGIN IF NO ACTIVITY FOR 12 MONTHS.

#### Electronic Credits

Date	Description	Amount
08/09/2016	VENDOR PAYMENTS MISC REIMB TULSA COUNTY CONSERVAT	\$2,044.46

#### Other Credits

Date	Description	Amount
08/31/2016	INTEREST PMT	\$0.20

#### Electronic Debits

Date	Description	Amount
08/10/2016	IRS USATAXPYMT TULSA COUNTY CONSERVAT	-\$646.61
08/11/2016	491951 POS PIN PUR FROM CHK	-\$9.46





**Statement Ending 08/31/2016**

TULSA COUNTY CONSERVATION

Page 3 of 4

Customer Number:

**NON-PROFIT INTEREST CHECKING**

(continued)

**Electronic Debits (continued)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
08/16/2016	WAL-MART #0894 TULSA, OK 5411 TAX PAYMENTS OK TAX PMT	-\$85.00
08/23/2016	249959 POS PUR FROM CHK THE CHECK DEPOT	-\$89.25
08/29/2016	941-485-5101, FL 5999 COX COMM TUL BANK DRAFT Tulsa County Conservat	-\$123.12

**Checks Cleared**

<u>Check Nbr</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check Nbr</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check Nbr</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
8478	08/01/2016	\$151.28	8484	08/16/2016	\$849.26	8487	08/29/2016	\$151.28
8482*	08/04/2016	\$151.28	8485	08/16/2016	\$139.83			
8483	08/16/2016	\$97.31	8486	08/31/2016	\$849.26			

\* Indicates skipped check number

**Daily Balances**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
07/31/2016	\$4,637.79	08/10/2016	\$5,733.08	08/29/2016	\$4,188.57
08/01/2016	\$4,486.51	08/11/2016	\$5,723.62	08/31/2016	\$3,339.51
08/04/2016	\$4,335.23	08/16/2016	\$4,552.22		
08/09/2016	\$6,379.69	08/23/2016	\$4,462.97		



P O BOX 1670  
LOWELL AR 72745

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TULSA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
6660 S SHERIDAN RD STE 120  
TULSA OK 74133-1768

## Statement Ending 08/31/2016

TULSA COUNTY CONSERVATION

Page 1 of 2

Customer Number:

### Managing Your Accounts

-  24-HOUR ACCOUNT INFO (800) 601-8655 LINE
-  CUSTOMER SERVICE (866) 952-9523
-  MAILING ADDRESS PO BOX 799 LOWELL AR 72745
-  WEBSITE [www.arvest.com](http://www.arvest.com)

### Summary of Accounts

Account Type	Account Number	Ending Balance
NON-PROFIT INTEREST CHECKING		\$83.10
<b>Total Current Value</b>		<b>\$83.10</b>

#### Track, Save and Spend Your Money Smarter

Arvest Bank's Online Banking with BlueIQ™ provides easy, secure access to your financial accounts anywhere you're connected to the internet via computer or tablet. In addition to standard features like viewing balances and transferring funds, Online Banking with BlueIQ™ offers personal money management tools and other extras. Learn more at [arvest.com/BlueIQ](http://arvest.com/BlueIQ).

### NON-PROFIT INTEREST CHECKING

#### Account Summary

Date	Description	Amount
08/01/2016	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$83.10</b>
	0 Credit(s) This Period	\$0.00
	0 Debit(s) This Period	\$0.00
08/31/2016	<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$83.10</b>

#### Interest Summary

Description	Amount
Annual Percentage Yield Earned	0.00%
Interest Days	0
Interest Earned	\$0.00
Interest Paid This Period	\$0.00
Interest Paid Year-to-Date	\$0.34
Interest Withheld Year-to-Date	\$0.00

DORMANCY: A MONTHLY FEE WILL BEGIN IF NO ACTIVITY FOR 12 MONTHS.

#### Daily Balances

Date	Amount
07/31/2016	\$83.10

# Performance Worksheet/Operational Tasks

Use this form July 1, 2013 to June 30.

**Tulsa County**

Conservation District:

**September-16**

Month & Year

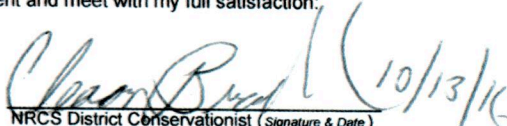
Day of Month

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<b>Conservation Planning</b>																												
Customer service toolkit data entry																												
Conservation plan maintenance																												
Assemble plan components																												
Conducts on-site inspections																												
Provide practice check out services																												
Development of plan and soil maps																												
Other	X																											
<b>Outreach for Farm Bill Programs</b>																												
News Article Development																												
Outreach Activities																												
Assist with monthly outreach report	X	X																										
Public presentations																												
Success stories																												
Earth Team volunteer program																												
Assist with statewide media																												
Other												X																
<b>Administrative Assistance for Farm Bill Programs</b>																												
Filing	X	X																										
Updating General Manual and FOTG																												
Receptionist	X	X																										
General office correspondence	X	X																										
Record of meeting minutes	X																											
Maintain office schedules	X	X																										
Maintain ledgers	X	X																										
Other		X																										
<b>Farm Bill Contracting</b>																												
Explain and promote farm bill programs																												
Local work group coordination																												
Complete program applications																												
Program application rankings																												
Compile and file applications																												
Prepare and mail form letters																												
Plan and contract development																												
Provide technical assistance																												
Update and maintain LTP-003																												
<b>Other Farm Bill Activities (add as needed)</b>																												

Estimated number of hours all district staff worked this month assisting with Farm Bill delivery: 24 Hours

I certify that the above items as marked have been accomplished according to the terms of this agreement and meet with my full satisfaction:

  
 Conservation District Board Representative (Signature & Date)

 10/13/16  
 NRCS District Conservationist (Signature & Date)



# TCCD Monthly Outreach Report

## August 2016



### **Meetings:**

08/04/2016	Monarch on the Mountain Environmental Education Meeting
08/05/2016	RMC Planning Meeting
08/09/2016	RMC Planning Meeting
08/10/2016	TACF Board Meeting
08/11/2016	TCCD Board Meeting
08/12/2016	Environmental Education Committee Meeting
08/15/2016	Monarch on the Mountain Environmental Education Meeting

### **Upcoming Meetings**

09/01/2016	NRCS Staff Meeting
09/01/2016	Sustainable Tulsa Meeting
09/02/2016	Monarch on the Mountain Environmental Education Meeting
09/06/2016	Landscape Work Group Meeting
09/06/2016	Monarch on the Mountain Environmental Education Meeting
09/08/2016	TCCD Board Meeting
09/09/2016	Environmental Education Committee Meeting
09/12/2016	RMC Planning Meeting
09/12/2016	Crow Creek Homeowners Meeting (Not Attending)

### **Special Events:**

08/18/2016	2016 Resource Management Conference
08/20/2016	Cheryl Cheadle's Retirement Party

### **Up Coming Events:**

09/24/2016	Monarch on the Mountain Event
09/30/2016	

### **Upcoming Deadlines:**

08/19/2016	Cost-Share Program Year 16 final report corrections due
08/31/2016	Cost-Share Program Year 17 funds allocation due

### **Work Duties Performed:**

- ❖ Assemble Agenda and Minutes for Meetings
- ❖ Answer phones
- ❖ Cost-Share Year 16 & 17 Assistance
- ❖ RMC Registration Prep
- ❖ TCCD/TACF Website Updates
- ❖ Shredding
- ❖ Storage Room/Office Organization
- ❖ Map Cabinet Reorganization
- ❖ Email Correspondences
- ❖ Annual Compilation Prep
- ❖ Bill Pay
- ❖ Office Recycling
- ❖ Education Outreach
- ❖ Annual Report work
- ❖ NRCS Contract Labels and Maintenance



August 4, 2016

# This Week in Conservation



*This is an internal newsletter intended for Conservation Commission and conservation district staff, directors, and partners.*



## Cheryl Cheadle Retiring from OCC

After almost 25 years of running the **Blue Thumb Program** and educating thousands of Oklahoman's, Cheryl has decided to begin a new chapter in her life.

Cheryl started her conservation career as district manager for the Tulsa CCD. During that time, in partnership with Tulsa County OSU Extension and support from OCC, she worked to create a large volunteer monitoring program—**Blue Thumb**.

**Blue Thumb** went statewide in 1996 with Cheryl running the program under OCC's Water Quality division. The education program trains volunteers to perform stream monitoring, screen groundwater, and educate the public about water pollution prevention.

"Conservation, outdoor education, resource protection – caring for the earth is my passion," Cheryl said when she received her 20 year service award in 2012, "and I am blessed to have a job that lets me put so much energy into this." Cheryl is and will always be the soul of **Blue Thumb**!!!



### Cheryl Cheadle Retirement Party #1—Tulsa

Volunteers and friends of Blue Thumb, help us celebrate a career spent teaching people about the world around them! Cheryl will be honored at a come and go reception.

**Saturday, August 20th**  
"My Studio"

**2:00 - 4:00 pm**  
7902 E. 50th Street South  
in the Fontana Center, Tulsa  
Questions? Call 405 334-6343, or  
jeri.fleming@conservation.ok.gov



### Cheryl Cheadle Retirement Party #2—OKC

The **OCC Water Quality Division** is hosting an appreciation party for Cheryl as she retires from the agency as director of the statewide Blue Thumb program.

**Tuesday, August 30th**  
**2:00 - 4:00 pm, Come & Go (or Stay & Stay)**  
4545 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 11a, OKC

Questions? Call 405-522-4732  
Judith.wilkins@conservation.ok.gov



# Conservation Calendar of Events



Date	Event	Location	District	Contact
Aug 17	On-farm demo field day (cover crops)	Vici	Dewey CCD	580-328-5366
Aug 18	Greg Lyons retirement party	Sulphur	Garvin CD	580-622-3913 x-100
Aug 20	Cheryl Cheadle retirement party	Tulsa	Tulsa CCD	405 334-6343
Aug 23	Plant ID for Soil Health Training	El Reno/Concho	E. Canadian CCD	405.522.4833
Aug 24	Plant ID for Soil Health Training	Wichita Mtns WR	Comanche CCD	580.353.1564.3
Aug 30	Cheryl Cheadle retirement party	OKC	Oklahoma CCD	405-522-4732
Aug 31	On-farm demo field day (cover crops & irrig)	Guymon	Texas CCD	580-338-8873
Sep 01	Conservation Commission Meeting	OKC	Oklahoma CCD	405.521.4826

## Cost Share Program Reminders

### Final Report Corrections

Districts were sent the Cost Share Program Year 16 draft final report by email on Aug. 1 and should review it for accuracy and send any corrections **by Aug. 19** to Tammy Sawatzky.

Tammy.Sawatzky@conservation.ok.gov

### Monthly Reports

Effective July 2, Cost Share Program monthly reports should be emailed to Judith.Wilkins@conservation.ok.gov. Judith works in OCC's Water Quality Division and will be assisting with reviewing the reports. **Instructions:**

- Email your report. Don't waste paper and postage mailing it.
- Make sure your report is legible. Look at the scanned image before emailing it.
- The totals at the bottom of the report are calculated by a formula that you can't change. The totals will not be correct if the form is filled out incorrectly. **NOTE:** If the cost share payment has been made the obligated amount must be zero.
- Reports are still due on the 5th of each month.
- If you miss sending in a monthly report there is no need to go back and create that report. The deadline has passed.

### —Date Change—

The Plant ID for Soil Health training in Wilburton has been moved to Friday, September 30.

## District Director Responsibilities: A 10-Minute Guide Series

### Guide No. 9 - Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity is the law. It is also the foundation of building an effective staff team to deliver district programs and services. If employees feel that an atmosphere of fairness does not prevail in a district office, morale and performance will both suffer.

#### Read the full guide.

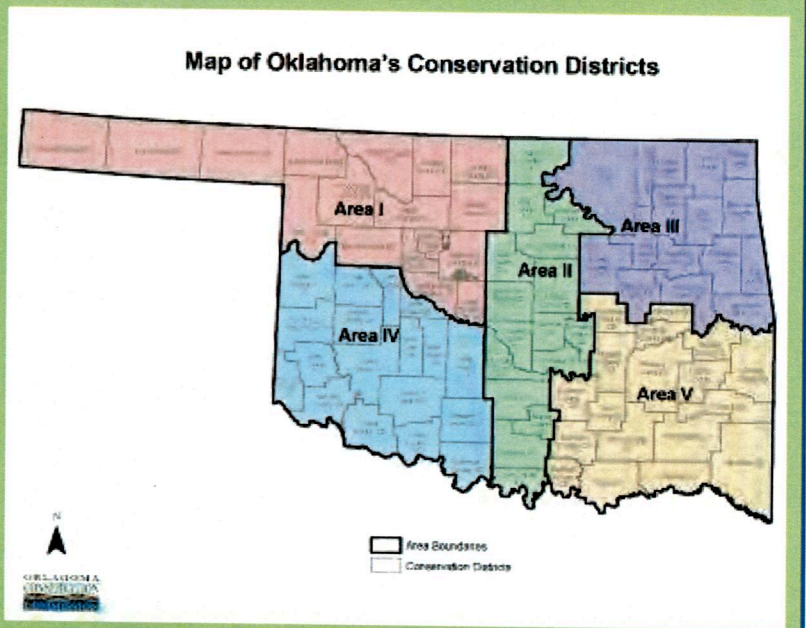
*The 10-Minute Guide Series is a series of informational topics designed to help conservation district directors become more informed and knowledgeable about their responsibilities. Directors are encouraged to review a guide before each board meeting, and then have a 10 minute discussion on it during the meeting. The series is available online here:*

<http://bit.ly/258CtOT>



## Area Meetings are Coming! Save Your Date

- Area I in Geary—November 1**  
(Central North Canadian River CD Host)
- Area II in OKC—October 27**  
(Oklahoma CCD Host)
- Area III in Vinita—November 3**  
(Craig CCD Host)
- Area IV in Cordell—November 15**  
(Washita CCD Host)
- Area V in Wilburton—October 25**  
(Leflore CCD Host)



**NEWS FROM No-till**  
On The Plains

**OK/KS Soil Health Workshop:**  
Bus Tour & Classroom  
Aug. 29-30

**Register Now for Bus Tour & Workshop!**  
Enid, OK • Aug. 29-30

**OKLAHOMA-KANSAS BUS TOUR &  
SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP, AUG. 29-30**

### Information and Registration

<http://notill.org/events/oklahoma-and-kansas-soil-health-workshop>

We are excited to announce a new two-day event along the Kansas-Oklahoma border hosted by No-till on the Plains and our partners. A classroom day will take place Monday, Aug. 29, in Enid, OK, and a bus tour Tuesday, Aug. 30, including stops at Oklahoma and Kansas farms. This event will showcase soil health stewardship on both farm ground and grazing lands.



## FREE Online Class: Managing for a Changing Climate

Interested in learning about Managing for a Changing Climate? Check out this free online 16-week course being offered by the OU Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability; School of Meteorology and the South Central Climate Science Center. This course will provide an integrative understanding of the components of the climate system including the range of natural climate variability and external drivers of climate change, in addition to impacts of a changing climate on multiple sectors such as the economy, policy, ecosystems, and indigenous populations. For more information visit <https://janux.ou.edu/course.tag-nextthought-com-2011-10-nti-courseinfo-fall2016-geogmetr-3523.html>





## Greg Lyons Retirement Lunch August 18, 2016

Garvin CD will be honoring Greg Lyons, watershed aide, with a retirement lunch on August 18, 2016.

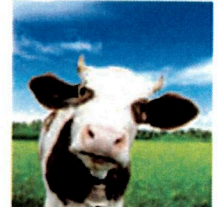
Where: Murray County Expo Center located at 3490 Highway 7 West in Sulphur.

When: Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.

A "money tree" will be available for those who would like to participate.

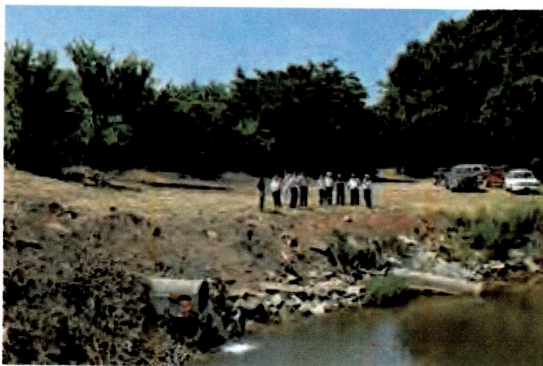
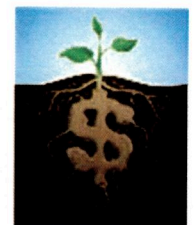
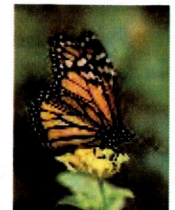
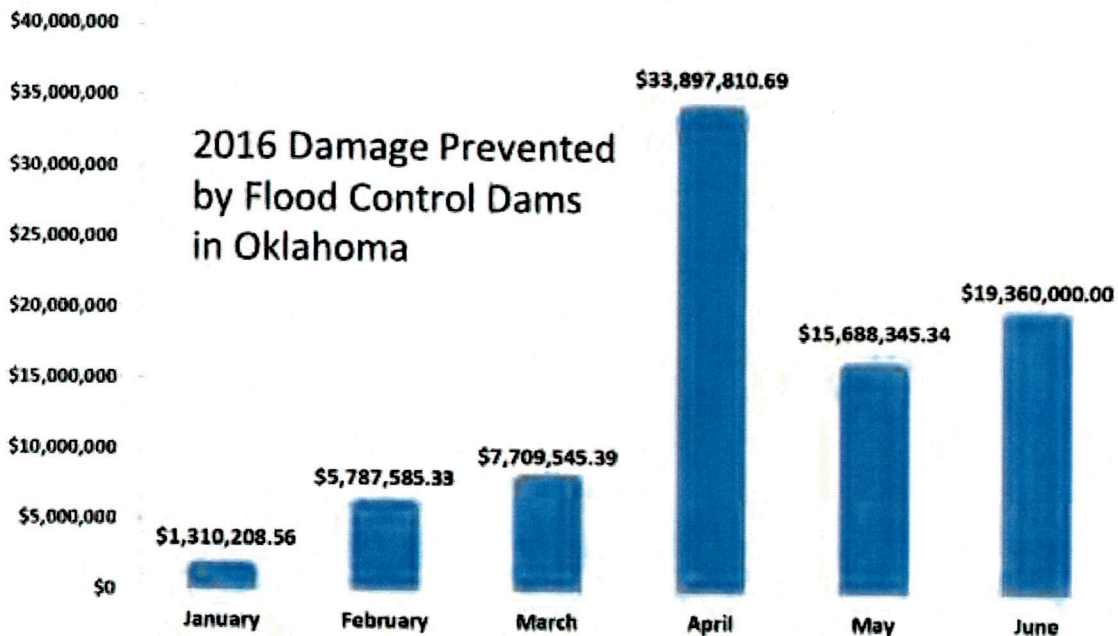
Please RSVP to Tammy by August 15, 2016. If you are unable to attend but would like to send Greg a card, contact the district for his address.

**Tammy Curry**  
Garvin Conservation District  
580-622-3913 x-100



Oklahoma Flood Control Update: June 2016

### \$19.3 million in damage prevented, repairs complete



The month of June 2016 saw state of emergency declarations by Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin due to flooding, and the completion of repairs to flood control dams that were damaged during last year's severe storms. According to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Water Resources Office in Oklahoma, flood control dams prevented \$19.3 million in damage in June 2016. In total, dams have prevented \$83.6 million in damage this year so far.



**[Read the full NRCS article.](#)**



## Cover Crop Survey Results

The Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) reports that insight from 2,020 farmers from across the country reflected enthusiasm for **cover crops** and—for the fourth year in a row—found a yield boost in corn and soybeans following cover crops. Multi-year data from the survey shows the yield boost increases as cover crops are planted year after year, a revelation that points to an appealing long-term benefit of the conservation practice. The survey offers data unavailable elsewhere, providing a vital glimpse into farmers' use of and perceptions about cover crops.

To read the full survey go here: <http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Topic-Rooms/Cover-Crops/Cover-Crop-Surveys>

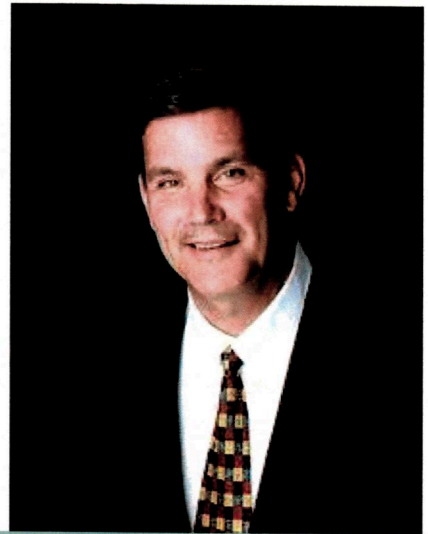


### Neosho River/Grand Lake RCPP Water Quality Project Moving Along

OCC Water Quality Project Coordinators, Jill Ashbrenner and Tash Kirk, are making field visits assessing locations for potential best management practice installation. NRCS (EQIP), OCC (EPA 319), and conservation districts in the Neosho River watershed of Grand Lake are working together to provide technical and administrative assistance to producers. Above, Jill and NRCS TSO staff Larry Coppock discuss the best location to cross the creek with a pipeline to water cattle. The landowner is fencing off this area of Horse Creek and will need alternative water supply for livestock.

## 2017 NACD Quilt Raffle

This year's quilt is called "Swoon," has 2052 pieces, is valued at \$6,000 and is king size. **\$1 raffle tickets or 6 for \$5** can be purchased from any NACD auxiliary member. The drawing will be held **January 31, 2017**. You don't need to be present to win.

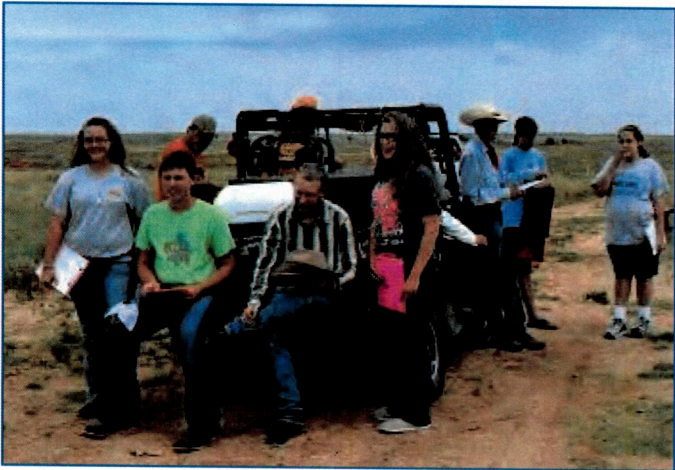


### Area V Commissioner Bill Clark Presented with Allied Industry Award

Bill Clark was presented the Allied Industry award by the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association for his help in expanding the Cattlemen's Foundation scholarship program. Clark also donated a Kubota lawn mower from his dealership that was raffled off during the OCA convention to raise more money for the scholarship program endowment. Mr. Clark is a board member of the **Pontotoc County Conservation District** and Area V Conservation Commission member.





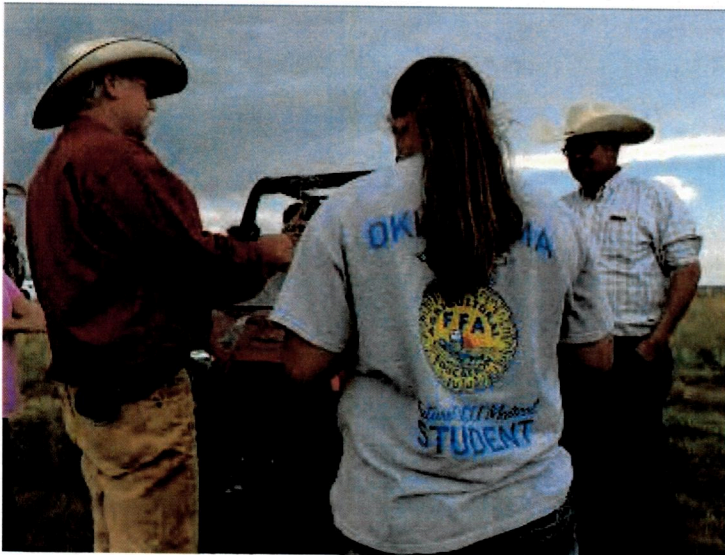
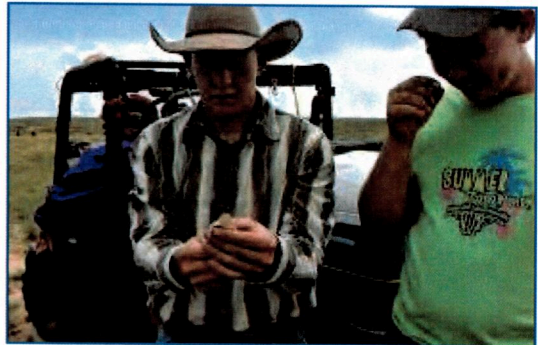


## Beaver CCD has a Youth Board!

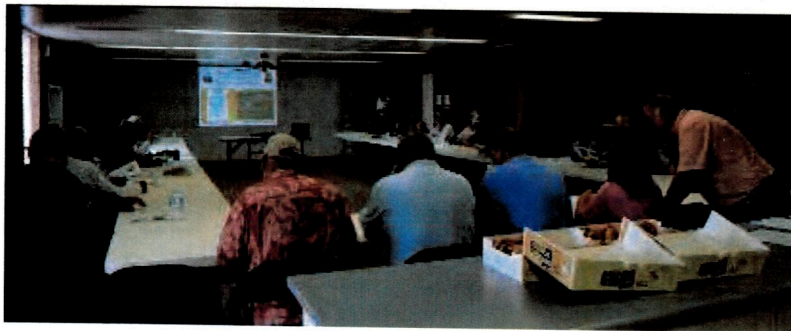
The **Beaver CCD** Youth Board held its first meeting in July and elected officers. The 8 high school juniors and seniors represent each area of the county. The goal is for these youth leaders to engage with and lead other youth to learn about and get involved in conservation. Board members recently attended and served lunch to attendees at the Plant ID for Soil Health training hosted by the district. The district is looking forward to great things with this group of students! Is your district interested in starting a youth board? **Ask Beaver CCD how to get started!**



Hannah Weber- President; Hannah Sager - Vice President  
 Sid Slatten - Secretary; Cody Frantz - Treasurer  
 Allison Glunt - Historian; Katelyn Estrada - Historian  
 Latch Connor - Communications Officer;  
 Dylan Laverty - Event Coordinator



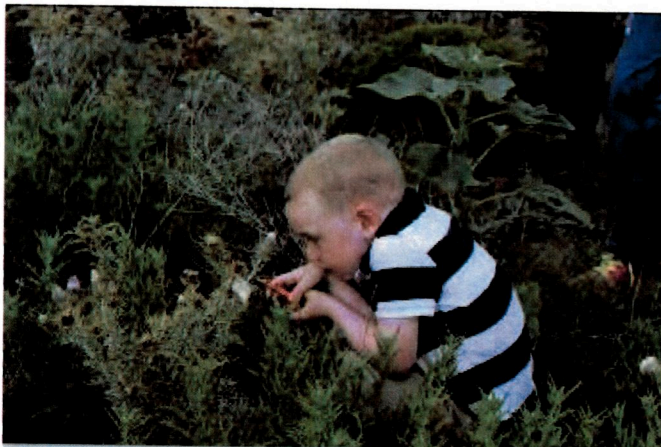
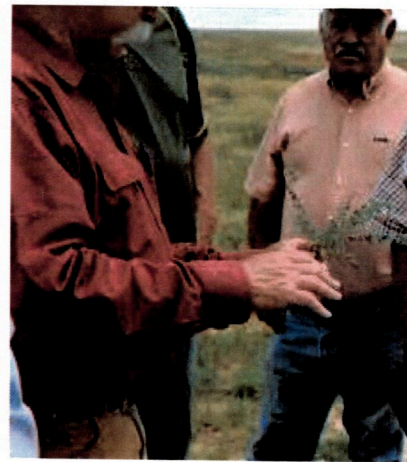




## Plant ID for Soil Health Training in Beaver CCD

What a day! The largest crowd yet at one of these trainings as more than 30 community and youth board members, children, clouds, and even cows joined in. Hosted by Beaver CCD, the group visited plants that populate sand dunes and range, including switchgrass, prickly

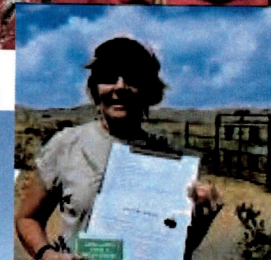
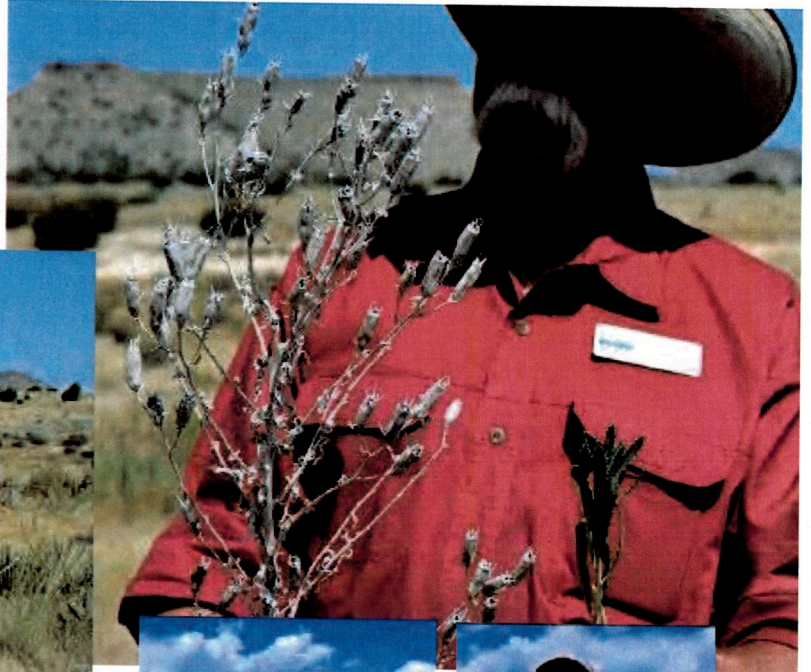
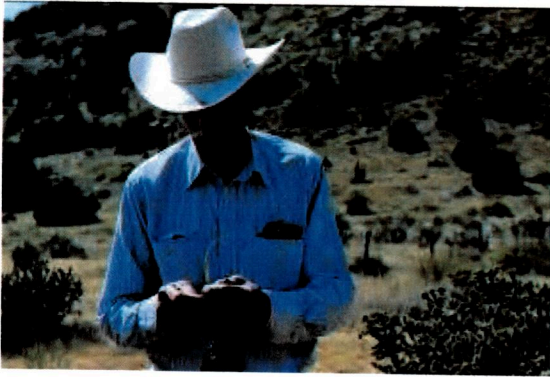
pear cactus and Illinois bundleflower, shown up-close below. The district provided a tasty lunch served by their youth board. Taking pollinator pics occupied the youngest participant (for a moment)!





## Plant ID for Soil Health Training at Black Mesa

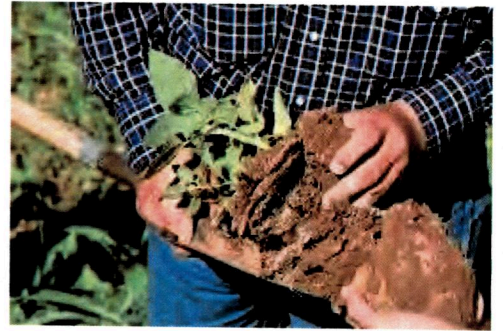
Participants enjoyed the beautiful scenery and mild temperatures exploring an array of plant life, some found nowhere else in Oklahoma! Unique plants such as *Mentzelia decapetala*, also called stickyleaf, (Shown by Greg Scott, below) were found and identified. Lively discussion about ecology, ecosystem services, and the unique ecosystem found at Black Mesa kept local landowners, conservation professionals, and even a few curious vacationers hiking the trail entertained and informed about plants and their role in soil health. Plant ID skills were tested and prizes were awarded! Thanks to host Cimarron CCD!





## OACD RCPP Project Holds Healthy Soils Field Day

On July 21 in Goldsby, participants viewed the progress of a summer cover crop mix that included buckwheat, peas, and sunflowers planted into no-till wheat. The producer left a strip unplanted for comparison, which is a best practice highly recommended by OSU researchers when something new is being tried. Another field was planted to Teff grass. Looking forward to hearing the results of this project. Project partners: **McClain CCD**, OACD, USDA-NRCS, OSU, and the Oklahoma Conservation Commission.





## No Till on the Plains Tour at Emmons Farm

There was a line down the block to get in and standing room only when more than 140 participants attended the No-till on the Plains' Whirlwind Expo July 28 in Leedey in Dewey CCD. The group boarded 4 buses to tour fields with cover crops, study long-term no-till fields and pollinator field borders, and compare soil structures in soil pits. Emmons discussed how he's using cover and companion crops and his method for quickly erecting electric wire fencing for rotating cattle.

The event was funded through a grant from USDA-NRCS and OSU with support from Texas A&M Agrilife, the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts and the Oklahoma Conservation Commission.





# Plant ID for Soil health training



## August 23 — El Reno & Concho, OK

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

### Register:

Oklahoma Conservation Commission  
Call: 405/522-4833

### Meet at 8:45 am:

Redlands Community College  
Royse Ranch Campus  
9304 US-81  
El Reno, OK 73036

*From El Reno, go N on Highway 81 approx. 6 miles to the Ranch entrance on the E side of the road. Group will drive to field sites in Concho.*

Dress for the weather. Group will be outdoors on open prairie land most of the day. Bring a lawn chair and umbrella for breaks, if needed.



## Plant ID the 'Cowboy Way'

Spend the day learning:

- \*To identify native plants
- \*How plants work together
- \*Beneficial plants for livestock
- \*Prairie ecosystem dynamics

**MUST BE REGISTERED  
TO ATTEND**

**Lunch on Your Own  
(Bring a sack lunch  
or plan to eat in Concho.  
Water & Ice will be available.)**





# 2016 plant id for soil health training



**Aug 24 – Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Register:**

Comanche County Conservation District  
Call: 580/353-1564 x-3

**Meet at 8:45 am:**

Wichita Mountains  
Environmental Education Center  
at Quanah Parker Lake

*From Refuge Visitor Center, go W 1/4 mile to intersection of Hwy 115/49, then turn N (right). Env Ed Center is 1 mile on Hwy 49 on the left side of road. See map on reverse of this page.*

Dress for the weather. Group will be outdoors on open prairie land most of the day.



## Plant ID the 'Cowboy Way'

Spend the day learning:

- \* To identify native plants
- \* How plants work together
- \* Beneficial plants for livestock
- \* Prairie ecosystem dynamics

**MUST BE REGISTERED  
TO ATTEND**

**Lunch Provided by**

**Comanche County Conservation District**

**RSVP by 8/22**

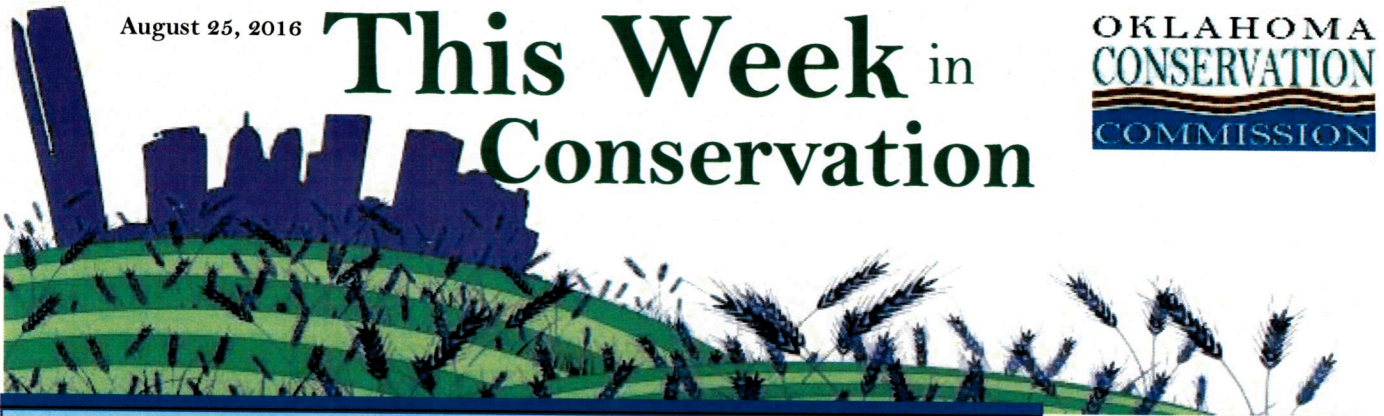
**(Water & Ice will be available.)**





August 25, 2016

# This Week in Conservation



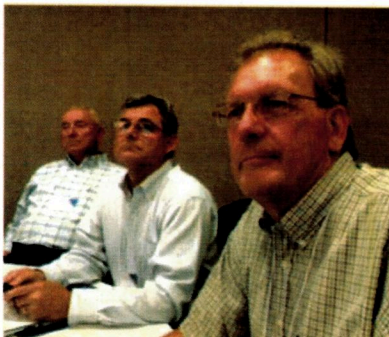
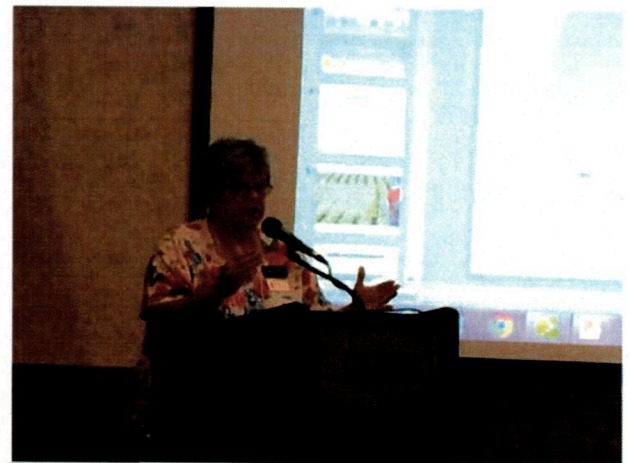
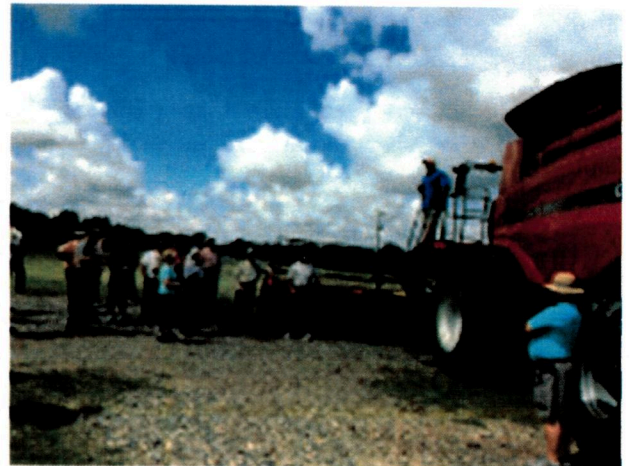
*This is an internal newsletter intended for Conservation Commission and conservation district staff, directors, and partners.*

## NACD South Central Region Leaders Meet in Little Rock, AR

(Via NACD)—Last week, local conservation district officials, conservation employees, state conservation agency staff, NRCS staff, and other conservation leaders from across Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas came together for the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) South Central Region meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The meeting's highlights included a day-long conservation tour that focused on water conservation projects, soil health, and farm management for wildlife habitat. The following morning, speakers gave updates on feral swine management and chronic wasting disease, and Harrison Pittman with the National Agricultural Law Center spoke on the latest legal issues impacting agriculture and conservation programs.

Rick Jeans of Oklahoma, NACD Executive Board member for the South Central region, gave a briefing on NACD activities and upcoming meetings. Coleta Bratten of the Employees Association and Mike Brown of the National Association of State Conservation Agencies (NASCA) spoke to the group as well.



Scotty Herriman, **OCC** Commissioner and **Nowata CCD** director; Gary O'Neill, NRCS Oklahoma State Conservationist; and Larry Wright, Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts Vice President and **Deer Creek CD** director,

attending sessions at NACD S. Central.

**Dewey CCD's** Coleta Bratten updated participants with a report on how the National Conservation District Employees Association (NCDEA) is working to help District employees.



# Conservation Calendar of Events



Date	Event	Location	District	Contact
Aug 30	Cheryl Cheadle retirement party	OKC	Oklahoma CCD	405-522-4732
Aug 31	On-farm demo field day (cover crops & irrig.)	Guymon	Texas CCD	580-338-8873
Aug 31	Lonnie Stone retirement reception	Newkirk	Kay CCD	580-362-2438 x-3
Sep 01	Conservation Commission meeting	OKC	Oklahoma CCD	405-521-4826
Sep 07	Ag resilience workshop (NRCS)	Seminole	Seminole CCD	405-742-1203
Sep 15	OK Compost Conference	OKC	Oklahoma CCD	405-702-5192
Sep 23	Blue Thumb Volunteer Conference	Red Rock	N. Caddo CD	405-522-4731



## Harper CCD Student Awarded Multiple Scholarships

Max Barret Cosby of Buffalo in Harper CCD won the \$350 NACD S. Central Regional Auxiliary Scholarship this month for his essay about the importance of trees.

Max recently won a \$300 Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts Auxiliary Scholarship, which made him eligible to compete for the south central region prize.

Max has been on a winning streak. At the 2016 OACD State Meeting, Max was awarded one of two \$500 Mike Thralls Memorial Scholarships. Max is pictured above with Mike Thralls' wife, Donna, and son Derek.

Each state in the NACD south central region may submit one essay. Essays were received from Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana. It took the judges over two hours to read, score and debate the scholarship applications.

## Conservation Districts:

Tell Everyone  
What You're Doing—  
Share Your Events,  
Activities, Stories and Pics in *TWIC!*

Send to:  
[info@conservation.ok.gov](mailto:info@conservation.ok.gov)

## District Director Responsibilities: A 10-Minute Guide Series

### Guide No. 10 - Financial Management

Financial management is one of the more challenging and important responsibilities of district board members. Board members are public officials and need to take their fiduciary responsibility seriously and always have a clear understanding of the district's financial status and records.

### Read the full guide.

*The 10-Minute Guide Series is a series of informational topics designed to help conservation district directors become more informed and knowledgeable about their responsibilities. Directors are encouraged to review a guide before each board meeting, and then have a 10 minute discussion on it during the meeting. The series is available online here:*

<http://bit.ly/258CtOT>



## Dewey CCD Cover Crop On-Farm Demonstration Tour

### *What a difference cover crops make!*

Participants used simple tools and field observations to compare the soil in three fields in Vici in Dewey CCD. The peach can method was used to measure the water infiltration rate of a **conventionally tilled** field and a first year **no-till** field with **cover crops**. The soil temp at both fields was also taken. Participants saw that it took one inch of water 10 minutes to soak in to the conventional till field without cover crops, compared to just over 2 minutes in the first year no-till field planted with cover crops for the first time. The soil temperature difference of the fields was 22 degrees F. The no-till field had been in conventional till continuous wheat for 20 years, and was planted to cover crops for the first time in June 2016. The soil was already increasing in organic matter, moisture retention, and biological activity. Termination of the covers was scheduled for mid August.



First year no-till with first year cover crops (76 F)



## Comparison Cover vs No Cover

### Conventional till without cover crops:

**Water infiltration:** 10 minutes (at plow pan)

**Temp:** 98 degrees F (air temp was in 80's)

**Plow pan:** Intact

### First year no-till with first year cover crops:

**Water infiltration:** 2 min 15 sec (at surface)

**Temp:** 76 degrees F (air temp was in 80's)

**Plow pan:** Plant roots beginning to penetrate, allowing deeper water infiltration and availability to plants.

*Covers planted include sunflower, grazing corn, mung beans, guar, cowpeas, buckwheat, brown top millet*



Conventional till without cover crops (98 F)





## SARE Offers Online Courses in Sustainable Ag

Looking to learn more about the core concepts of sustainable agriculture? The **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)** program offers online, self-paced courses. The sustainable agriculture courses have been updated and expanded to include a **course on Agricultural Ecosystem Management**. The three courses cover core concepts in sustainable agriculture, its goals and its relevance to every farming and ranching operation, no matter the size.



1. **Sustainable Agriculture Principles and Concept Overview** provides an overview of sustainable agriculture, tracing its origins and exploring its relevance to farmers, ranchers and agricultural professionals nationwide.
2. **Strategic Farm/Ranch Planning and Marketing** covers farm/ranch planning and business development, marketing opportunities and strategies, and managing for long-term success.
3. **Agricultural Ecosystem Management** (NEW!) focuses on how to apply ecological principles in the management of crop and livestock systems, including tools and resources to achieve production goals, enhance stewardship of watersheds and wildlife, and improve farm profitability.

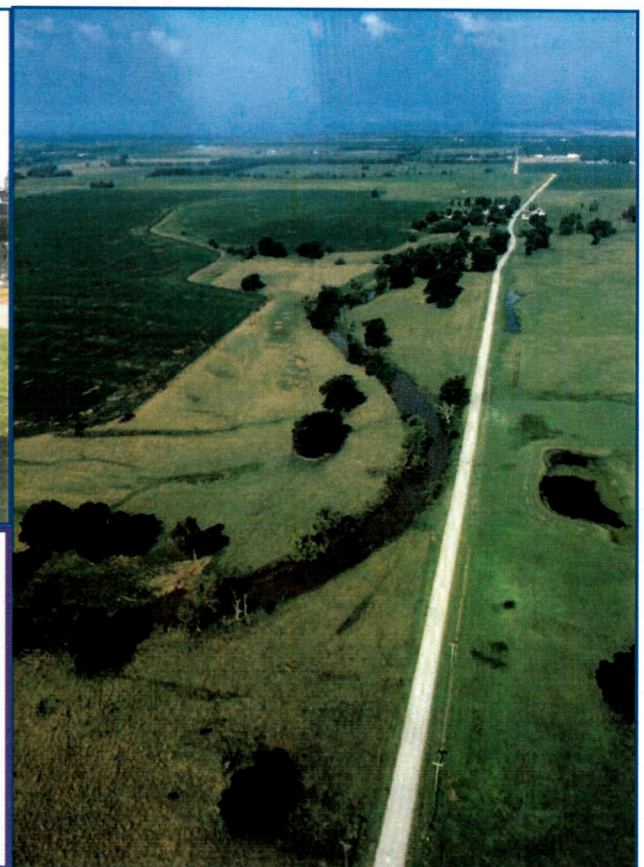
This program, designed primarily for Cooperative Extension and Natural Resources Conservation Service personnel, is also open to farmers, ranchers and other agricultural professionals nationwide.

**All three courses are available at [www.courses.sare.org](http://www.courses.sare.org).**



### Flyover View

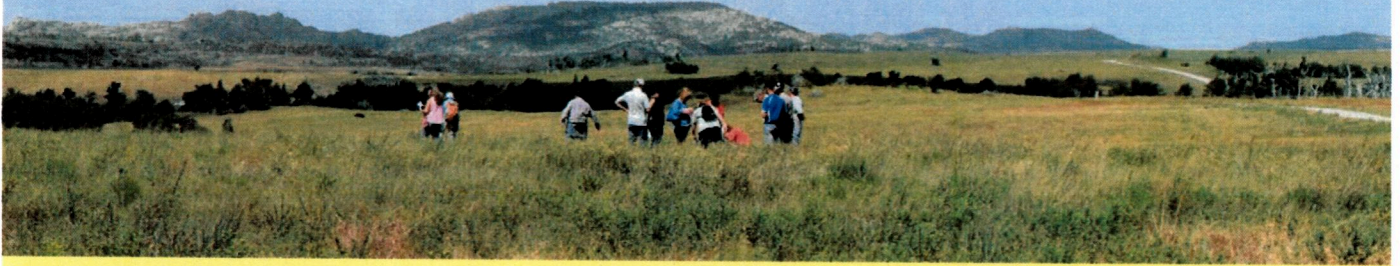
OCC's Neosho River RCPP Project Coordinators, Tash Kirk and Jill Ashbrener, took an aerial tour of the watershed to learn more about it. Grand River Dam Authority, a partner on the project, graciously provided the pilot and helicopter. The Horse Creek waterway is one of the program enrollment areas and they were able to take pictures to establish a baseline reference to compare to in the next four years of the project.





# Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge

## Plant ID for Soil Health Training



Comanche CCD hosted Plant ID for Soil health training at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge. Over 50 species of legumes, forbs, grasses and sedges were identified for 30 participants including NRCS, CLO, BIA, area conservation districts, and producers. The soil health team heard for the third time: **"Everyone should have this training!"** Partners included NRCS, Friends of the Wichitas, Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council, and USFWS.



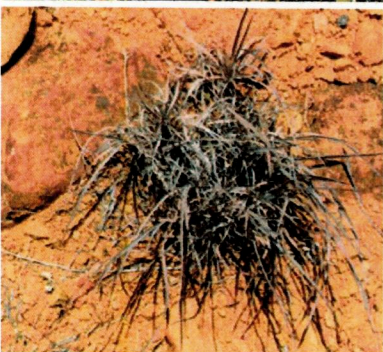
Compass plant



Curlycup gumweed



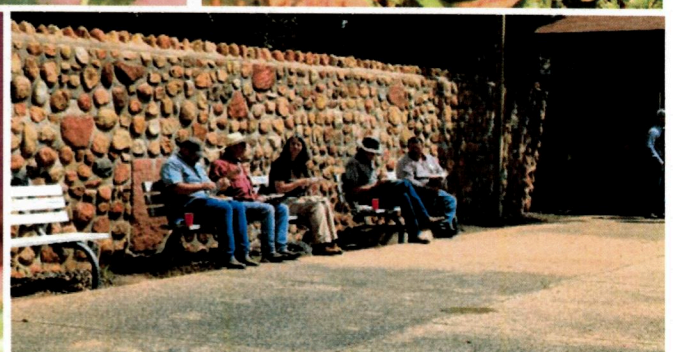
Blazingstar liatris



Little bluestem (w/ P deficiency)



Big bluestem (grazed)

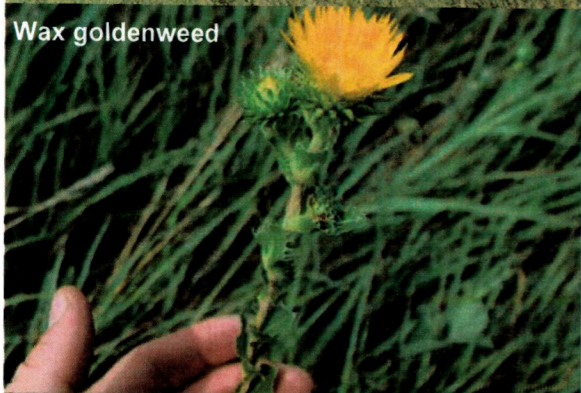


A few hardy attendees chose no A/C during lunch!



## Plant ID for Soil Health Training in Concho

In partnership with NRCS & Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes



Wax goldenweed



Bull nettle nightshade



Sessile leaf tickclover

## Brush Encroachment Provides Clues about Soil Health

(Via Oklahoma Farm Report)—Brush encroachment is a common problem across the landscape these days, and several sites are undergoing significant encroachment. However, there are areas immediately adjacent to these locations that brush doesn't seem to impact. The brush gets taller and denser but doesn't spread into new territory. **Why does brush grow well in one area and not so well in another?"**

I hadn't come up with an explanation until I started trying to push a soil probe into the ground to collect samples for a project. In areas with lots of brush, the probe goes right in; the soil has lots of **organic matter, moisture and good structure**. Several important forage grasses are associated with the brush. In areas not impacted by the brush, the soils often have a hardpan near the surface with little or no top soil, little moisture and organic matter, and poor structure. Vegetation on these areas is often dominated by Oldfield threeawn. So, the grasses most productive for livestock are found in the mostly inaccessible areas covered in brush, while the open, grazeable areas are covered in a species that livestock won't eat.

**Click here** to read the full article about how brush in pasture interacts with soil health and find links to helpful information on controlling brush.

*This is an excerpt from "Brush Encroachment Provides Clues about Soil Health," Written by Mike Proctor, a Senior Consultant Wildlife and Fisheries for the Noble Foundation.*

## Streambank Restoration Tour

**September 14 Field Day** at the Cliff Gibbs Ranch where Osage Creek meets the Illinois River just east of Siloam Springs, barely across the state line. Lunch will be provided in addition to a tour and presentations of this demonstration project from 11 am to 1 pm. Please **RSVP at [www.irwp.org](http://www.irwp.org) or e-mail [contact@irwp.org](mailto:contact@irwp.org).**



**We also share information here:**

[Conservation.ok.gov](http://Conservation.ok.gov)

[Facebook.com/ConservationOK](https://Facebook.com/ConservationOK)

[Twitter.com/ConservationOK](https://Twitter.com/ConservationOK)

[Facebook.com/OKSoilHealth](https://Facebook.com/OKSoilHealth)



# CELEBRATING *Women in* AGRICULTURE

Of the 3.3 million farm operators, 1 million are women. That's over 30%. Kick grass!



## Program Launched to Recognize Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture

(Via ODAFF)—The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF) in collaboration with Oklahoma State University launched their program

**Significant Women in Oklahoma Agriculture** at the Statewide Women in Ag and Small Business Conference.

The initiative is designed to honor and recognize the numerous women in agriculture across all 77 counties of the state, from all aspects and areas of the industry ranging from producers to educators, leaders to entrepreneurs, veterinarians to board members and many more.

“Our hope is to tell the stories of the countless women who give selflessly to this industry but don’t always receive an award,” said Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture Jim Reese. “We want to find the hidden inspirational women and give them the recognition they deserve. Giving one woman of the year award is great, but it leaves out so many other worthy women.”

**One honoree will be selected each week** and recognized on ODAFF’s social media with a detailed biography and her “ag story.” Additionally, a press release acknowledging her selection will be submitted to area newspapers.

The benefit of using social media for recognition is that it is accessible to most everyone and allows the archives to be accessed long after they were published.

“We encourage everyone to submit a nomination,” said Secretary Reese, “Whether that is nominating yourself or someone you know.”

The nomination form can be found by visiting [okwomeninagandsmallbusiness.com](http://okwomeninagandsmallbusiness.com) and clicking on the Significant Women in Ag nomination link. All nominations must be submitted online before February 1, 2017.

After all nominations have been submitted, a selection committee will begin the process of recognizing Oklahoma’s Significant Women in Agriculture.



Women farm operators, on average, have achieved a higher level of education than that of the general U.S. population

No other male dominated industry is experiencing such a rapid turnover as women rise to leadership roles in agriculture.

45% of all women-operated farms specialize in raising livestock.





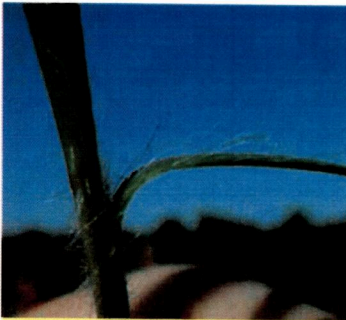
Help us celebrate **Lonnie Stone's**  
35 years of service  
to the  
**Kay County Conservation District**  
and wish her well in her retirement.  
**Wednesday, August 31, 2016**  
Come-and-Go Reception-2-4 pm  
Farm Service Center-5501 N Pleasant View Ave,  
Newkirk, OK



## National Conservation Planning Survey Underway

The National Association of Conservation Districts, as part of the National Conservation Planning Partnership, is working with NRCS, NASCA, NARC&DC, and NCDEA to request feedback on how they can improve the delivery of conservation planning assistance to farmers and ranchers.

They are seeking informed opinions from each district board member on their views and experiences regarding the conservation planning process. The survey is fairly short and most folks can complete it in 8-10 minutes. Please participate **by September 27**. [Click here for the survey](#)



### Plant Profile—Big Bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*)

**Big Bluestem** is a warm season perennial grass that can grow to over 6-feet tall. With a characteristic bluish-green hue near maturity, combined with its 'turkey foot' shaped seed head, and hairy leaf bases, it is one of the most common and recognized species seen on the Tall Grass Prairie.

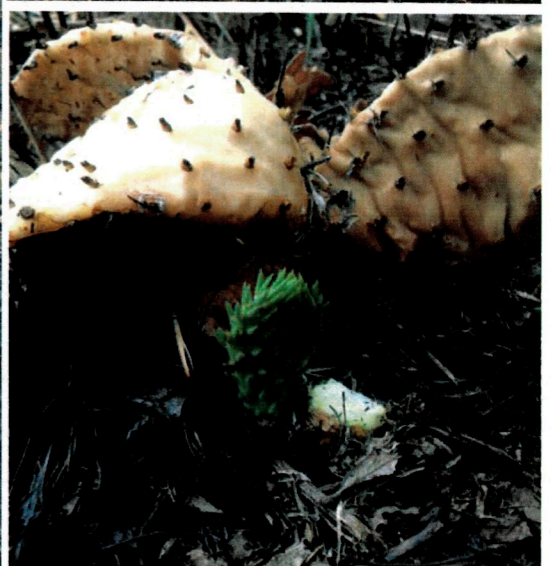
- A favorite forage grass for **livestock**.
- Makes excellent **hay**, and can be cut multiple times a year and still keep growing.
- Good for erosion control, with long fibrous roots that **anchor soil**.
- For wildlife, many **herbivores** consume the leaves, it provides **birds** and small **mammals** excellent screening and loafing cover.
- **Best results** if not harvested until 20 inches tall, and grazed / cut to no lower than 8 inches.



## A Look at a Mixed-Intensity Controlled Burn

Wichita Mountains WR—The fire at a controlled burn site pictured here is described as a 'mixed intensity' or a 'mixed severity' fire, in that the heat level, flame intensity, and scorching of vegetation varies across the landscape. In some areas the vegetation shows signs of complete burn-down, with scorched earth reaching into the soil and heavy ash blanketing the ground. Other areas show signs of intense heat and flame, but without fire crowning over tall trees, or penetrating into the organic matter on the soil surface. There are also spotty areas with little or no signs of burning. Other areas have light heat stress that appears to have heat-killed some species, like eastern red cedar, but did not reach a high enough heat level to ignite the vegetation, including the cedars.

This method of burning promotes a diversified mosaic by allowing some areas to reset the growth of early successional species and tender, palatable forage while maintaining some lightly burned areas to provide cover, habitat, and structure. Using a mixed severity fire in management practices can allow a higher diversity of species to survive, expanding options when it comes to livestock or wildlife management.







# AUGUST 31, 2016 COVER CROP FIELD DAY

## Directions to Field Site:

From Guymon: From HWY 64 & 12<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, head east on 12<sup>th</sup> Street/Cemetery Road/Road V approximately 4.25 miles. Field will be on the left side of the road.

From HWY 3: At Mile Marker 35 turn north, travel north 1 mile to first intersection (Cemetery Road/Road V), turn right (east) at intersection, travel 0.5 miles east. Field will be on the left side of the road.



United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service



8:00 8:30 AM  
COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS  
AVAILABLE AT FIELD  
SITE

8:30 AM 12:00 PM

BENEFITS OF RESIDUE  
IN LOW IRRIGATION  
CAPACITY

COVER CROP AND  
RESIDUE IMPACTS ON  
SOIL BIOLOGY &  
WATER INFILTRATION

NO TILL CORN FIELD  
SITE VISIT

NRCS PROGRAMS &  
TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE

## RSVP OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Texas County Conservation  
District  
580.338.8873

[texasccd@conservation.ok.gov](mailto:texasccd@conservation.ok.gov)



**LOYALTY OATH FILING**  
(51 O.S. §36.3)

**WHERE TO FILE:**

Every **state officer** shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

Every **state employee** shall be filed with the personnel officer of the state entity employing the state employee.

All **other officers** shall be filed with the office of the county clerk of the county of official residence of the officer.

All **other employees** shall be filed with the office of the county clerk of the county in which the entity employing the employee is located.

Every **notary public** shall be filed with the office of the court clerk of the county of official residence of the notary, or if a nonresident, the county of employment of the notary.

All **municipal officers or employees** shall be filed in the office of the municipal clerk of the municipality for which the officer or employee serves or by which the officer or employee is employed.

**TO ENSURE PROPER FILING:**

Submit only the original oath with original signatures. Photo copies are not accepted. Type or print clearly in black ink:

1. List the name and address of the entity.
2. Full and correct name of the person taking the oath
3. Name of the office, or if an employee, insert "an employee of \_\_\_\_\_ followed by the complete designation of the employing officer, agency, authority, commission, department or institution.  
Person taking the oath is the "Affiant".

**ATTESTATION OF LOYALTY OATH:**

The Loyalty Oath must be signed and dated by a notary public or other officer authorized to administer oaths or affirmations (indicate title and rank, if other than a notary public) and include the identification of the jurisdiction in which the act is performed. The notary shall include the name of the individual making the statement (or taking the oath), the notary seal, expiration date and commission number.

Please retain a copy for your records before submitting the oath for filing.  
**For additional information, please call 522-4564 or 522-4565.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency, Authority, Commission, Department or Institution

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, City and Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Officer or Employee

**LOYALTY OATH**  
(51 O.S., 36.2A)

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America and the Constitution and the laws of the State of Oklahoma, and that I will faithfully discharge, according to the best of my ability, the duties of my office or employment during such time as I am

\_\_\_\_\_  
Here put name of office, or if an employee, insert "An employee of \_\_\_\_\_" followed by the complete designation of the employing officer, agency, authority, commission, department or institution.) 51 O.S., 36.2.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiant Sign Here

State of \_\_\_\_\_

County of \_\_\_\_\_

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name of the person taking the oath.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Notary

(Seal, if any)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title and Rank (if other than a notary)

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Commission Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (09/2003)



## OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. XV O.C. §1)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, and that I will not, knowingly, receive, directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing, for the performance or nonperformance of any act or duty pertaining to my office, other than the compensation allowed by law; I further swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully discharge my duties as

\_\_\_\_\_ to the best of my ability.

State of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Affiant Sign Here

County of \_\_\_\_\_

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ by

\_\_\_\_\_ Print name of person taking the oath

\_\_\_\_\_ Signature of the Notary

(Seal if any)

Commission Expires \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Title and Rank (if other than a notary)

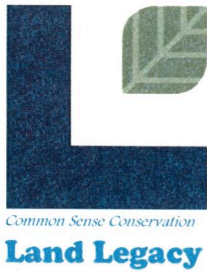
Commission Number \_\_\_\_\_

(9/2003)









As the world becomes more crowded and developed, it become harder and harder to protect our natural spaces. That's why we need Land Legacy – the Tulsa-based non-profit dedicated to protecting and conserving the natural places Oklahomans care about.

Through the use of voluntary conservation easements, Land Legacy is protecting Tulsa's water supply by keeping buffers along our waterways natural. Land Legacy preserves the state's proud legacy of working farms and ranches and protects old-growth forests. Land Legacy works with landowners to retain precious natural areas minutes away from downtown Tulsa and partners with developers to create urban parks and recreation spaces throughout the city.

**But we can't keep up this important work without your help.**

You can help preserve Oklahoma's green spaces and protect our clean water by supporting the Land Legacy Dinner, scheduled for Tuesday evening, Nov. 1 at 6:00 pm at the Central Center at Centennial Park.

Enjoy drinks and dinner at a beautiful urban green space while the sun sets over the Tulsa skyline, and come meet and greet our keynote speaker Tulsa Mayor-Elect GT Bynum talk about his vision for parks and green space in Tulsa.

I'd like to ask you to consider supporting this event to help us protect Oklahoma's green spaces. Your \$1,500 Gold Sponsorship includes ten reserved seats and recognition in all online and printed materials. Or choose the \$600 Silver Sponsorship, with reserved seating for four. And individual tickets are available for \$75 each.

We hope you can join us. Please return the envelope with your commitment by Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> or call us at 918 587-2190 to arrange other payment or for questions. **Your support will make a lasting difference and help ensure Oklahoma and Tulsa can provide a legacy of natural space and clean water for generations to come.**

Michael Patton  
Executive Director

Anna America  
Event Chair

Board of Directors  
Vic Bailey

Richard Carson - Chairman  
Jack Blair  
Terry Bidwell

Kevin Fite - Treasurer  
Jerry Brabander

Lisa Riggs - Secretary  
Patty Eaton  
Dave Engle

822 E. 6th St., Suite 200 Tulsa, OK 74120 (918) 587-2190 [www.LandLegacy.com](http://www.LandLegacy.com)

