



**Tulsa County
Conservation District**

5401 S Sheridan Road, Suite 201
Tulsa, OK 74145

Tulsa County Conservation District

Annual Report July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

The Tulsa County Conservation District is a local subdivision of state government. The district was formed April 12, 1938 to ensure local people are involved in conservation activities.

The main goal of the district is to provide services to land users in protecting and conserving natural resources and to provide a link to state and federal conservation agencies and programs.

A board of five conservation district directors (three elected and two appointed) governs the conservation district.

Our district has cooperator agreements with over 1150 producers in the county. These agreements cover more than 245,000 acres.

The board of directors submits this annual report to inform the public of this past year's conservation accomplishments.

We invite all citizens to become familiar with the activities of the Tulsa County Conservation District and to visit our office and get acquainted with our staff.

We also invite people to attend our monthly board meeting held on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00PM unless otherwise stated.

Our Mission: To provide leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment

Our Charge: Conservation districts are the only local unit of government charged with the responsibility of conserving our natural resources.

Our Purpose: To conserve, protect, restore, and improve Tulsa County's natural resources for the citizens of Tulsa County

Tulsa County Conservation District
Board of Directors



- Roy Foster – Chairman
- John Beasley – Vice-Chair
- Craig Thurmond – Treasurer
- Michael Patton – Member
- Scott VanLoo – Member



The Conservation District shares office space with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a federal agency in the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The NRCS provides technical and planning assistance to the conservation district and district cooperators, while also administering several USDA technical and cost share programs.

Our office is open Monday- Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Pond construction has been one of the conservation practices included in the Conservation Cost Share Program.



Debris removal from EWP project at Collinsville supervised by NRCS.



Board Chairman Roy Foster accepting his service award in

Oklahoma Conservation Cost Share Program

The conservation district administers the Oklahoma Conservation Cost Share Program for Tulsa County. This past year the district received \$23,863 for CSPY 11B and \$10,250 for CSPY 12. The Board has approved 8 applications for the cost share program.

The Oklahoma Legislature established the program in 1998. It is an annual program requiring funding from the legislature. The conservation district board obtains input from citizens to determine which conservation practices will be included in the program each year. This year, the District funded all possible conservation practices including: Critical area planting, diversions, ponds, fencing, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, obstruction removal, pasture and hay planting, range planting, stream bank and shoreline protection, nutrient management, and terracing.

New District Staff

District Secretary Michelle Williams joined the staff on July 8th, 2009.

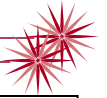
Emergency Watershed Program

Through the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program, NRCS and the Tulsa County Conservation District assisted the City of Collinsville to remove logs and fallen tree limbs from urban streams to reduce flooding and stream bank erosion resulting from the 2007 Ice Storm. Approximately 6,681 cubic yards of tree limbs and logs have been removed from the creeks and hauled to the mulching site as of January 2010.

Providing Equipment and Services to Producers in the District

The Tulsa County Conservation District has some tree planting bars available to producers in Tulsa County. Our district focuses on outreach education, while also working alongside NRCS to provide financial and technical assistance to local landowners through the Conservation Cost Share Program.

The District sells plat books and also provides access to historical aerial photographs that are used by local landowners and engineering consulting firms.



Tree cookie activity with Oklahoma Union students at a Natural Resource Day.



After school program students from Roosevelt Elementary, in North Tulsa, making fish prints.



BioBlitz group at Holland Hall High School.

Outreach and Education

The District carried out a variety of conservation education activities during the year. Below are some of the schools that we worked with and how many individuals we reached through our outreach efforts:

- Augustine Christian Academy
- Broken Arrow Senior High School
- Beggs – Okmulgee CCD
- Bixby High School
- Cascia Hall Prep High School
- Holland Hall High School
- Jenks East Elementary
- Lynn Wood Elementary
- Memorial High School
- Morris– Okmulgee CCD
- Nowata Middle School – Nowata CCD
- Oklahoma Union School – Nowata CCD
- Preston– Okmulgee CCD
- Remington Elementary
- Roosevelt Elementary
- Schuller – Okmulgee CCD
- Tulsa Community College Northeast Campus
- Tulsa Technology Center Lemley Campus
- Twin Hills – Okmulgee CCD
- University of Tulsa

9	preschool
63	1st Grade
337	2nd Grade
903	3rd Grade
434	4th Grade
354	5th Grade
144	6th Grade
74	7th Grade
4	8th Grade
186	9th Grade
25	10th Grade
61	11th Grade
764	12th Grade
1117	College
82	Teachers
568812	Adults
1	Higher Ed Instructor
573361	Grand Total



District staff and volunteers at the 16th Annual Creek Cleanup on Harlow Creek



Here, students are learning about macroinvertebrates during a Natural Resource Day in Okmulgee.



Volunteer speaking with booth visitors at the 2009 State Fair



Attendees at the 26th annual Resource Management Conference watching a presenter speak about low impact development.

Outreach and Education Continued

The District carried out a variety of conservation education activities during the year. These included:

- ❖ 15 outreach presentations, 7 Natural Resource Days, 6 Fairs, 2 adult education workshops, 2 outdoor classroom visits, 6 biological collections, Conservation Day at the Capitol, 1 display, Land Judging Contest, State Envirothon Contest in Edmond, and our 16th annual Creek Cleanup.
- ❖ Worked with the following groups:
 - Boy Scouts
 - Broken Arrow Homeschooled Group
 - City of Tulsa
 - Environmental Protection Agency Region 6
 - First Nazarene Church in Broken Arrow
 - Home and Garden Show
 - Homebuilders Association of Greater Tulsa
 - Indian Nation Council of Governments
 - Metropolitan Environmental Trust
 - OSU Extension
 - Statewide Blue Thumb
 - Sustainable Tulsa
 - Tulsa County 4-H
 - Tulsa Farm Show
 - Tulsa Rotary Club
 - Tulsa State Fair
 - Tulsa Zoo
 - Volunteer Central of Greater Tulsa
 - Youth Volunteer Council
- ❖ Set up a booth at local fairs including the Home and Garden Show, Tulsa State Fair, Tulsa County Free Fair, TU Community Service Fair, Tulsa Technology Service Fair, and Tulsa Farm Show
- ❖ Provided news releases to the Tulsa World newspaper, provided 2 quarterly Tulsa County Lines, and 7 monthly Earth Team newsletters to help keep volunteers and landowners informed of available conservation programs and assistance.
- ❖ Assisted Okmulgee County Conservation District with 3 and Nowata County Conservation District with 2 Natural Resource Days
- ❖ 2733.5 hours of volunteer hours were contributed by the Tulsa County Earth Team.
- ❖ Over 115 people attended the 26th annual Resource Management Conference organized by TCCD, City of Tulsa, and the US EPA.



A group of students waiting for their turn to present at the State Envirothon Competition.



Identifying macroinvertebrates during the aquatics portion of the Envirothon.

Services and programs provided by the Tulsa County Conservation District and NRCS are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to age, race, color, national origin, religion, gender, marital status or physical disability.

Oklahoma Envirothon

The Oklahoma Envirothon took place on April 6 at Arcadia Education Center located in Edmond, Oklahoma at Arcadia Lake. The Tulsa County Conservation District offered one staff member to serve as a walking leader at the event. The district also sponsored two teams: Tulsa Memorial and Owasso.

Envirothon is a team based program and each team must be sponsored by its local conservation district. Teams are made up of five members. All members must attend the same high school or educational organization, such as science club, environmental club, FFA team, 4-H team or home-schooled team, and be in grades 9 – 12. Teams are formed in the fall and they begin studying resource materials to learn the fundamentals of natural resources management in five areas of study: aquatic ecology, forestry, soils/land use, wildlife and a special topic.

USDA Conservation Programs

The Conservation District works closely with the NRCS in carrying out conservation work in the county. The NRCS staff provides technical assistance to the Conservation District and to county land users. The NRCS also administers several federal cost share programs.

Listed below are accomplishments through federal conservation programs in 2009-2010:

- ❖ Five Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Contracts were developed for a total of \$28,427 in cost-share assistance.
- ❖ Two Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) contracts were developed for a total of \$151,685.

Additional NRCS efforts included:

- ❖ Assisting the Tulsa Community College (TCC) NE Campus, to conduct an Annual Land Judging Contest in Oklahoma.
- ❖ Developing an Information and Outreach Exhibit at the Tulsa State Fair in cooperation with the Tulsa County Conservation District.
- ❖ Providing an Outreach Presentation at the Tulsa County Conservation District's, "26th Annual Resource Management Conference".
- ❖ Planning and developing for a Information and Outreach Exhibit for the Greater Tulsa Home and Garden Show.
- ❖ Utilizing Earth Team Volunteers for 2733.5 hours of support for Outreach and Education efforts in Tulsa County and across Oklahoma.