

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November 18  
OACD Area II Meeting
- November 27-28  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
Office Closed
- December 3  
Monthly Board meeting
- December 16  
NRCS Zone Meeting in  
Woodward
- December 24-25  
Christmas Holiday
- January 1, 2015  
New Year's Day
- January 7, 2015  
Monthly Board meeting
- February 4, 2015  
Monthly Board meeting
- February 22-24, 2015  
OACD Annual Meeting at Reed  
Center in Midwest City
- March 23, 2015  
Conservation Day at the Capitol
- March 24, 2015  
Women in Ag Meeting in El  
Reno

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## Conservation Commission Names New Executive Director

On October 13, Trey Lam, Garvin Conservation District board member and former President of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts (OACD), was named executive director of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission by the five Commissioners. He will officially enter service on November 17, 2014.



"Mr. Lam's extensive professional and personal experience in conservation along with 30 years' experience in operating his own farm make him the clear choice for this position," said Karl Jett, Commission Chairman.

Following in the footsteps of his father, who served on the Garvin District board for over 20 years, Lam is a lifelong conservationist who has taken his knowledge of Oklahoma's land and agriculture to the national stage as Oklahoma's representative on the National Association of Conservation Districts' board.

"Trey Lam is an outstanding choice to lead the Oklahoma Conservation Commission," said

Jim Reese, Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture. "His leadership in conservation, the conservation districts and conservation programs will be a great asset for the Commission."

Lam uses the conservation practices no-till and cover crops to make the most of his land at Lam Farms, where the family raises alfalfa, corn, soybeans, wheat, and cattle. He also works closely with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and OSU to develop farm plans for crop rotation and equipment usage.

Lam's previous leadership positions include Oklahoma Soybean Association President, Oklahoma Soybean Checkoff board member, Oklahoma Crop Improvement Association President, Oklahoma Alfalfa Hay and Seed Assoc. Vice President, and OSU Dean of Agriculture Advisory Council member. He is a Yale University graduate.

"We are excited to have Trey Lam as our new Executive Director" said Richard Parker, Oklahoma County Conservation District Chair. "He is a dedicated conservationist, and we look forward to working with him."

## State Cost-Share Program Year 16 Available Soon

Details of the latest Oklahoma State Cost-Share Program are expected to be released in December. There are two notable changes made to the eligibility requirements for the program. Participants will no longer be required to have at least 20 acres or produce \$1,000 of soil dependent products annually.

The District Board of Directors will set local eligibility requirements and priority practices for Oklahoma County.

The State Cost-Share Program provides financial assistance to landowners for the application of soil and water conservation practices. The purpose of the program is to help improve water quality and to control soil erosion in the State of Oklahoma. Please contact the District office at 524-4450 for more information or to sign up for the program.

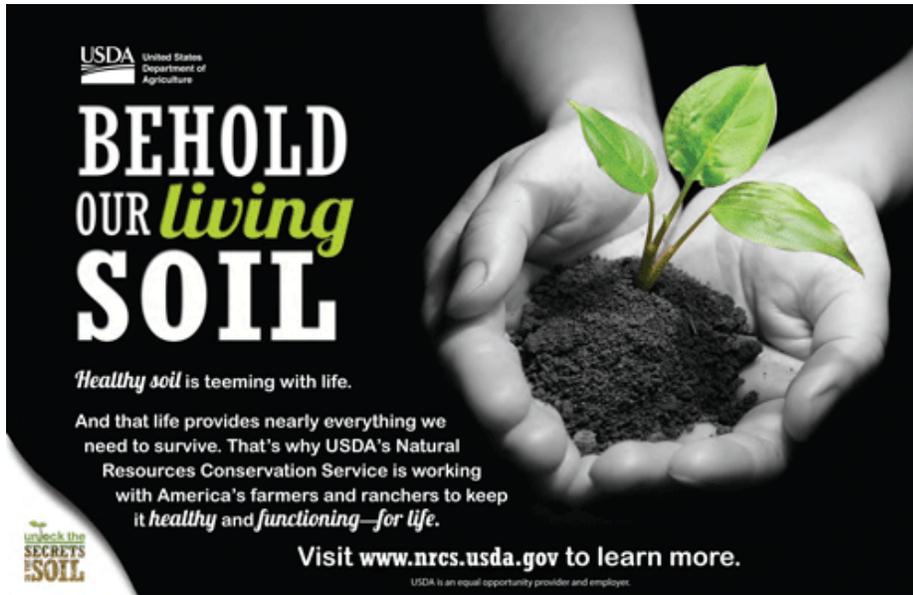
## ATTENTION:

Due to increased cost and budget concerns, this will be the **final 'printed mail out'** of this newsletter. The newsletter will only be available by email or on our website. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please call our office at 524-4450 or email us at:

[oklahomaccd@conservation.ok.gov](mailto:oklahomaccd@conservation.ok.gov) and provide us with your email address.

District information is also available via our webpage or our Facebook page.

Our web addresses are listed on the back page of this newsletter.



World population is projected to increase from 7 billion in 2013 to more than 9 billion in 2050. To sustain this level of growth, food production will need to rise by 70 percent. Improving soil health is key to long-term, sustainable agricultural production.

## District Announces 2014 Poster Contest Winners

“Dig Deeper—Mysteries in the Soil” was the theme for the District’s annual poster contest held during September. Oklahoma County students in Kindergarten through fifth grade were eligible to participate.

Posters were evaluated based on the conservation message, visual effectiveness, originality and universal appeal. The district provides awards for the top three places in each division.

Winning entries in each division are shown.



Left: Division K  
Jayme Sharpe -  
Grove Valley Elementary  
Below : Division I  
Nolan Roles -  
Grove Valley Elementary



Above: Division II  
Emma Martin -  
Deer Creek Elementary  
Left: Division III  
Joseph Sharpe -  
Grove Valley Elementary

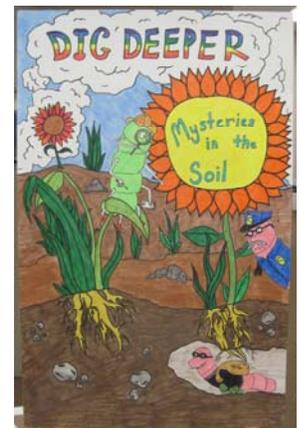


Above: Division IV  
Jacob Caldwell -  
Grove Valley Elementary  
Below: Division V  
Thomas Buchanan -  
Russell Baab Elementary



Winning entries also completed in the OACD (Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts) Area II poster contest. Jayme Sharpe, Joseph Sharpe, and Thomas Buchanan won first in the area contest and will compete in the OACD State Contest. Nolan Roles and Emma Martin placed second in the Area Contest.

Congratulations to all our winners!!!



## Fantastic Weather and Loads of Outdoor Education at Lake Arcadia

Our district is passionate about natural resource education. We worked with schools in Deer Creek, Edmond, Jones, and Putnam City School Districts to sponsor outdoor education activities during September and October. Whether the subject is insects, fish, forestry, soils, water, wildlife, or wetlands, students and teachers alike love to participate in the hands-on, fun education opportunities that get them outside and away from the traditional classroom setting.



Volunteer John Samuel helps Jones students identify different animal skins of wildlife species found in Oklahoma. Students also participated in the Project WILD activity, Oh Deer! The activity helps students see how nature and different habitat components affect wildlife populations.

Fantastic fall weather prevailed at all our events. Approximately 475 students from Grove Valley, Jones, Sunset, James L. Dennis, and Rollingwood Elementary schools participated in activities such as Project WET's *Macroinvertebrate Mayhem*, *Common Water*, or *The Incredible Journey*, Project WOW's *Edible Wetlands*, *Project Learning Tree*, *Project WILD* with wildlife skins and skulls, an *Enviroscape* demonstration, and a fishing clinic. The hands-on activities gave students a chance to enjoy some fun outside while learning valuable truths about our important natural resources.



Looks like FUN! In the *Macroinvertebrate Mayhem* activity, James L. Dennis students role played the part of insects in a stream to help them understand how tolerance to water quality conditions varies among macroinvertebrates and how a stream's population diversity helps us understand the health of the stream.

The District greatly appreciates all the wildlife department volunteers and resource people who help us with the activities.



Candice Miller with Oklahoma Blue Thumb demonstrates the 'Enviroscape', a watershed model that helps students understand different types of pollution and their affects on our water bodies. Grove Valley students participate by acting as pollutants and rain makers within a watershed to illustrate point and non-point sources of pollution.



Rollingwood 5th graders take part in a *Project Learning Tree* activity to help them learn the importance and function of the different parts of a tree. The activity was led by Department of Forestry education specialist Jeri Irby.



Sunset students and teachers alike enjoy an *Edible Wetlands* treat after searching for different wetland animals and plant life and learning about the important benefits of wetlands to our ecosystems.



Soil Scientist Jeremy Dennis prepares to demonstrate the soil auger and visit with students about the different layers and properties of soil as Rollingwood 4th grade students look on.



Catch of the Day!!

*"We loved the NRD event. How soon can we sign up for next year?"*

Shantell Barbour  
5th Grade Teacher  
James L. Dennis  
Elementary



In *'The Incredible Journey'*, these students simulated the movement of water through the water cycle in areas such as rivers, plants, glaciers, clouds, and the ocean and learned that water moves around the earth by the process of evaporation, condensation, precipitation, infiltration, transpiration, and respiration.

**OKLAHOMA COUNTY  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**

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Debbie Straughn, Member  
Mark Moehle, Member

Associate Director:

Keith Scott

District Employees:

Don Bartolina, District Manager  
Becky Inmon, District Secretary

We are on the web at:

[www.okcountyconservation.com](http://www.okcountyconservation.com)

We are now on Facebook at:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
oklahomacountyconservationdistrict](https://www.facebook.com/oklahomacountyconservationdistrict)

Hope you will go on Facebook  
and LIKE our page!!

The Oklahoma County Conservation District Board of Directors holds its monthly meetings the first Wednesday of each month (unless otherwise noted) at 1:30 p.m., at 4850 N. Lincoln Blvd, Ste B, in Oklahoma City. The meetings are open to the public. All programs and services of the Oklahoma County Conservation District are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, marital status or physical impairment.



★ SAVE THE DATE ★

MARCH 24, 2015



REDLANDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

# Women in Ag Meeting

SPONSORED BY

**EAST CANADIAN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
& OKLAHOMA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Guest speakers to include:

Dr. Karen Hickman, Department of Natural Resources Ecology  
and Management, Oklahoma State University; and  
Dr. Jeanne Schneider, Research Meteorologist,  
USDA Agriculture Research Station, El Reno.

**Mark the date on your calendar and make plans to come join us!**

**More Details Coming Soon!!**