



# Blue Thumb—In Pictures



## March 2017

### Recognizing Volunteers!

March Volunteer spotlight - Noreen Casey & Holland Hall students (including her daughter Casey Ferguson).

Noreen and her daughter Casey, along with three other Holland Students, began monitoring Fred Creek in Tulsa about four years ago. Noreen decided to become a Blue Thumb volunteer because she loves the idea of citizen scientists working with a government program to expand its reach in protecting stream quality. (We do too, Noreen!)

By collecting the chemical, physical and biological data, the Holland Hall team is now more aware of how people's habits affect the stream's quality.

One of the most surprising things they have seen is how a very urban stream that once looked like a concrete drainage ditch is actually teeming with macroinvertebrates and small fish. Riparian plants are beginning to establish themselves, and the once seemingly lifeless stream is looking like a real creek

Thank you, Noreen and girls, for all you do to help Fred Creek show that even in the most urban setting, streams have life and are worth taking care of !



### Yes, there is water in Beaver County!



Jeri and Rob went to Kiowa Creek in Beaver County to work with Karl Jett and the Beaver County Conservation District Youth Board. They are now Blue Thumb volunteers!



## Education!



Jeri and Rob spent an afternoon at the Sam Noble Natural History Museum in Norman with the stream trailer and rainfall simulator. They also spent a day with Locust Grove 8th Grade science classes with live macroinvertebrates gathered from a local stream and the stream trailer. As an added bonus, Jeri got to have lunch with her granddaughter!

## Bug Collections and Quality Assurance!



Top left—Candice works with a Pennington Creek volunteer on his QA. Top right—Kim shows Wewoka students what they found in the creek. Bottom left—Even Shanon Phillips and her son aren't immune from participating in a bug collection on their creek! Bottom right—Kim has the right idea—let the volunteers do the work in Bishop Creek!

