



# Blue Thumb—In Pictures



## May 2019

### Volunteer of the Month!

Please help us recognize Dr. Kurtis Koll as this month's Volunteer of the Month! In the past few weeks, Kurtis has presented at the OCLWA Conference, participated in a bug pick, and done several Outdoor Classrooms and Natural Resource Days in addition to his own education events. Kurtis has been involved with Blue Thumb for 10 years. He monitors monthly, as well as offering environmental education on behalf of Blue Thumb. He also serves as a board member of Friends of Blue Thumb and is an avid lover of water conservation and education. Congratulations, Kurtis! We are so happy that you are working so hard on behalf of Blue Thumb!



### Who's Talking Trash? Blue Thumb is!

This month, Blue Thumb has participated in several creek and waterway clean-ups! This is a great way to not only give back to the earth, but really make a difference in the community. Picking up trash is an easy way to improve stream health and the aesthetic value of a stream.



21 volunteers in Tulsa had a wonderful time helping to clean up Coal Creek, where they collected 22 bags of trash!



OKC Stormwater Quality hosted a waterway cleanup in OKC, where 5 volunteers collected 646 pounds of trash in a wetland!

Photo by Andrea Shelton, Stormwater Quality Community Relations Coordinator

## Spring Pickin's!



Spring bug picking and Quality Assurance (QA) sessions continued this month as volunteers met with staff to pick through the bug sample that they collected over the winter months. For some volunteers, this is nothing new, while for others, this was their first time doing a bug pick. Blue Thumb staff also uses this time to really sit down and talk with volunteers.



## Education, Education, Education

The end of school marks the beginning of a busy season for Blue Thumb staff and volunteers alike! Covering the whole state, Blue Thumbers have been helping to educate children of all ages from the panhandle, to the Southeast and everywhere in between. Natural Resource Days and Outdoor Classrooms are a great way for kids to get out and do some hands-on learning in a fun environment.



Top: Kim (left), Becky (middle), and OCC Environmental Project Coordinator Shelby (right) use Enviroscope at several education events.

Bottom: Other activities can be used to teach kids about water conservation. Jason (left) uses Macroinvertebrate Mayhem, Storm Sewer in a Suitcase (middle), and An Incredible Journey (right).

