



Blue Thumb in Pictures

May 2023



Natural Resource Days Across the State!



Blue Thumb staff members were all over the state with educational activities in the great outdoors!

- 1) Muscogee Nation Conservation District in Okmulgee
- 2) Kingfisher County CD in Kingfisher
- 3) Harper County CD in Laverne

These are just three of several educational events across the state that Blue Thumb staff worked in April and May. Over 225 students were educated at these three events.



Rebecca Bond, Blue Thumb Director (second from right, kneeling) at the National Water Quality Monitoring Conference in Virginia Beach in April. She serves on NWQMC's volunteer monitoring workgroup. This workgroup supports the volunteer monitoring community. Rebecca even ran in a 5K race which was part of a fundraiser to help volunteers attend the conference.



BT Celebration in the Cold NW of OK!

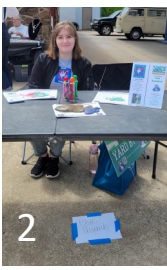
Blue Thumb staff and volunteers braved the cold on Earth Day at the Salt Plains National Wildlife Refuge for an experience bird watching and crystal digging. More volunteer fun will take place at the Oklahoma Aquarium on May 20.



Benthic macroinvertebrate subsampling taking place in Oklahoma City. From left, Sara, John, Debbie and Benjamin remove preserved aquatic insects from their stream samples. These efforts are taking place everywhere.



Cheryl Cheadle with the nuns at St. Joseph Monastery in Tulsa after she provided a presentation to them about getting involved in protecting Tulsa's Crow Creek.



Blue Thumb Volunteers in Action!

Volunteers made great things happen on Earth Day!

- 1) Small visitor to Guthrie Green where Cindy Lance represented Blue Thumb.
- 2) Huxley at "Farm Hippie" celebration in Collinsville.
- 3) Right, Brittany, and visitors to Ray Herral Nature Park.



Blue Thumb Celebrates with big 30th Anniversary Party!

The fun continued on Saturday, May 20 as the Blue Thumb staff, previous staff members, and volunteers kicked up their heels at the Oklahoma Aquarium. The highlight of the event was the sharing of memories from experiences in the streams! The celebrating will continue with an additional float trip in SE Oklahoma and a hike in the Wichita Mountains.



Greg Kloxin was one of many who enjoyed the fun of the Blue Thumb Party. He is shown talking about the dedication of Blue Thumb staff members.



"Do You Know Crow?"

The Crow Creek Community continues the effort to help Tulsans within this small stream's watershed to understand how to protect streams and rivers.

In conjunction with Philbrook Museum's 2nd annual native plant sale, a series of activities helped citizens gain an understanding of what it means to live in a watershed and consider how their actions impact nearby waterbodies.

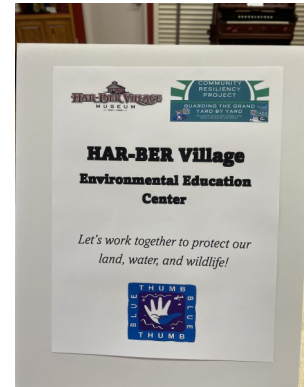


Candice Miller with a Tulsa Community College biology class at Twin Hills Creek in Tulsa.



Groundwater Testing in North Caddo Conservation District

OCC staff members Monty Ramming and Jason Ramming (cousins) help with testing water under the direction of Kim Shaw, Robert and Amy (conservation district staff) did their share as well to test and record results for 34 samples. High nitrates were found in some samples.



Special Efforts in Delaware County Conservation District

Left: Students visiting a Blue Thumb Earth Day exhibit in Grove during Earth Day. Center and right: Blue Thumb, Har-Ber Village Museum, and the City of Grove are working together to create an "environmental education center" within the Har-Ber Village Museum.



Additional Activities...

- 1) Cheryl with representatives of the Pontotoc County CD at a Conservation Workshop in Ada
- 2) Blue Thumb staff members (Rebecca, Kim, and Candice) at Fish School
- 3) Great coverage of the Yard by Yard Project in the Tulsa World
- 4) 4 & 5 Conservation Day in the Park, Logan County CD in Guthrie

