



Blue Thumb in Pictures October 2023



Blue Thumb Training for New Volunteers—Enid

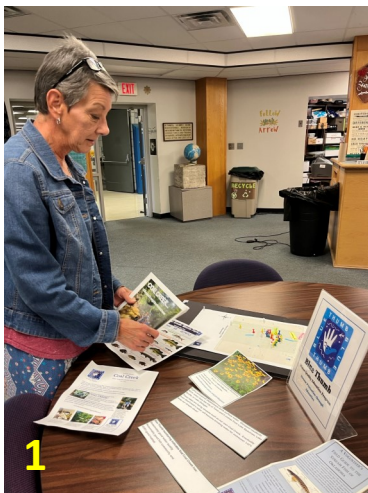
A great group of people came aboard at the recent training (September 30 and October 1) in Enid.

While a few people came from afar, this will mean that we will have new monitoring sites in central north Oklahoma, a location in which Blue Thumb is happy to be expanding.

Education through Data Projects

Blue Thumb volunteers and staff continue the journey of education by making intentional steps to let the public know about stream monitoring and the good work of volunteers in specific watersheds. With the support of grants from Friends of Blue Thumb, messages are focused for specific communities, and it is the volunteers who have the knowledge to drive this effort.

1) The Coal Creek (south Tulsa County) exhibit that was recently at the public library is now at the Glenpool middle school/high school library. Media specialist Ann Figart begins setting up the information. 2) Blue Thumb volunteer and Grand River Dam Authority staff member Jeri Fleming demonstrates protecting streams that flow into Grand Lake. In the foreground is an interactive display that was funded through GRDA and FBT. 3) A specialty small exhibit with different information on each of four panels, thanks to FBT funding.





Monarchs on the Mountain

Blue Thumb and the Tulsa County Conservation District worked together to have a great exhibit at Tulsa's Monarchs on the Mountain Festival on September 23. The center photo above shows participants creating caterpillars from colorful noodles. The right photo shows children building rock and stick piles that they can mimic in their own yards to create habitat.

Education for Students

- 1) Kellyville Elementary 5th Graders (Creek CCD)
- 2) Students in Dewey (Caney Valley CD)
- 3 & 4) Grove Alternative Education HS (Delaware CCD)



BELOW:

Volunteer Patrick Hayes borrows an EnviroScape for both youth and adult education in Tulsa.



Tulsa County Blue Thumb Volunteer

Jeana receives a test kit and is now a monitor at Crow Creek.





Lake Wister Family Fun Day! Blue Thumb staff, Soil Health's Blane, local conservation districts, and caring citizens worked together for the Lake Wister Family Fun Day in Poteau on 10/7/2023. The Lake Wister Watershed is a priority watershed and a variety of activities, demonstrations, and exhibits helped both adults and children understand river and lake protection.

1) Banner advertising the event; 2) Kim Shaw educates about local larval insects in the stream; 3) Rebecca Bond and volunteer Lucy provide a pollution prevention demonstration; 4) Blane Stacy provides a rainfall demonstration to emphasize the value of healthy soil; and 5) Briant Nguyen starts some participants out on Project WET's Incredible Journey.

Norman Monarch Festival

Lots of cheerful festival-goers stopped by the Blue Thumb/ Friends of Bishop Creek booth at Norman's Monarch Festival on October 1.

Pictured are Norman Blue Thumb volunteers Nick Czaplewski and Dan Mains with youngsters who are making fish prints.

Below is artwork by volunteer Karen Chapman, who worked with the City of Norman to secure a space at the event.

