



Blue Thumb—In Pictures

June 2020



Trainings Resume

Blue Thumb held a small training for new volunteers this month! Actually, we had two trainings; normally, we have one one large training, but in keeping with COVID precautions, we split the group in half, and held two back-to-back two-day trainings in Muskogee. The kids participating were awesome, and learned all about Blue Thumb, water quality, ecology, bugs and fish, and how to monitor a creek for chemical parameters. They plan on adopting two sites in Muskogee County so that they can get more hands-on experience and enjoy being outside.



Something Smells a Little Fishy

That would be the Blue Thumb crew! Fish collection season has officially started as of this month, and staff have already been on several collections. Every year, our fishing sites are determined by a rotating ecoregion schedule. This year, we will be working in the Cross Timbers Ecoregion, which includes sites in central and south-central Oklahoma, as well as a few in the panhandle. We will also be doing some sites that we were unable to get done last year.



Top left: Becky and Kim seine a portion of Little Sandy Creek in Ada

Top right: Post fish collection selfie at Little Sandy; we all made it!

Left: Kim completes a habitat assessment at a 20-meter transect on Guy Sandy Creek in Ada with some help from local volunteers and Blue Thumb intern, TJ

Education, Education, Education

In addition to weekly educational videos on our Facebook page, Cheryl Cheadle has been meeting with monitoring volunteers at their creek sites to discuss what they know about their creek, any concerns they have, and to generally provide company and discussion about water quality. Creekside meetings provide the perks of face-to-face interaction, but in very small groups where we can maintain safe distances between participants.



Left: Veteran Blue Thumb Volunteer Ed Trumbull talks about his creek in Delaware Co that flows into Grand Lake

Right: Cheryl explains what a Oak Gall is during an educational video

