



Oxley Nature Center

September/October, 2015

Volume 229

Oxley Nature Center:

-There will be a \$2 fee per car entering Mohawk Park on weekends April through October **unless** you are a member of Oxley Nature Center or the Zoo.

-The Interpretive Building will be open Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, 12 noon - 4:30 p.m.

-Gate and parking lot is open daily, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. except most City holidays.

-Hiking trails are accessible during Mohawk Park hours, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Redbud Valley Nature Preserve is closed:

all Mondays and Tuesdays.
-Open Wednesday through Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Hiking after these hours is not allowed.

-Interpretive building is open Wednesday through Sunday. 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

-Closed most City holidays.

** Holiday Closings:

Oxley Nature Center and Redbud Valley Nature Preserve:

** Monday, September 7

Program information:

- 918-669-6644
- Oxley@cityoftulsa.org
- Website at <http://www.oxleynaturecenter.org>.

*Register for classes 48 hours in advance.

-Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult unless otherwise stated.

-Most programs are stroller/wheelchair accessible.

Become a member of the Mary K Oxley Nature Center Association (ONCA)! ONCA is a non-profit group whose purpose is to support the activities and mission of the Mary K. Oxley Nature Center and Redbud Valley Nature Preserve. Membership benefits include no charge or reduced rate enrollment fee for programs and workshops, discounts in the Nature Center's gift shop, invitations to special "Members Only" events and programs, and free admission year-round to Mohawk Park. For as little as 5 cents a day, your membership helps provide funds for special exhibits, displays and future needs and supports volunteers and staff in education programs and training.

ONCA is a nonprofit 501(c)3 charitable organization.

\$20 Individual
\$35 Family
\$50 Sustaining
\$100 Patron
\$500 Life



Most important of all, your membership demonstrates your commitment to protecting and preserving these special places of the natural world, not only for today but for future generations as well. We can leave no greater legacy than that of being good stewards of our natural resources. For more information and to get an application for membership, go to www.oxleynaturecenter.org.

Nature Center Happenings

Volunteer Training Begins in September!

Do you enjoy being outdoors sharing the experience of nature with others? We are offering Volunteer Naturalist training beginning September 1. We are looking for weekend, evening and weekday volunteer staff. Training sessions take place throughout September.

You will become familiar with our trail system as you explore the varied prairie, wetland and forested areas. We emphasize leadership skills and interpretation methods.

Upon completion of training, you will join other naturalists, each guiding a small group of visitors on weekday, evening or weekend tours. If you are 18 or older, please call for more details about the training schedules. No previous experience is necessary .

Weekday sessions: September 1st - October 1st, two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon.
Evening and weekend sessions: evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and/or weekend days from 9:00-11:00 a.m.
These dates/times are subject to change.

All new volunteer naturalists and visitor center hosts are encouraged to participate in the Certified Interpretive Host Workshop (see page 4 for details). Oxley will provide the cost of basic CIH training. Certification or NAI membership is the responsibility of the participant.

Autumn Butterfly Count

Join us Tuesday, September 29, to spot, count and identify butterflies. Data will supplement the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) butterfly counts.

We will meet at 8:30 a.m. and count until dusk, weather permitting. You are welcome to participate in all or part of the count.

Meet at the zoo parking lot. No experience is necessary. You'll work in teams with experienced naturalists counting in different areas. Please bring lunch, water and binoculars if you have them.

Call and register so teams can be assembled. The Friends of Oxley will pay your \$3 count fee if you register by September 26.

Natural Babies, Natural World

Young children learn by contact with real objects, events and people. We will spend time on the trail to explore nature first hand. This will be a sensory experience!

Monday, September 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

"The Promise of Fall" We will discover different kinds of plants and see if there are signs of autumn!

Monday, October 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

"The Crow in Autumn" We will talk about birds and why the crow is popular on Halloween. Did you know the crow used to be a rainbow color? We'll take a walk to listen and look for crows at Oxley.

Ages: 1 through 5 years only, with caregiver
Call to register: \$3 suggested donation

Full Moon Walks at Oxley Nature Center

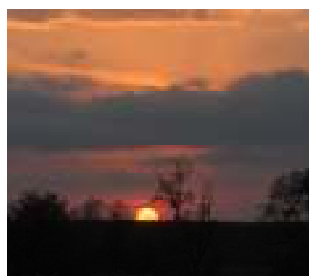
\$3 requested donation per person, all ages welcome

**** Please register in advance ****

Full Harvest Moon

Sunday, September 27, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us to make discoveries with all our senses. What memories will we harvest from our nocturnal explorations?



Full Hunter's Moon

Tuesday, October 27, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

What will we find as we hunt for clues along the trails this evening?

Programs and Special Events

September

5 “Saturday Morning Birding” Ages: All
Saturday 8:00-9:45 a.m.
Free registration not required

Join us for birding at Oxley. Bring binoculars if you have them.

12 “Not all Raptors Are Pre-historic” Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration is required

Get to know the present day Oklahoma raptors. Learn new skills to identify these amazing birds of prey by sight as they soar through our skies. Join us for a talk, walk and craft. Bring a pair of binoculars if you have them.

19 “Flying Flowers” Ages: All
Saturday 10:00-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Butterflies have been called flying flowers. We will make a unique craft. This project is ‘come and go’.

19 “Butterfly Walk” Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley for our butterfly walk. All ages and skill levels welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them.

19 “Soap Making Demonstration” Ages: 12 and up
Saturday 1:00-3:00 p.m.
\$3 suggested donation registration required

Typros Sustainability Crew presents their DIY series with a soap making demonstration. Learn the basic chemistry of soap making, natural history and it’s connection to water quality. Participants will leave with resources on how to make their own soap at home at a fraction of the cost of normal soaps.

24 “Fall Seed Harvest” Ages: All
Thursday 6:00-8:00 p.m.
\$3 suggested donation registration required

Join us to learn about home and community gardens for Monarch butterflies. We’ll learn to identify beneficial plants and spread milkweed seeds at Oxley. Participants will create a butterfly seed packet for fall planting in their own garden.

26 “Botany Walk” Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Meet at Oxley to explore. Please note time change!
What is causing all those allergies?

October

3 “Saturday Morning Birding” Ages: All
Saturday 8:00-9:45 a.m.
Free registration not required

Join us for birding at Oxley. Bring binoculars if you have them.

7 “Basket Guild” Ages: 13 to Adult
Wednesday 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Free registration is required

Join us for a basket-making class that meets once a month at Oxley. We are experimenting with different techniques and materials. This is for all skill levels.

10 “Crow Capers” Ages: All
Saturday 10:00-12:00 noon
Free registration is required

What is a “murder of crows”? Let’s delve into the mind and mystery of these amazing birds! Join us at Oxley for a walk, talk and craft.

17 “Flying Flowers” Ages: All
Saturday 10:00-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Butterflies have been called flying flowers. We will make a unique craft. This project is ‘come and go’.

17 “Butterfly Walk” Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley for our butterfly walk. All ages and skill levels welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them.

24 “Botany Walk” Ages: All
Saturday 10:30-12:00 noon
Free registration not required

Join us at Oxley to explore the plants of the prairie and forests. Let’s discover some of their ingenious methods of dispersing seeds.

Project Learning Tree Education Workshop

When: Saturday, October 24, 2015, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Where: Oxley Nature Center Cost: \$20

Bring a sack lunch and drink; we will have a working lunch.

Project Learning Tree Workshop for Teachers is interdisciplinary, incorporating curriculum activities for most content areas and learning levels. Regular classroom teachers, Boy and Girl Scout Leaders, and homeschool teachers will learn to use this habitat-related/forest program with students age K-12. This award winning international environmental education curriculum is correlated with Oklahoma Curriculum standards.

Dress comfortably; prepared to do several activities outdoors, though much hands-on, fun, experiential learning will take place in the nature center classroom.

**To register contact facilitator Deidra Wakeley:
918-745-9264 or wakelde@tulsaschools.org**

Certified Interpretive Host Training Workshop

When: August 21&22 or August 28&29th, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Where: Oxley Nature Center Instructor: Donna Horton

The National Association of Interpretation's CIH program offers a professional certification designed for new hires, seasonals, volunteers, or anyone who has public contact but does not present formal interpretive programs to the public. It covers the basics of interpretation, how to provide great customer service and hospitality, and how you can use informal interpretation to support you're agency's mission as you interact with visitors. Must be 16 or older.

For more information or to download a registration form:

http://www.interpnet.com/nai/nai/_certification/CIG_Workshops/CIH-2015-08-OK.aspx

For information contact: Donna Horton, Trainer
DonnaHortonCIT@att.net, 918-587-0522.

Who is a Seasonal Naturalist?

They do a little bit of every little thing! They mow, clear trails, fight invasive species, tear out beaver dams, lead tours, clean buildings, present programs, greet visitors, assist full time staff, keep records and so much more. Without them, we would be unable to keep both Oxley Nature Center and Redbud Valley Nature Preserve open for the hours that we do.

Seasonal Naturalist Judy LaFrance began volunteering at Oxley in 1985. She was hired over 20 years ago. Since that time she has showed many summer seasonals the intricacies of the job.

We have staff changes taking place as this summer comes to a close. Susan Carr and her husband Neil have moved to Washington State to be nearer to their children. We are grateful for her earlier volunteer service and 4 years as a dedicated Seasonal Naturalist .

Summer seasonal Ian Hammond has spent his past three summers keeping Oxley and Redbud Valley trails in top shape, leading tours and filling in wherever he can. He is returning to OU for his final year.

Kelly Boegemann has joined us as our new Seasonal Naturalist. She is also a student at RSU. We hope you will stop by and welcome her!

Our seasonal staff is critical to our operations. We could not keep our facilities open without their support. We wish good luck and a hearty thank you to them all!

Common Buckeye

