



Gaillardia

Oklahoma Native Plant Society

The purpose of the Oklahoma Native Plant Society is to encourage the study, protection, propagation, appreciation and use of Oklahoma's native plants.

**Volume 41, Number 1
Spring 2026**

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President, Shalini Chitturi enjoys the native asters that are one of the many fall-blooming nectar sources that are so necessary for butterflies during their fall migration.

Upcoming Events/Activities

(check the ONPS website or Facebook for more details)

- Mar 2 - NE Chapter meeting, Tulsa Garden Center.**
- Mar 5 - Central Chapter meeting, 6:30 socializing and 7 pm program at OCU Dawson-Loeffler Building.**
- Mar 20 - Fabulous Wildflower Fridays (details below)**
- Mar 28 - Plant Sale and Programs at St. Bede's.**
- Apr 2 - Central Chapter meeting, 6:30 socializing and 7 pm program at OCU Dawson-Loeffler Building.**
- Apr 6 - NE Chapter meeting, Tulsa Garden Center.**
- Apr 17 - Fabulous Wildflower Fridays (details below)**
- Apr 18 - Rogers County Master Gardener Sale at Claremore, OK**
- Apr 18 - Sand Springs Herbal Affair & Festival**
- May 1-3 - Wonders of Wildflowers Weekend at Chandler Park, Tulsa, Oklahoma (see insert)**
- May 4 - NE Chapter meeting, Tulsa Garden Center.**
- May 7 - Central Chapter meeting, 6:30 socializing and 7 pm program at OCU Dawson-Loeffler Building.**
- May 15 - Fabulous Wildflower Fridays (details below).**
- Jun 1 - NE Chapter meeting, Tulsa Garden Center.**
- Jun 4 - Central Chapter meeting, 6:30 socializing and 7 pm program at OCU Dawson-Loeffler Building.**
- Jun 19 - Fabulous Wildflower Fridays (details below).**

In addition to these meeting dates. See page 12 for Spring/Summer Field trips that you won't want to miss.

Central Chapter, 6:30 pm socializing and 7:00 pm meeting at Oklahoma City University in the Dawson-Loeffler Science Center, Room 208.

NE Chapter, 6:30 pm socializing and 7:00 pm meeting at Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S Peoria Ave, Tulsa

Fabulous Wildflower Fridays, 3rd Friday monthly, 5:30 pm, casual, at Panera Bread, 5601 E 41st Street, Tulsa

Preview Chapter meeting topics inside. All members are invited to all meetings, including board meetings, and are encouraged to bring guests.

Gaillardia

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President's Message

By Shalini Chitturi, ONPS President

It was strangely a very warm winter until we were hit by the snowstorm last week. It felt as if I had jinxed myself! The winds were howling in cold shrills at -14 wind-chill, and the skies were descending down in puffs of snow.

I remember being seated by the sunlit window, admiring the icy sculptures of the native flora. I began to imagine how these frigid natives would very soon transform into a bustling bio habitat!

The hap-hazardly fallen twigs of the golden Alexanders, and the well-behaved dried bouquet of *Amsonia* would be the first ones to bloom, hailing the arrival of spring. The small dotted spheres of *Gaillardia* lying lazily on the snowy ground, would be boasting how their fiery petals can mirror the rays of the summer sun. The puffy white clusters of *Vernonia* swinging in the frigid winds reminded me of their resilient purple bouquets, even in the driest soils and scorching heat.

The golden yellow crosses of *Solidago* standing tall, beside the clusters of asters, both finally are getting to rest. They were relentlessly supplying the pollen till the end of the fiscal year, for the many pollinators. The cute columbine is still evergreen, hidden amongst the arching brown button bush and the stout *Oenothera*. The wheatish native grasses in tufts are silently holding the soil in place.

The evergreen holly are gifting ruby-like Christmas treats to the winter birds. The tiny chickadees, happily eating the seeds, bravely brace against the cold winds. The cardinals, robins and finches must be hiding somewhere. The unique canopies of the giant trees resting naked, held strong by their never ending roots, under the fluffy carpet.

Soon, it will be spring. These melting snows will enrich the soil and the garden will come alive once again. Let's plant some more native species this year and continue to preserve nature in our own backyards.

CENTRAL CHAPTER EVENTS

Micah Friedman, Chapter Chair

March 5th: Sarah Short will present her graduate research on Oklahoma's old-growth forests in the Cross Timbers ecoregion.

April 2nd: Jennifer A. Bryant, Director of Horticulture for the Chickasaw Nation, will present on native plant propagation and pollinator conservation projects at the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

May 7th: Megan Adler, graduate researcher at Oklahoma State University, explores her work on *Cuscuta* spp., a parasitic plant genus that steals resources from other plants.

May 16th: Edgemere Park Plant Walk. Meeting at 9:00 am at the gazebo next to the playground, NW 33rd and N Harvey Parkway, Oklahoma City, OK.

June 6th: Deep Fork River Plant Walk
Meeting at 9:00 am in front of Shoe Carnival, 1701 Belle Isle Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73118. At 9:15 am, we will caravan to the Deep Fork River.

July 11th: Oklahoma River Plant Walk. Meeting at 9:00 am at Culture Coffee, 1029 NE 6th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73117. At 9:15 am, we will caravan to the Oklahoma River.

All events are free and open to the public!

Indoor events: Start at 7 pm
Location: Oklahoma City University, 2501 N Blackwelder Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73106, Room 208 in the Dawson-Loeffler Science Center (near NW 27th St and N Indiana Ave).

Outdoor events: Bring water and hiking clothes.
Info and updates: OKnativeplants.org

Northeast Chapter Update

At our December meeting, I was elected to be the chairperson for our chapter and I'm looking forward to helping our chapter and our organization grow. To promote that growth, we have decided to have monthly meetings, instead of quarterly meetings. We'll meet the second Monday of September and the first Monday, October thru May, at the Tulsa Garden Center.

Our first two monthly meetings have been well attended, with several new members. Another change going forward, will be that snacks will only be at our September, December, and May meetings. We will still gather for fellowship at 6:30, with the meeting starting at 7:00. Our next meeting will be March 2nd. Our presentation will be by long-time member, Fran Stallings. She'll be sharing thoughts about words and concepts we use when we're talking about native plants. Fran is a very knowledgeable and engaging speaker and I'm looking forward to her presentation.

There will be lots of opportunities for **outreach** this spring and we'll need volunteers for multiple events.

March 6th Tulsa Home & Garden Show, Tulsa Garden Center booth, 2pm-6pm

March 7th ONPN The Welcoming Garden Speaker Series, Tulsa Garden Center, Woodward Park, 1pm-5pm

March 28th Plant sale and programs at St. Bede's

April 6th speaker will be Mary Jackson of the Tulsa Audubon Society.

April 10th & 11th Woodward Park Spring Fest, 2435 S Peoria Ave, Tulsa, 9am-3pm

April 18th Sand Springs Herbal Affair, downtown Sand Springs, 8am-4pm

April 18th Rogers County Master Gardeners Plant Sale, Claremore, Oklahoma 8am-4pm.

April 25th Jenks Herb Festival, downtown Jenks, 8am-4pm

May 1st-2nd Wonders of Wildflowers, Chandler Park, 6500 W 21st St, Tulsa, OK (see insert).

May 3rd ONPS board meeting, Chandler Park, Tulsa.

Come explore native plant gardens with like-minded folks, get inspired for your own garden and check out the vendors selling a wide variety of native plants including those seen on this self-guided tour.

T.O.N.Y.
TOUR OKC NATIVE YARDS
TOUR

30 MAY 2026 | 9AM - 3PM

GREATER PASEO AREA
TOUR - Explore Home Gardens Featuring Natives
SHOP - Native Plant Vendors
EAT - Food Trucks

Tickets \$8
www.oknativeplants.org

Outreach Fund & Project

Article Patrick Bell

The ONPS Board of Directors has unanimously approved and created the *Constance Murray Outreach Fund*. A lifelong educator and past president of the Society, Connie Murray has been active in ONPS since its founding. She has served the organization as NE Chapter Chair, State Vice President, State President, and is the current Awards Chairman. The Outreach Fund, named in her honor, was established to promote the understanding and use of native plants in school classrooms and pollinator gardens across the state.

Elementary, middle and high schools will be able to apply for grant. To review the biography of Constance Murray published in Volume 33, Number 3, Fall 2018 edition of the Gaillardia, go to:

oknativeplants.org/gaillardia-newsletter.

This year, in conjunction with the Oklahoma City Zoo, ONPS has voted to fund three schools for the 2026 Living Classrooms Grant Program. Teachers will attend two professional development days in June and August, highlighting the importance and use of native plants in designing their school pollinator gardens. Awards of up to \$1,500 each can be used to purchase garden supplies, host plants and nectar sources for those gardens. Teachers will also receive Monarch-focused curricula resources. ONPS members should contact Patrick Bell if they wish to mentor the teachers throughout the implementation, and beyond. The planning, planting, growing and enjoyment of the beauty these gardens portray, in both the plants and the faces of the students participating, will offer unique, rewarding and lasting benefits to those involved. And most importantly, the pollinators and monarchs that so desperately need our help will be showcased and appreciated. This is an amazing opportunity to make a lifetime impression on these students. The schools represented must agree to maintain and commit resources to a garden of at least 100 square feet as an outdoor classroom for at least three years. The garden must be installed by November 1st 2026 and registered at <https://www.okiesformonarchs.org> on completion. For a list of all requirements for applications and project timelines visit <https://www.okiesformonarchs.org> All applications must be submitted to Dr. Emily Geest, egeest@okczoo.org, by 5:00 pm April 10, 2026.

Funding for this timely ONPS program will use the generous contributions to the *Constance Murray Outreach Fund*.

CONTRIBUTIONS

11/16/25 thru 2/15/26

Color Oklahoma Donations

- 12/2/2025 Garrison, Pearl - Bristow Seeds
 12/2/2025 Smith, Patrick - Monica Bartling's Birthday
 1/15/2026 Scott, Renee R.
 2/1/2026 Talley, Teresa - in Memory of Donna Scoggins-Stuber

Contributions to General Fund

- 12/2/2025 Ryan, Joanne - make up for prior years' memberships
 12/31/2025 Anonymous
 12/31/2025 Hutchings, Robin
 1/16/2026 Anonymous
 1/16/2026 Paypal Giving Fund
 1/28/2026 Meyer, John - in Memory of Donna Scoggins-Stuber
 1/28/2026 Shandy, Roberta - in Memory of Donna Scoggins-Stuber
 1/28/2026 Justice, Leesa - in Memory of Donna Scoggins-Stuber
 2/3/2026 Phelps, Brad - in Memory of Donna Scoggins-Stuber

Constance Murray Fund

- 12/31/2025 Harris, Karen S.
 1/16/2026 Anonymous
 1/16/2026 Anonymous

Harriet G. Barclay Fund

- 12/30/2025 Barton, Andrew - in Honor of Darah Aldridge

OVERALL TOTAL

\$9,945.41

Gotta Love Spring Rains!

Article and photos by Becky Emerson Carlberg

The patch of native pink Evening Primroses (*Oenothera biennis*) has come alive. Over the years I collected seeds from along Airport Drive in Shawnee to give to my neighbor. The evening primroses spread like wildfire in her yard, but only one or two managed to survive in mine. When the new neighbor purchased the house and lot, we discovered he is a mower. No matter what blooms in spring, it is all cut down.

The rains kept him from chopping everything, and a small group of pink evening primroses grew as fast as they could and even bloomed before he roared through. Take that! For my part, I kept tossing seeds into my flower bed around the watering



trough, ever hopeful. Slowly some pink evening primroses have become established on the east side. Bursts of pink are delightful to the eye.

The rains also temporarily saved the beautiful Philadelphia Fleabane (*Erigeron philadelphicus*) from being mowed by my other neighbor across the street. As they do every year, the fleabanes rose and bloomed in the moist, low area of my neighbor's partially shaded lawn. She couldn't get her riding lawnmower in there without getting stuck. I could talk until I was blue in the face about how important was this seasonal wetland area full of wild flowers full of busy bees and butterflies, but when the land dried enough to allow access, she rode in and cut everything down to match the sandbur and Bermuda grass lawn on the other side of her driveway.



Philadelphia fleabane is the earlier spring fleabane. The delicate native can grow over 2 feet tall with flower heads composed of dozens of small florets, each one an inch in size. All look like miniature daisies. The Daisy Fleabane (*Erigeron annuus*) is later in the season, but thrives in full sun and tolerates drier soils. Over 170 species of fleabanes are found in the US. Countless insects visit for pollen, nectar, foliage, plant juices and other vegetative parts. Rabbits, deer, and livestock munch on the foliage and flower heads.

On the edge of the colony of fleabanes was the Indian Paintbrush (*Castilleja indivisa*). This spring flower stands out in fields, meadows, pastures and roadsides. The paintbrushes are spikes of non-descript flowers with brightly colored bracts, not only in red but yellow and white. Although Indian Paintbrush has green leaves, it and the other 200 plant species in the *Castilleja* genus are hemiparasitic. These opportunistic plants feed off a diverse range of plants, tapping into the xylem vessels that transport water and nutrients from either branches or roots.



(Gotta Love...continued on page 6)

(Gotta Love... continued from page 5)

The Indian paintbrushes often associate with grasses and non-woody type vegetation. Pollinators visit the flowers, but the familiar Buckeye butterfly with large eyes on its wings uses the foliage for eggs and caterpillars.

One can make such a difference by not mowing until the flowers have set seed. Wide strips or large sections of wildflowers can be left untouched. One huge reason bird populations are steeply declining is insect numbers are also drastically dropping. Birds either eat or feed their offspring nutritious insects, of which many eat plants.

Welcome New Members

Added 11/7/2025 thru 2/7/2026

Peyton Kessler, Amy Birdwell,
Dennis Adams, Bonnie Mowrer,
Sharon & Doug Weirick,
Jayson Pruitt & Family,
Derral Howard, Debbie Kinkeade
Wendy Noerdlinger & Family
Julia Johnson, Walt Kosty, Colleen Ussery

New with Life Membership
Carolyn Harris

Welcome back
Bill Farris

Welcoming Garden Speaker Series

The Oklahoma Native Plant Network, in partnership with the Oklahoma Native Plant Society, Okies for Monarchs, Tulsa Audubon, WildCare, UCO Garden Committee, College of Mathematics & Science, Tulsa Garden Center, Blue Thumb, Yard by Yard, OSU-OKC and other organizations, is excited to announce two special free events coming in March.

Nancy Lawson — is the author of *The Humane Gardener: Nurturing a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife* and *Wildscape*. Nancy's work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *the Washington Post*, and *Ecological Entomology*.

Heather Holm — a pollinator conservationist, photographer, and award-winning author — has written *Pollinators of Native Plants*, *Bees: An Identification and Native Plant Forage Guide*, and *Wasps: Their Biology, Diversity, and Role as Beneficial Insects*. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times* and the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*.



Oklahoma City Event: **Friday, March 6, 2026**, from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the UCO Liberal Arts Building, Liberal Arts Lecture Hall, 100 N. University Drive, Edmond, OK

Register here for Edmond 

<https://www.eventbrite.com/.../the-welcoming-garden...>

Tulsa Event: **Saturday, March 7, 2026**, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Tulsa Garden Center at Woodward Park, 2435 S. Peoria Ave.

Register here for Tulsa  <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../the-welcoming-garden...>

Space is limited! Register now for this exciting opportunity to learn!



Creating a Sustainable Management Plan

Article by Donna Horton

Recently I looked into registering an area as a Monarch Waystation with [Monarchwatch.org](https://www.monarchwatch.org). I figured, what's good for monarchs will also help support many other native species, butterflies, moths, beetles, birds, in fact, the entire food web, and maybe the humans, too. It might be time to put up a sign that could help me explain my belief that loving our neighbors includes our plant and animal neighbors, too.

After defining and describing the location, there are just a few questions on the application form. Does the area provide shelter for monarchs? Yes! Does your habitat have 10 or more host plants (milkweed plants) for monarch caterpillars? Yes! Does your habitat have nectar plants in bloom throughout the growing season? Yes! Do you have a management plan for sustaining your Monarch Waystation? Hmmm. I suppose they want one written down and reviewed at least once a year.

Well, how hard could it be? I've never actually sat down and wrote out my general ideas of managing our landscaping. It turned out to be an enlightening experience. I had to think, not just about what I do as a gardener and a property owner, but why. I decided to add at least one element of looking ahead five years to each component.

The process reminded me that some of us have struggled with community regulations about gardening with natives. We all ought to consider what may be valid objections about any kind of landscaping, native or otherwise, if it appears to be chaotic and unkempt. I've heard some unreasonable objections about including native species, and some equally unreasonable objections to prohibiting invasive species. Maybe this struggle could be made much simpler through sustainable management plans for our landscaping.

So how to get started? I typed into my online search engine "**Sustainable Management Plan for a Garden in Oklahoma**" and was pleasantly surprised by the inevitable AI suggestion. It offered some key component areas. When I searched later, there were some slightly different components. Everyone's space is different. Pick 5 or 6, and modify the AI descriptions to fit your garden's needs:

- Soil Health or Management
- Water Conservation
- Eco-Friendly Maintenance
- Integrated Pest & Disease Management
- Biodiversity and Plant Choices
- Garden Design & Maintenance
- Materials and Resource Management
- Personal Sustainability (Avoiding Burnout)

I also created a Sustainable Management Plan to propose to our churchwardens for the gardens at the church I attend. Have a look:

[Sample of St. Bede's sustainability plan for the gardens](#)

I hope this helps clarify your own dreams for the spaces you manage.

Spring Plant Sale

Saturday, March 28, 2026
11 am to 4 pm

St. Bede's Episcopal Church
6960 W. Old Keystone Road
Westport OK 74020



Sachem nectaring on blue mistflower

Plant Vendors
Gardening-related Products
Free Gardening Classes & Demos
Food Trucks
Tour St. Bede's 8 Pollinator Gardens

Watch for more info
on our new website at www.stbedesok.org and at our FB page
St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Westport, Oklahoma
You may also contact DonnaHortonCIT@att.net or (918)587-0522

St. Bede's is a spiritual oasis in the woods of Westport.



CELEBRATE AMERICA 250 WITH WILDFLOWERS

The projects for Celebrate America 250 with Wildflowers are varied across all 77 counties in Oklahoma. This newsletter will highlight different projects throughout the year. Go to oknativeplants.org for continuing information and updated photos of the project sites. Walters Dahlia Garden Club was featured on KSWO Channel 7 in Lawton for their plantings. <https://www.kswo.com/2025/12/23/color-oklahoma-brings-first-wildflower-project-walters/>

[fbclid=IwDGRjCpN_xleHRuA2FibQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZA8xNzM4NDc2NDI2NzAzNzAAAR63JovEfg9RWmsrhcmQhfzUvbJoG4JbdnyE2bzlgOxSCH1u2T5lmYBu-QfZVA_aem_tJhZwJdc3o4ZzlyerxoPKQ](https://www.facebook.com/oknativeplants.org/?fbclid=IwDGRjCpN_xleHRuA2FibQlxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZA8xNzM4NDc2NDI2NzAzNzAAAR63JovEfg9RWmsrhcmQhfzUvbJoG4JbdnyE2bzlgOxSCH1u2T5lmYBu-QfZVA_aem_tJhZwJdc3o4ZzlyerxoPKQ)

Search Celebrate America 250 on the ONPS FB page and see many of the projects.



The Women in Agriculture Gardening Group at Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Facility.



Rooftop plantings at 1015 N. Broadway in Oklahoma City were planted by Sawyer Schultheis, of Classen SAS High School. The building, owned by Steve Mason, holds offices for Senator James Lankford and others.



5th graders were excited to plant seed at the small City of Pawnee park across from their school. Their teacher, Joyce Cheatham, and CR Ledford are mentors to the project.

ONPN Featured Plants

by *Connie Scothorn*

Plants for 2026

With the new year, the ONPN has selected five new plants to feature. The selected plants will be highlighted by growers in the network and grown in greater numbers to assure their availability. This year, the plants have been chosen to include:

- Grass: Switchgrass, *Panicum virgatum*
- Milkweed: Swamp Milkweed, *Asclepias incarnata*
- Woody: Clove Currant, *Ribes odoratum*
- Sun perennial: Prairie Blazing Star, *Liatris pycnostachya*
- Shade perennial: Woodland Phlox, *Phlox divaricata*

Ribes odoratum, Clove Currant by Susan Chambers

Picture this: a short afternoon walk in a dappled wood or open glade. You've ventured out in earliest of spring. The sun is shining, a light breeze and suddenly you're hit with an intoxicating fragrance. It's much too early for any of the native trees to bloom, so what could it be? You track the fragrance to a shrub with attractive scalloped leaves and nestled in the ends of the branches are cute little yellow or yellow/red blooms about ¾" long by ½" wide. You've found the hardy little shrub named *Ribes odoratum* or clove currant.



Clove currant, *Ribes odoratum*

This tough shrub tolerates a wide range of soil and moisture conditions: sandy, silty loam to clay. However, keep in mind that more shade reduces the number of blooms and fruit. Regardless of sun and moisture levels this native shrub will grow to be 6'-12' tall by 6'-8' wide. Few gardens have the room to accommodate a shrub this size, so plan to cut back by no more than one quarter the mass of the plant immediately after blooming. I recommend selectively pruning branches rather than shearing them to maintain the loose branching habit. This will also increase the number of blooms and fruit as those are formed on last year's new, green wood.

The leaves on the new wood are alternate and are triple scalloped with a point on each lobe. They're hairy underneath along the veins which are palm shaped. The late summer fruit can range from yellow to black. They're edible right off the stem but can be made into preserves, jellies or pies. They're small, about the size of your index fingernail or smaller (depending on rainfall as they mature) and full of seeds, so a bucket full won't yield what you think it might. They can be frozen for later use.

These are hardy shrubs, from zone 4 south to zone 8 with a native range to the great plains. They will tolerate rabbit damage, drought and erosion. If planted in clay or silt soil, ensure that they are planted on a slope or berm. Don't crowd the plants as they are susceptible to a few fungal diseases. There's no appreciable impact from insects. They are attractive to hummingbirds, large bees and some butterflies. The fruit is attractive to many birds and small mammals. If you live in semi-rural areas you may get the occasional nibble by white-tailed deer.

The best planting season is fall to winter with early spring as a second planting season. Plan to water the first season and mulch with chopped leaves or commercial mulch to help retain moisture.

MEET THE MEMBERS: Juliette Hulen

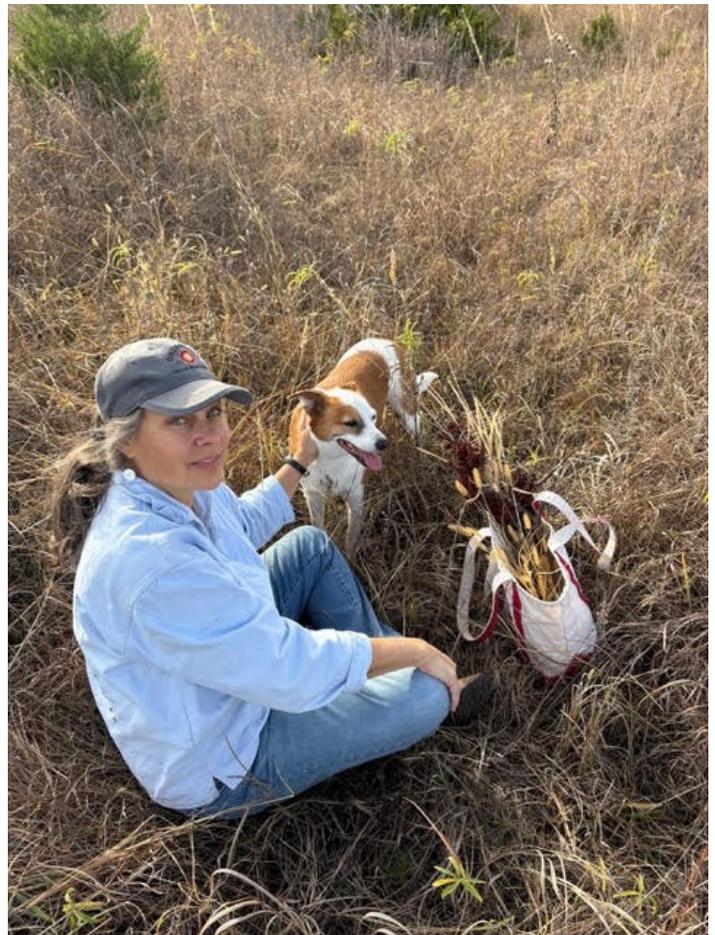
By Juliette Hulen with prompts from Fran Stallings

I have been a lifelong naturalist. Fortunately for a city girl with that proclivity, I grew up in a neighborhood adjacent to the Deep Fork River in Oklahoma City. I spent hours exploring with my dog, collecting insects and doing little experiments in “the creek.” To access the creek, I used a natural ladder of exposed Bur Oak roots. My mother, who is a transplant from France, has always been a gardener. Unfamiliar with our clay soil, she looked around and saw what worked in the natural world. She gleaned seeds and small plants from the roadside, state parks, empty lots, and planted them in our home garden. Looking back, I now realize that my mom was the first native plant gardener I knew! She had planted prairie sage (*Artemisia ludoviciana*), showy evening primrose (*Oenothera speciosa*), blue mistflower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*), with more traditional roses, irises and peonies.

In college I chose to study Biology at OSU and my academic advisor was none other than Dr. Ron Tyr! After my first Botany class I was greatly honored when he asked me to teach a Botany laboratory section as an undergraduate! I guess he could see how much I loved the class. Later he encouraged me to take summer courses at the OU Biological Station located on Lake Texoma. That summer I learned field ornithology and field botany. Though I never got paid for applying those skills, they became a lifelong passion and hobby. My husband, Tinker and I spent most of our vacations, weekends and free time in nature. We especially enjoyed doing volunteer fieldwork for grad students, universities and The Nature Conservancy in the US, Mexico, Costa Rica, Peru and Bolivia. Some of that work included field research on liverworts, ptarmigans, and glass tree frogs! The most memorable was 3 months assisting with macaw research at the Tambopata Research Center in Peru. There we climbed ropes up tall trees to macaw nests to assess nestling progress, and observed clay lick attendance of several species of parrots. When we had our only daughter, Sydney, we did our best to continue camping and hiking with her. She is now 19 years old.

As a flower gardener, I caught the change in the air like so many ONPS folks have. First by discovering Marilyn Stewart’s plant booths at various festivals, then at the Doug Tallamy presentations hosted by ONPS.

In 2019, my family attended our first Annual meeting held at Quartz Mountain Lodge. When Patrick Bell was honored with an award and got choked up, Joe Roberts was quick to stand and give him a hug. That is the moment I decided that I would like to be a more engaged member of this like-minded, kind and compassionate group! Shortly after that, Patrick asked me to participate as vice president and now I am beginning my second term. It’s been wonderful getting to know the members and learning what it takes for a volunteer-led organization to operate.



For joining or renewing use this form

Fill out this form or supply the same information. Make checks payable to Oklahoma Native Plant Society and mail to: Oklahoma Native Plant Society, PO Box 14274, Tulsa, OK 74159.

Membership is for Jan. 1 – Dec. 31 of current year and dues include subscription to *Gaillardia*.

(Please Print Clearly) _____ RENEWAL _____ NEW MEMBER (All dues are tax deductible)

Name: _____

Affiliation: (School, Business, or Avocation) _____

Address: _____

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E-mail: _____

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Oklahoma Native Plant Society
P. O. Box 14274
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74159

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Spring 2026 Issue

Dues for 2026 are overdue! Don't miss the next issue! Pay NOW!

**COPY AND ART
 DEADLINE
 FOR THE NEXT
 ISSUE IS May 5, 2026**

Spring/Summer Field Trips

Field Trips are where we can all expand our knowledge, get some exercise, and connect with like-minded individuals who will share information about the native plants and places of Oklahoma. Don't miss these great opportunities coming soon.

March 30th: Lucky Springs, meet at the Peggs, OK Dollar General on Highway 82, at 9:00 am

April 22nd: Earth Day trip to Dripping Springs State Park, Okmulgee, OK. Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:00 am

May 16th: Edgemere Park Plant Walk. Meeting at 9:00 am at the gazebo next to the playground, NW 33rd and N Harvey Parkway, Oklahoma City, OK.

May 23rd: Natural Falls State Park, Hwy 412 W. and US-59 N, Colcord, OK. Meet at the Visitor Center at 9:00 am

June 6th: "Meadow and Glade" Plant Walk. Start time 9am. Pawnee City Lake. For information crloutandabout@yahoo.com

June 6th: Deep Fork River Plant Walk Meeting at 9:00 am in front of Shoe Carnival, 1701 Belle Isle Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK. At 9:15 am, we will caravan to the Deep Fork River.

June 13th: Rogers State University Education Reserve. Approx. address, 2000 University Drive, Claremore, OK Meet at the main entrance parking lot at 9:00 am (across the street from the Stratton Taylor Library).

July 11th: Oklahoma River Plant Walk. Meeting at 9:00 am at Culture Coffee, 1029 NE 6th St, Oklahoma City, OK. At 9:15 am, we will caravan to the Oklahoma River.

Oklahoma Native Plant Society Wonders of Wildflowers 2026

May 1-3, 2026
Chandler Park, Tulsa
- Schedule of Activities -



Friday, May 1

- 5:00pm - 6:00pm Meet at Chandler Park Community Center, Nature Center, for Registration and Program
Dinner in the Chandler Park Community Center, Dance Room, *pizza and salad*
- 6:30pm - 8:00pm Program by Ashley Clouse who will talk to us and demonstrate how to use native plants.

Saturday, May 2

Breakfast on your own

- 8:00am - 9:00am Registration and welcome at Chandler Park Community Center, Nature Center, field trip details
- 9:15am - 12:00pm Field trips meet at the Nature Center for short hikes within Chandler Park, including an ADA trail.
- 12:00pm - 12:30pm Boxed sandwich lunch (order below) in the Nature Center
- 12:30pm - 4:30pm Field trips to Keystone State Park, Keystone Ancient Forest, or Osage Forest of Peace.
Meet at the Nature Center for field trips or short hikes within Chandler Park.

Saturday, May 2

- 6:00pm - 8:00pm Dinner in the Chandler Park Community Center, Reception Room
Program by Patrick T. Hayes, C.I.G., Tulsa County Parks Naturalist

Sunday, May 3

Breakfast on your own

- 9:00am Board Meeting, meet at Chandler Park Community Center, Nature Center, all are WELCOME
- 11:00am Field trip and *Botanize* to end of the Wonders of Wildflowers weekend.

Accommodations:

All Field Trips will meet at Chandler Park Community Center, Nature Center for departures.
See accommodations and maps on reverse.

Event Coordinator Contact: Lynn Michael at 918-381-0219 or jennmichael54@gmail.com

Register online at the ONPS website www.oknativeplants.org
or mail registration to:

ONPS, Mary Korthase, 3926 E 33rd St, Tulsa, OK 7435-1643
make checks payable to: *Oklahoma Native Plant Society*

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone (s) _____

Email: _____

_____ \$15/person Registration On-site registration will be available, without meals.

_____ \$ 5/person Student Registration

_____ \$10/person Friday, pizza and salad: *bring your own beverage*

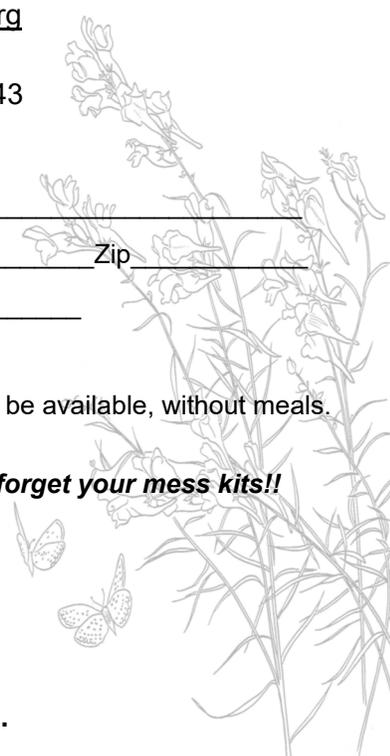
Don't forget your mess kits!!

_____ \$15/person Saturday boxed Lunch: *bring your own beverage*
 Veggie Ham Turkey

_____ \$18/person Saturday Dinner - BBQ
 Veggie

_____ Total amount enclosed.

Please register by **April 27, 2026**, to ensure your meals.



Directions to Chandler Park Community Center - located west of downtown Tulsa

GPS coordinates to Center 36.12978, -96.07641

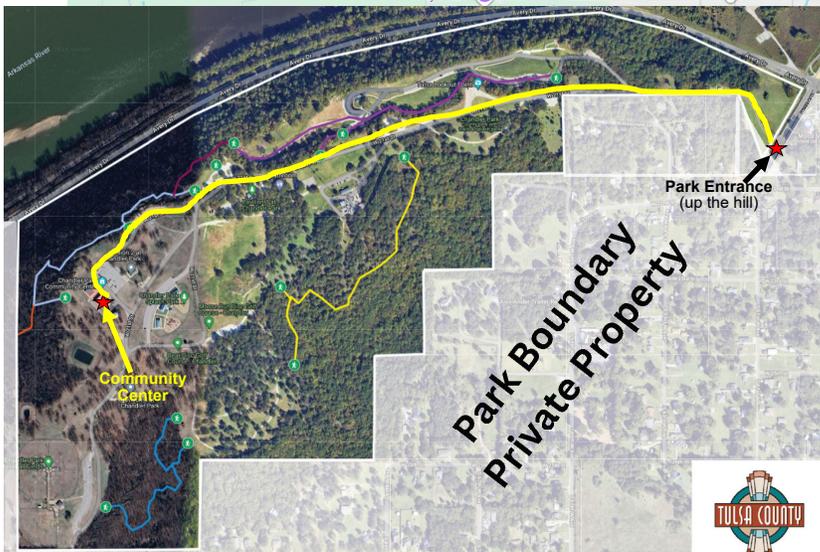
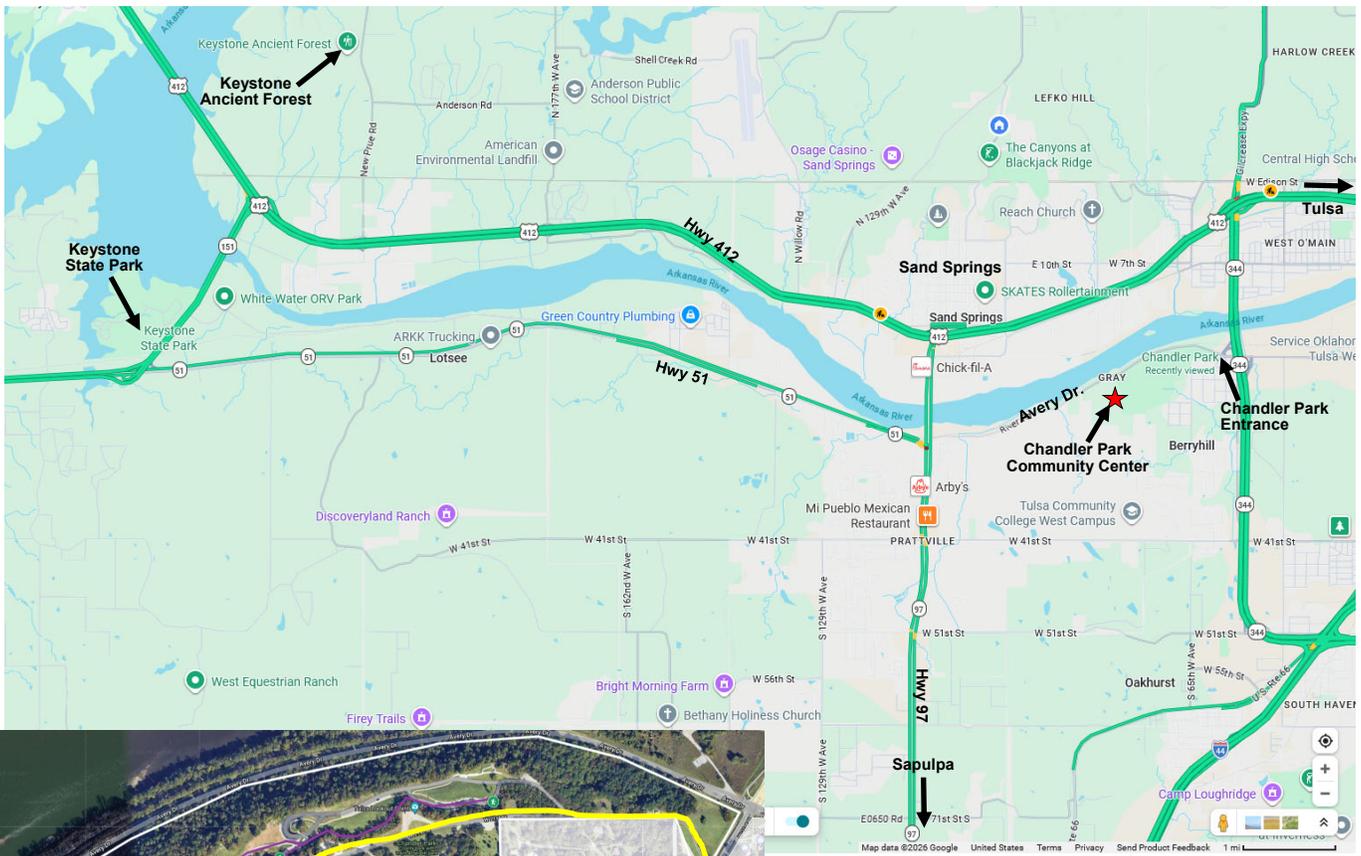
GPS address is: 6500 W. 21st St., Tulsa, Oklahoma 74107

Directions in Tulsa via Gilcrease Expy (Toll rd) (from downtown Tulsa, approx. 7 mi.). Head west on US Hwy 412 to Gilcrease Expy/OK-344 (toll). Take Gilcrease Expy/OK 344/65th W Ave exit. At the light go left, heading South to Exit 4 (approx. 2 mi). Take Exit 4, at the light go straight onto W 21st PI to Chandler Park entrance on your right. Continue up the hill and through the park approx. 1 mi to the Community Center (near West end of park).

Directions from Oklahoma City via I-44 (approx. 105 mi.). Travel East on I-44 toward Tulsa. Shortly after end of Toll road keep on I-244 E, taking exit 1B for OK-344 N/Gilcrease Expy (toll road). Continue North for 3.5 mi. and take Exit 4 for 21st Street. Head West toward Avery Dr. but **DO NOT TAKE Avery Dr.** Take left onto W 21st PI to Chandler Park entrance on your right. Continue up the hill and through the park approx. 1 mi to the Community Center (near West end of park).

Directions from Sand Springs via Avery Drive (approx. 6.5 mi.). From intersection of US Hwy 412 and OK-97, head South on OK-97 across the river to OK-51. At the light turn right, then at the next light turn right again. This will put you on Avery Drive heading East. Travel approx. 3.5 miles to the next light. Turn right onto W 21st PI to Chandler Park entrance on your right. Continue up the hill and through the park approx. 1 mi to the Community Center (near West end of park).

Directions from Keystone State Park via OK-51 (approx. 14 mi.). From the park travel South on OK-151 to OK-51. Merge onto OK-51 East toward Sand Springs. At the light turn left onto Avery Drive heading East. Travel approx. 3.5 miles to the next light. Turn right onto W 21st PI to Chandler Park entrance on your right. Continue up the hill and through the park approx. 1 mi to the Community Center (near West end of park).



- Lost City Trail
- Lost City West
- Lost City to Lower Level
- Vulture Springs Trail
- Eagle Ridge Trail
- Kitchen ADA Trail
- Trail Entrance/Exit
- Emergency 911
- Chandler Park Community Center 918-591-6053

CHANDLER PARK
6500 W. 21ST ST. TULSA, OK 74107



Accommodations are NOT available in the park. Listed are near Chandler Park and in Sand Springs.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites -

(918) 419-2700, 101 W Morrow Rd., Sand Springs

Magnuson Hotel, Sand Springs-Tulsa West -

(918) 245-4999, 211 S Lake Dr, Sand Springs

Hampton Inn, Tulsa-Sand Springs - (918) 245-8500,

7852 West Parkway Blvd N, Sand Springs

CAMPING

Riverview RV Park - (918) 245-8588,

11450 OK51, Sand Springs

Keystone State Park - (918) 295-3310,

1926 S OK-151, Sand Springs

Also, numerous Hotels in the Tulsa downtown area.