A simple “thank you” cannot express the extent of appreciation for those who go above and beyond to lend a hand. Such is the case with the many groups that have become invaluable Partners in Conservation for Oklahoma’s tremendous natural resources. Contributions and support for the Wildlife Department, from quality organizations like these, ultimately benefits sportsmen and women and the conservation of wildlife and habitat in Oklahoma. Partners listed here contributed at least $5,000 in 2018.

The Wildlife Department also extends sincere gratitude to the many other groups and individuals who provide support through monetary gifts or in-kind products and services in support of all Department activities. This list does not include our partners who contribute to the Department’s Wildlife Expo. Thank you, partners!

- **Quail Forever Oklahoma Chapters** for support of ODWC projects focused on habitat enhancements on Wildlife Management Areas and for support of the Stars and Stripes License Project, which provides hunting and fishing licenses to veterans and eligible family members.
- **National Wild Turkey Federation** for support of habitat enhancement on public and private lands statewide (including several WMAs open to public hunting), plus major support for ODWC outdoor educational programs.
- **Natureworks** for support of management on public lands in Oklahoma.
- **Oklahoma City Zoological Park, Oklahoma Zoological Society and Botanical Garden** for conservation field study projects and to help with expenses for various projects.
- **Blue River Fly Fishers** for the purchase of trout for the catch and release portion of the Blue River Public Fishing and Hunting Area and for general improvements to the area.
- **Larry and Brenda Potterfield, founders of MidwayUSA**, for their support of the Oklahoma Scholastic Shooting Sports Program and state tournament shooting events.
- **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation** for its support of habitat work on WMAs open to public hunting.
- **The National Rifle Association** for its contributions to the Beaver River and Pushmataha Wildlife Management Areas shooting ranges. The NRA also supported the renovation to the shooting range at Lexington WMA.
- **Northeast Oklahoma Fly Fishing Club** for research and management needs for the Wildlife Department’s streams management efforts.
- **Smallmouth Bass Rendezvous** for support of research by the Wildlife Department’s Fisheries Division.
- **Paul George Foundation** for supporting the involvement of 13 urban schools in the Department’s Oklahoma Fishing in the Schools Program in addition to partnering in a joint effort with the Department in 2019 to place a new kids’ fishing dock at South Lakes Park in Oklahoma City.
- **Bank of Oklahoma** for support of renovations to the Wildlife Department headquarters building in Oklahoma City.

If you’ve ever bought a hunting or fishing license, motorboat fuel, fishing tackle, ammo or bows and arrows, you’re a part of the most successful effort to conserve fish and wildlife in America: The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program.

Anglers, hunters and outdoors enthusiasts pay a special excise tax whenever they buy items related to the outdoors, and that tax revenue is distributed back to the individual states. So each time an Oklahoman buys a license or outdoors-related merchandise, he or she is supporting important conservation efforts such as installing boat ramps or increasing hunting access.

- **WSFR funds contributed to the complete renovation of Dalrymple Lake at Lexington WMA.**
- **ODWC Wildlife Biologists conduct controlled burns annually to improve wildlife habitat.**
Do You Care About Wildlife?
Help Us Protect Them...

Operation Game Thief (OGT) is a program of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation designed specifically to stop illegal killing of the fish and game which belong to you, whether you’re an angler, sportsman or outdoor enthusiast. It’s a big problem with no simple solution. Help from public sportsmen and sportswomen makes all the difference.

Here’s why:

• One day before the opening of a recent deer season, two poachers killed four whitetail bucks.
• Late one summer night, three men steered their boat across a state reservoir, stopped at their illegal net site and hauled in a load of striped bass and other open-water fish they could sell for $1 a pound on the commercial market.

In each of these examples, you were the loser. You lost hunting and fishing opportunities or the chance to view wildlife in their natural surroundings. At the same time, law-abiding sportsmen received a bad reputation from those who fail to distinguish between legal and illegal hunting. OGT is something everyone can do to help wildlife and help us apprehend the poachers.

The OGT toll-free phone number is (800) 522-8039. Callers can remain anonymous.

Prevent the Spread of CWD
Proper Carcass Disposal

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
As of May 2019, Oklahoma has NOT detected CWD in the 10,000 wild deer/elk tested since 1999. Texas, Arkansas and Missouri have detected CWD in multiple deer over the same time period. Due to the close proximity of deer that have tested positively for CWD, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation is recommending certain deer carcass handling practices to minimize the potential spread of CWD.

Proper Carcass Disposal
The carcass of an infected deer can expose other deer to the disease, directly or indirectly. Long after an infected carcass decomposes, the soil will remain infectious for years, possibly exposing other deer to the prions that cause CWD. To avoid this exposure risk, proper disposal methods are recommended.

Improper Disposal

• Disposal in water: Do not dispose of carcasses in ponds, lakes or waterways. This has the potential to spread infectious prions to areas previously uninfected.
• Burning: Only commercial incinerators are capable of generating enough heat to destroy the prions.
• Transport to another property: Remains of harvested deer that are transported to a different property for processing should not be dumped on the landscape where it could infect the environment. Instead, the remains should be sent to a landfill. Burial on a different property is acceptable if the remains are buried deep enough so as not to become exposed to the surrounding environment by scavengers, thus making the prion accessible to deer in the area.

For more information: cwd-info.org
wildlifedepartment.com
If you witness a violation, call your game warden or contact the Operation Game Thief hot line at (800) 522-8039.

If you can’t reach your local game warden and have an emergency or see someone committing a violation, call a game warden in an adjoining county, or your local sheriff’s office.

To contact a game warden, call or send text to the number provided.
This guide is not a legal document. This guide is an interpretive summary of the Titles 29 and 800 of Oklahoma Statutes governing fish and wildlife laws as established by the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission. For a complete listing of official regulations, you can obtain copies of current Oklahoma Statutes through your local library.

We manage and protect fish and wildlife, along with their habitats, while also growing our community of hunters and anglers, partnering with those who love the outdoors, and fostering stewardship with those who care for the land. The Wildlife Department receives no general state tax revenues and is proud to be funded entirely by sportsmen. For general information on licenses, regulations and the current fishing guide, log on to wildlife.ok.gov or call (405) 521-3851. Effective date of this guide July 1, 2019, until superseded by any subsequent guide.

This program receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and thus prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, and sex (gender), pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. To request an accommodation or informational material in an alternative format, please contact Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, 405-521-3851. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or service, please contact: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office for Civil Rights, Falls Church, VA 22041.