2027 ROWM Partner Meeting -

Field Trips & Workshops Descriptions

Occurring on the afternoon of Wednesday, March 3, 2027
Select one, included with registration

Sustainable Farm and History Tour (**Mollie Spencer Farm**)
Located just 30 minutes west of Oklahoma City in Yukon, this tour offers a holistic look at a working sustainable farm situated right on the historic Chisholm Trail. The tour will explore unique floating and riparian pond pollinator habitats, native gardens, and sustainable facilities, alongside a chance to see the farm animals. The farm is also a known fall roosting site for monarchs.

Classroom and Residential Grants Habitat Tour
This tour tracks the real-world impact of two local habitat grant programs: the *OKC Zoo's Living Classroom* initiative and the *Yard by Yard* residential program. Attendees will get a firsthand look at urban conservation by visiting an active schoolyard classroom habitat and a residential garden within the city. The tour concludes with a visit to the larger, expansive Pugh Prairie Gardens in Calumet, OK.

Nursery Tour with the Oklahoma Native Plant Network
This tour focuses on the incredible work of the Oklahoma Native Plant Network, a membership-based nonprofit formed to promote the use and availability of native plants by connecting the public to local vendors and growers while providing essential education. The experience features two distinct Oklahoma City stops, beginning at Commonwealth Urban Farms, a unique residential nursery with a remarkable history of purchasing dilapidated 1980s homes and converting the yards into thriving, volunteer-managed habitats and community composting hubs. Next, the group will visit Native Plants Nursery to tour a beautiful greenhouse operation situated right in the city that also specializes in landscape design. The afternoon concludes at Anthem Brewing for a dedicated presentation about the network's mission to expand native plant availability across the state.

Municipal Pollinator Initiatives Tour (City of Norman)
Ideal for attendees interested in community engagement and city-level conservation, this tour highlights Pathways for Pollinators & People - an exciting new initiative between the City of Norman and the Oklahoma Monarch Society (OMS). Norman already boasts a massive commitment to conservation, with eight cultivated garden areas and an additional acreage of natural, low-maintenance habitat. The tour begins with an indoor presentation by city staff exploring how they manage these spaces, lead municipal conservation, and engage residents through hands-on activities, low-maintenance programs, and public art (including a new monarch mural). Afterward, the group will tour local showcase habitats, like Ruby Park, to see these municipal projects in action.

Pollinator Habitats as Tools for Community Outreach
Ideal for attendees focused on education, outreach, and community programming, this tour explores how to transform pollinator habitat and other green spaces into powerful tools for engagement. Centered around the Oklahoma City Zoo and its surrounding neighbors, the excursion highlights a few distinct learning environments. The group will tour an onsite preschool pollinator garden to discuss early-childhood education, visit a neighboring habitat to explore a different take on public pollinator programming, and finish at a nearby property to look at broader youth outdoor education. Throughout the afternoon, attendees will discuss

practical strategies for engaging the public, evaluating success, and building local partnerships.

Right-of-Way Habitat and Research Tour | Incompatible Vegetation Management Demonstration and Research Site Tour
Located approximately an hour north of Oklahoma City this tour will introduce participants to the multi-use OSU-ODOT roadside vegetation management research sites along Interstate 35, the Monarch Highway, and State Highway 51 leading into Stillwater. The tour will also feature vegetation management techniques including a weed wiper demonstration and discussion on how different chemical application techniques can efficiently target invasive vegetation and chemical reduce drift.

CCAA/CBA Workshop - *onsite at Zoo*
The Monarch Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) and the Bumble Bee Conservation Benefit Agreement (CBA) help energy and transportation organizations proactively conserve habitat while obtaining regulatory assurances under the U.S. Endangered Species Act. With potential listings for the monarch butterfly and several bumble bee species on the horizon, these programs offer a practical framework for balancing conservation efforts and operational needs. Join this workshop to learn about enrollment, application requirements, implementation strategies, and annual reporting expectations for both agreements. Whether you are considering enrollment or are already participating, this session will provide valuable guidance, opportunities for peer discussion, and insights into preparing for future species listings.

***Optional Friday Add-On: Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge Field Trip**
Extending your stay? Join us from 7:00 AM to 5:00pm for an all-day, immersive conservation field excursion in Southwest Oklahoma the day after our official meeting wraps up.

Add-On Cost: $60 (lunch not included, BYO or options to purchase in Medicine Park available).

Located an hour and forty-five minutes from Oklahoma City situated outside the Lawton, Oklahoma/Fort Sill area. Participants will be introduced to one of the oldest and most prestigious national wildlife refuges in the United States through a bus tour, then a choice of guided birding or a moderate hike. The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge encompasses 59,020 acres of ancient granite mountains, mixed grass prairie, freshwater lakes, and streams. It is best known for roaming herds of bison, longhorn, and Rocky Mountain elk, but also offers plenty of hiking and bird watching through some of the most unique and ancient geography in the National Refuge System. Participants will stop in Medicine Park, a historical cobblestone resort community established in 1908, which lies between the Refuge and Fort Sill for lunch and site seeing, then will end the trip by visiting one of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation – Department of Defense (ODOT-DOD) partner Monarch CCAA Adopted Acre sites outside of Ft. Sill on State Highway 49.

You can add this optional ticket to your cart during the checkout process. Space is highly limited! Please note this is a separate, additional trip from the half-day excursion already included in your standard registration. Note on split payment: if you need to use two different payment methods (like a grant card, secondary work card, or personal card), please complete two separate transactions: first, purchase your registration ticket with zero add-ons; then, complete a second purchase selecting zero registration tickets and one add-on field trip ticket.