

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND FORESTRY

2800 N. Lincoln Boulevard Oklahoma City, OK 73105-4912

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Take a walk in the forest with Oklahoma's foresters

Celebrate fall by joining professional foresters from around the state for Oklahoma's "Walk in the Forest" event at Ardmore Regional Park on October 17 from 8 a.m. to noon. Walkers and hikers of all ages and fitness levels are invited to enjoy the trails and visit the information stations that will be located along the way. Foresters will be located at seven information stations to educate attendees about everything from the practical benefits of the forest to the artistic and inspirational aspects of trees. Additionally, each child will be given a trail book and have the opportunity to participate in special "kid-friendly" activities at each station, with prizes for those who complete the trail book exercises.

"Foresters and natural resource professionals from across the state will come together to provide a unique, fun and enlightening experience for all attendees," said State Forester George Geissler. "It's really a rare opportunity to spend time enjoying our state's forests and woodlands while getting your forest and tree questions answered."

Participants are encouraged to dress for the weather (rain or shine) and wear comfortable, sturdy shoes. Water will be provided, but attendees will need to bring their own containers. The event is provided at no charge.

Oklahoma's "Walk in the Forest" is co-hosted by the Society of American Foresters, Oklahoma Division of the Ouachita Chapter; Oklahoma Forestry Services; Oklahoma State University, Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management and the City of Ardmore. Sponsors include Weyerhaeuser Company, Herron Industries and Oklahoma Forestry Association. For more information, visit www.forest.ok.gov or call 405-522-6158.

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About Oklahoma Forestry Services

Oklahoma Forestry Services, a division of the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, is committed to conserving, enhancing and protecting Oklahoma's 12.5 million acres of forests and woodlands. Since 1925, Oklahoma Forestry Services has worked with individuals and communities throughout the state to create resilient landscapes, fire-adaptive communities and provide wildfire response. Headquartered in Oklahoma City, the division also has regional offices in Goldsby, Broken Bow, Wilburton and Tahlequah. For more information, visit <http://www.forestry.ok.gov>.