

PROTECTING OKLAHOMA'S CREEKS & STREAMS



Blue Thumb is a program of the Water Quality Division of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission.

Our mission is to give people the tools and training they need to help protect the water sources where they live from nonpoint source pollution.



Blue Thumb relies on its network of dedicated volunteers, its citizen scientists, to be the eyes and ears of local waterways. Across the state of Oklahoma, they actively monitor over 100 different streams.

Blue Thumb's citizen scientists collect fish and stream dwelling macroinvertebrates like aquatic insects, crayfish, worms, leeches and snails to gather information on the life found in the stream.

And, they perform regular physical observations and chemical monitoring to get an overall picture of both the site condition and water quality.

The data they collect provides scientists with valuable information on the health of our stream and creek ecosystems.

Interested in becoming a Blue Thumb volunteer?

The first step is to attend one of the two-day volunteer training sessions held throughout the year in different parts of the state. Check out our website for a list of training dates and registration links.

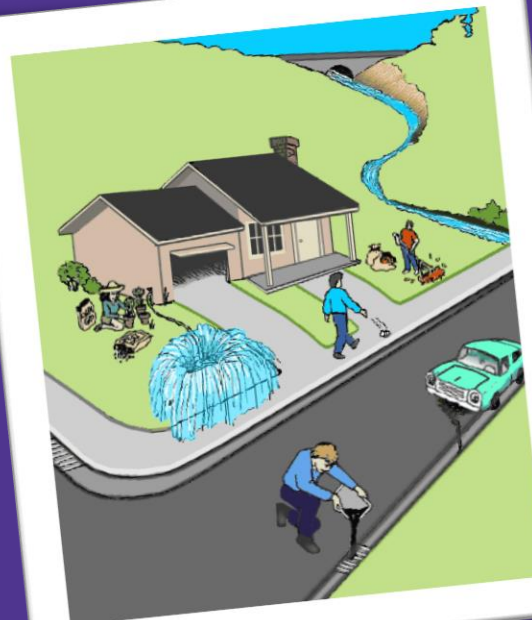
[Blue Thumb - Blue Thumb \(bluethumbok.com\)](http://bluethumbok.com)

Nonpoint source pollution is difficult to control because it comes from many different sources and locations.

Most nonpoint source pollution occurs as a result of runoff.

As rainfall or snowmelt moves over and through the ground, it picks up and carries away debris, chemicals, dirt and any other pollutants it comes into contact with.

A lot of that runoff gets carried down into ditches and storm drains and untreated, eventually finds its way into our creeks and streams. That water, in turn, flows downstream into larger streams, lakes, and rivers carrying pollutants along with it.



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