

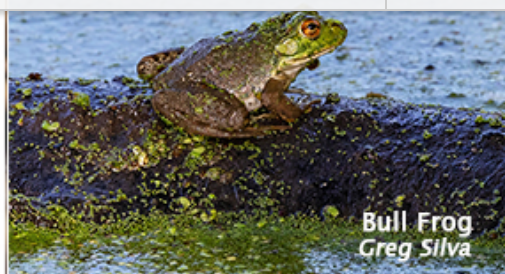
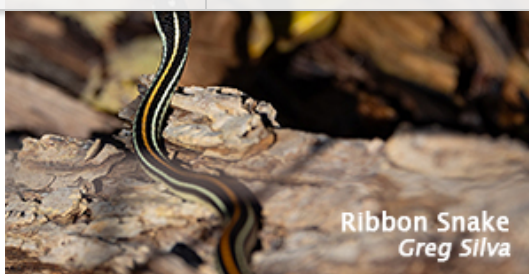
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Coal Creek | Bryan Tapp

Important natural changes are afoot in October! At the fall equinox, the angle of the earth changes with respect to the sun. The length of day and night are equal, as well. Sensing this shift in light and the changing season, animals and plants at Oxley begin to prepare for winter. Birds, bees, and butterflies frantically gather foods to sustain them in the months and travels ahead. Plants begin dropping more and more fruits and seeds. All the animals gorge themselves or hide nuts and seeds away for another day. This year's white-tailed deer fawns are starting to lose their spots and become more independent from their mothers. The male deer prepare to rut by separating from the herd. The trees will respond to the season by gradually changing the colors of their leaves before dropping them. We'll have many more days with cool breezes that give way to cold days. We'd love for you to come take a breezy fall walk at Oxley.

Fall Sightings!





Fall Book & Tree Sale

Saturday, November 4

10 am - 4 pm

@ Oxley Nature Center

ONCA Members-Only Sale
Saturday night, 6 - 8 pm



Questions or Donations:
Email oxley@cityoftulsa.org
or call 918-596-9054



- It's that time again! This year marks our 3rd annual Fall Book Sale here at Oxley Nature Center during the ONCA Fall Potluck and Hayride. This year, we are expanding the sale to the public during the day on Saturday during the nature center's open hours and all ONCA members are warmly welcomed to come early and shop!
- We are also very pleased to share that we will be offering tree seedlings at the sale this year as well, lovingly grown and tended by Joe and Amy Marcoux.
- We are now accepting gently loved book donations for the sale! If you have books to contribute, please drop them off at the nature center anytime Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Naturalist's Notebook: *Argiope aurantia*


By Karen Harris

Argiope rhymes with *calliope* (accent on the second syllable). You are familiar with her; she's the common large black and yellow garden spider with the exquisite orb web. I have been watching one near the fallen bee tree on Green Dragon Trail for three weeks. She had built her web a few feet from the opening of the bees' nest, apparently right in one of their return flight paths. One of our visitors said, "How clever of her to build her web in that location!"

The first time I saw her she drew my attention away from the bees by shaking her web while in the process of packaging one of the returning workers. She was smack dab in the middle of the web and had already captured two other bees. I noticed the web was large and beautiful with a strong zigzag middle. On another occasion I observed one fortunate bee bounce the web, struggle to back away, fly to the right, and escape back to the hole in the tree. Six other bees had not been so fortunate. I could see five bodies encased in the spider's silk, each spread several centimeters away from the center of the web as the spider wrapped up the sixth, again in the middle of the web. When I returned last Sunday, she was gone, so was her cache of bees, and the web looked unkempt. Those are my observations so far.

When I told Mary what I had seen and wondered about, she responded that her Junior Naturalists had seen the same spider and came up with similar questions. I had intended to tell you what the questions were, but I think not. Instead, as I would ask any interested young naturalist (aren't we all young naturalists when we are at Oxley?), what are your questions? Feel free to speculate on the answers too. And, if you'd like, share your thoughts with us. We can all be inspired to wonder by a spider.



Subscribe	Past Issues	Mammal Oxley Nature Center - October Programs	Translate ▼	RSS 
		<p>Interpretive Center is open Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Sundays Noon – 4:30 p.m. Call 918-596-9054 for program reservations.</p> <p>Saturday, October 7 - Saturday Morning Birding 8:00 – 9:45 a.m. Join us for our Saturday morning birding walk. All skill levels welcome. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet in the parking lot.</p> <p>Saturday, October 7 - Volunteer Workday 10:00—Noon. Help us maintain our trails and keep Oxley beautiful! Bring gloves and a water bottle, wear long sleeves, and prepare to get dirty! This month we will be pulling invasive species in the marsh. All ages welcome (under 16 requires an accompanying adult volunteer). Meet in the parking lot.</p> <p>Tuesday, October 10 or Friday, October 13 - Seedlings 10:00—11:30 a.m. In October, as the weather cools, busy squirrels start stashing nuts to prepare for winter. We'll have a special squirrel themed activity followed by a nice fall walk. Sign your little seedling up today! Ages 1-5 + caregiver. Free for members/\$5 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.</p> <p>Saturday, October 21 - Explore the Flora 10:30—Noon. Join us for our monthly botany walk! This month, we still have flowers to provide food for migrating butterflies and other kinds of plants to feed migrating birds. Can we see how trees and others are responding to the shorter daylight? All ages welcome.</p> <p>Friday, October 27 - All About Nature Book Club 11:00 – 12:30 p.m. Join our book discussion on nature, conservation, and the environment. This month we will be talking about <u>What An Owl Knows</u> by Jennifer Ackerman. Meet in the fireplace room in the nature center.</p> <p>Saturday, October 28 - Butterfly Walk 10:00—Noon. Join us for our last butterfly walk of the year. The peak of the monarch's fall migration through Oklahoma typically takes place in late September and early October, but depending on weather conditions, we may still see some on trees and nectaring plants as they make their way south. Bring binoculars if you have them. Meet in the parking lot.</p> <p>Saturday, October 28 - Full Hunter Moon Walk 7:00—8:30 p.m. Witness the night's magic transform the trails under the light of the full Hunter's Moon on this quiet guided hike. All ages welcome. Pre-registration is required for this walk. \$3 for members/\$5 for non-members.</p>		





Explore & Play Oxley Seedlings

Experience nature with your little ones! Through stories, crafts, and time exploring the trails, we will help to inspire a lifelong love of the outdoors! Join us every month on the second Tuesday or following Friday from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Ages 1-5 + caregiver



upcoming sessions:

-  September: Sunflower Seed Harvest
-  October: Squirrels Stashing Nuts
-  November: Mushrooms in the Woods
-  December: Plants in Winter

\$5 per session
Free for ONCA
members.

Learn more and sign up by calling the nature center at
(918) 596-9054 or emailing oxley@cityoftulsa.org



OXLEY NATURE CENTER HOURS

10-4:30PM Tuesday through Saturday

Noon - 4:30PM on Sunday



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