

“Up the Creek” with OES Environmental Specialist Jeremy Fincher

I would like to take a little time and share some recent activities performed by the OES's Water Program. This is the time of year for summer macroinvertebrate (bug) and fish collections, and habitat assessments. This issue, I would like to discuss, specifically, macroinvertebrate collections. Twice a year, winter and summer, we will go out to our monitored creeks and collect bugs and look for indicator species that will tell us about the water's quality. Certain species are more sensitive to negative changes in their environment than others. We can use the presence/absence of these sensitive organisms, along with, the results of the other biological collections, habitat assessments, and chemical water quality data, to help determine the health of the stream. I will discuss these other measures of stream quality in more detail in upcoming issues of “Sac and Fox News”.

More often than not, bug collecting is a dirty job. It involves wading through waist or chest high water while pulling up old submerged tree limbs from the bottom

and wiping them clean over a net and then rinsing them off over the net to make sure you got all the bugs off. Then you're off down the creek until you see fallen trees or use your feet to feel more woody debris on the bottom and start wiping and rinsing again. We will also put our nets under any vegetation that is hanging from the bank into the water and shake the vegetation in hopes for bugs to fall into our nets. So far we have been lucky and haven't had any close encounters with any snakes, but we keep our eyes open. There are many other hazards besides snakes we have to be prepared and watchful for. We make sure to work in pairs and move carefully and deliberately while in the stream. Sometimes just getting from the bridge down to the water can be quite a challenge. But it all makes for a fulfilling day at the office. Once we have negotiated all the challenges that faced us on our arrival and we have collected a good sample we will then preserve the sample in high proof ethanol until it is ready to be processed and have the organisms identified.



Checking a piece of woody debris for any bugs left behind before moving on to the next one. You can tell by the dark color that it has been submerged for some time.



Checking to see what I caught during a macroinvertebrate collection on Cottonwood Creek.



Don't Forget To Recycle



Seven Steps To A Happier Pet

Submitted by Dora Young

The Humane Society of the United States, in its constant battle to end animal neglect, cruelty & abuse, encourages all of its members to take the following actions in support of animals.

Make sure your pet wears an identification tag to enable him to be returned to you if lost.

To prevent animal behavioral problems, make sure you enroll your new puppy or dog in behavioral training classes, & visit www.petsforlife.org

Animal behavioral problems can be health related. Make sure your pet has a complete medical exam by a veterinarian at least once a year.

Prepare for disasters. Make sure you have a plan for your pet in case of a hurricane, tornado, fire, or flood.

Plan for your pet's future in case something happens to you and visit www.humanesociety.org/petsinwills for more information.

Learn how to avoid dog bites, & how to prevent your dog from biting, by going to www.humanesociety.org/nodogbites

Have a heart, be smart & make sure your pet is spayed or neutered.

Fleas, Ticks and Chewing Lice Can Be a Year-Round Problem

Spring – Fleas and ticks breed more frequently as spring progresses.

Summer – The period of highest risk. Summer temperatures and humidity can quickly lead to flea and tick infestations.

Autumn – The risk continues. Fleas and ticks (brown dog ticks, American dog ticks, lone star ticks, and deer ticks which may carry Lyme disease) remain a threat.

Winter – Minimize the risk of any re-infestation.

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VETERANS DAY POWWOW

SAC & FOX VETERANS

...: HONOR GUARD ::...

Nov 11, 2011 (FRI)

(S&FN Community BLDG 5.5 miles South of Stroud on HWY 99)

HEAD STAFF

MASTER OF CEREMONIES:
HEAD SINGER:
HEAD GOURD DANCER:

RUSSELL SAUNDERS
PONCHO WALKER
SAM SPANG

GOURD DANCE PROGRAM

1:00 PM
5:00 PM
6:15 PM

GOURD DANCE
SUPPER BREAK
GOURD DANCE

ALL COVERED DANCE, NO SPECIALS PLEASE

DOOR PRIZES FOR VETERANS!!!





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October 2011

SAC AND FOX NATION

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