

# 2025 OKRA OKLAHOMA RECYCLING ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



**From Choice to Change:  
Stewardship Through the 7 R's**

## Oct. 7-8

**Artesian Hotel, Casino & Spa  
1001 W. 1st St., Sulphur, Oklahoma**

\*This conference is a zero waste event.



 [info@recycleok.org](mailto:info@recycleok.org)

 [RecycleOK.org](http://RecycleOK.org)

2025  
**OKRA**  
OKLAHOMA RECYCLING ASSOCIATION  
**CONFERENCE**

# Sponsors



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# Schedule

| Time       | Wednesday, Oct. 8                                                                                       | Presenters                                                                                                                                  |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 a.m.  | Conference Registration and Breakfast                                                                   | Exhibitors in Great Room                                                                                                                    |
| 9:00 a.m.  | Welcome<br>Opening Comments                                                                             | <b>Paul Streets</b> , Emcee and OKRA President                                                                                              |
| 9:15 a.m.  | Chickasaw Nation Recycling Programs                                                                     | <b>Kara Berst</b> , Chickasaw Nation                                                                                                        |
| 9:45 a.m.  | Community Yard Waste to Compost:<br>What communities are doing to avoid landfilling<br>Panel Discussion | <b>Paul Streets</b> , Midwest City<br><b>Philip Eakes</b> , Tulsa<br><b>Faye Henson</b> , Weatherford<br><b>Amanda Scofield</b> , Moderator |
| 10:45 a.m. | Break                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                             |
| 11:00 a.m. | Zero Waste Cooking                                                                                      | <b>Chef Zach Hutton</b>                                                                                                                     |
| 12:00 p.m. | Lunch                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                             |
| 1:15 p.m.  | <i>Stillwatter Recycles!</i>                                                                            | <b>Matt Faulkner</b> , City of Stillwater                                                                                                   |
| 1:45 p.m.  | Break                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                             |
| 2:00 p.m.  | Roundtable Discussion Intructions                                                                       | <b>Paul Streets</b> , OKRA President                                                                                                        |
|            | <b>Round 1: Roundtable Discussions</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                                                             |
|            | Reduce<br>Zero Waste Cooking                                                                            | <b>Chef Zach Hutton</b>                                                                                                                     |
|            | Reuse                                                                                                   | <b>Kelsey Norton</b> , Chickasaw Nation                                                                                                     |
|            | Recycle                                                                                                 | <b>Matt Faulkner</b> , City of Stillwater                                                                                                   |
|            | Rethink                                                                                                 | <b>Travis Andrews</b> , Skyline Urban Ministries                                                                                            |
|            | Refuse                                                                                                  | <b>Rep. Arturo Alonso-Sandoval</b>                                                                                                          |
|            | Rot                                                                                                     | <b>Carrie Evenson</b> , OCASA                                                                                                               |
|            | Repair                                                                                                  | <b>BadTayst</b> - Mending Demonstrations                                                                                                    |
| 2:30 p.m.  | <b>Round 2: Roundtable Discussions</b>                                                                  | Same topics and hosts as Round 1                                                                                                            |
| 3:00 p.m.  | Battery Stewardship Act                                                                                 | <b>Rep. Arturo Alonso-Sandoval</b>                                                                                                          |
| 3:15 p.m.  | Community Connection: Outreach Messages<br>and Tactics that Make a BIG Difference                       | <b>April Sailsbury</b> , Byers Creative                                                                                                     |
| 3:45 p.m.  | Conference Wrap Up & Adjournment                                                                        | <b>Paul Streets</b> , OKRA President                                                                                                        |



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# OKRA Officers and Board Members

## Officers:

President: Paul Streets, City of Midwest City

Vice President: Crystal Bennett\*, Republic  
Services

Secretary: Jerry Schuber, City of Broken Arrow

Treasurer: Sara Ivey\*, ODEQ

Past President: Keima Borsuah, OK Cooperative  
Extension Service

## Board Members:

Kara Berst\*, Chickasaw Nation

Lisa Brewer, Fertile Ground Cooperative

Philip Eakes, City of Tulsa

Cat Ecker\*, ODEQ

Tracy Horst\*, Choctaw Nation

Chris Knight, River City Hydraulics

Bob Masterson, City of Edmond

Michelle Miller\*, Batliner

Eric Pollard, Association of Central OK  
Governments

Amanda Scofield\*, ODEQ

## OKRA Technical Council

(Area of recycling interest or expertise)

**Katie Beitz**, Oklahoma State University  
Sustainability (university recycling and  
sustainability programs)

**Matt Faulkner**, City of Stillwater (Convenience  
collection centers, curbside recycling)

**Chris Feeney**, Keepin' Enid Green (Rural recycling)

**Michele Loudenback**, City of Norman (HHW,  
Municipal Sustainability Programs)

**Julie Maher**, Ardmore Beautification Council  
(Beautification)

**Jeanette Nance** (Community volunteers,  
beautification, litter, special events)

**Traci Phillips**, Natural Evolution (Electronics  
recycling)

**Robert Pickens**, American Waste Control  
(Operations, acquisitions, marketing, sales,  
education, transportation, website design)

**Fenton Rood**, Retired ODEQ (Solid waste,  
recycling, green team)

**Bobby Schultz**, The MET - (Recycling depots,  
special collection events, public education)

**Garmon Smith**, Ada Recycling Coalition (Special  
events, product stewardship)

**\*Members of Conference Committee.**

# OKRA Committees and Work Groups

## Standing Committees

### Communications

(Chair: Lisa Brewer)

This committee updates OKRA website content, manages and posts updates to the listserv, maintains engagement via social media, and publishes the OKRA Newsletter.

### Conference Planning Committee

(Chair: Ellen Bussert)

This committee handles the program, logistics and fundraising for the annual Oklahoma Recycling Association.

### Executive Committee

(Chair: Paul Streets)

This committee is responsible for identifying policy and proposing change to the board of directors. The Bylaws Task Force falls under this committee.

### Membership Committee

(Chair: Ellen Bussert)

This committee facilitates membership renewals, solicits new members, arranges OKRA exhibit opportunities, updates the membership structure and brochure, and recognizes OKRA members.

### Nominations/Recruitment Committee

(Chair: Crystal Bennett)

This committee solicits leadership position nominations and prepares slates for board votes.

 [RecycleOK.org](https://RecycleOK.org)

 [info@recycleok.org](mailto:info@recycleok.org)



## Work Groups

### Advocacy Work Group

(Chair: Eric Pollard)

The Advocacy Work Group aims to make OKRA better known among Oklahoma legislators and decision makers. We would like OKRA to be the "go to" organization for recycling and resource recovery issues in our state.

### Composting Work Group

(Chair: Amanda Scofield)

OKRA promotes composting as a resource recovery strategy, and relays updates from the Oklahoma Compost and Sustainability Association and other composting organizations.

### Education and Outreach Work Group

(Chair: Keima Borsuah)

This work group strives to increase recycling knowledge, best practices and the economic benefits of recycling in our state, while working to reduce recycling contamination through a variety of education and communication strategies. This group organizes OKRA's very successful Lunch and Learn events.

### Glass Work Group

(Chair: Fenton Rood)

The Glass Work Group is working to develop initiatives to develop programs for the communities in Oklahoma to reduce the amount of glass entering the landfills in Oklahoma.

### Product Stewardship

(Chair: Cat Ecker)

OKRA collaborates with the national Product Stewardship Institute to solve waste management problems by encouraging product design changes that lead to sustainable end-of-life management.



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# Conference Presenters

**Travis Andrews**

Garden Program Manager  
[tandrews@okcskyline.org](mailto:tandrews@okcskyline.org)

**Kara Berst**

Chickasaw Nation Department of  
Commerce's Deputy Secretary of  
Outreach and Services  
[Kara.Berst@chickasaw.net](mailto:Kara.Berst@chickasaw.net)

**Philip Eakes**

Refuse & Recycling Systems Manager  
City of Tulsa Public Works Department

**Carrie Evenson**

Oklahoma Compost and Sustainability  
Association (OCASA)  
[CEvenson@midwestcityok.org](mailto:CEvenson@midwestcityok.org)

**Matt Faulkner**

Waste Management Director  
City of Stillwater  
[matt.faulkner@stillwaterok.gov](mailto:matt.faulkner@stillwaterok.gov)

**Faye Henson**

Weatherford Environment Group  
[epita@cebridge.net](mailto:epita@cebridge.net)

**Zach Hutton**

The Old Ice House  
[zhutton70@gmail.com](mailto:zhutton70@gmail.com)

**Saydi McKenzie**

[@badtayst\\_design](https://www.instagram.com/badtayst_design)

**Kelsey Norton**

Environmental Protection Manager  
Chickasaw Nation Environmental Services  
[kelsey.norton@chickasaw.net](mailto:kelsey.norton@chickasaw.net)

**April Sailsbury**

Account Manager, Byers Creative  
[april.sailsbury@byerscreative.com](mailto:april.sailsbury@byerscreative.com)

**Amanda Scofield**

Environmental Programs Specialist  
Oklahoma Department of Environmental  
Quality

**Paul Streets**

Public Works Director  
City of Midwest City



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# Thank you to our Conference Sponsors!

## Spotlight Sponsors

- Batliner Recycling, [www.pioneerintl.com/locations/oklahoma/](http://www.pioneerintl.com/locations/oklahoma/)
- Cherokee Nation, [www.cherokee.org](http://www.cherokee.org)
- Ram Products, [www.rampressurewashers.com](http://www.rampressurewashers.com)

## Sustaining Sponsors

- The Chickasaw Nation, [www.chickasaw.net](http://www.chickasaw.net)
- Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, [www.deq.ok.gov](http://www.deq.ok.gov)
- Oklahoma Compost and Sustainability Association, [www.okcomposts.org](http://www.okcomposts.org)

## Metal Sponsors

- Indian Nations Chapter SWANA, [www.okswana.org](http://www.okswana.org)
- River City Hydraulics, [www.rivercityhyd.com](http://www.rivercityhyd.com)

## Fiber Sponsors

- Choctaw Nation, [www.choctawnation.com](http://www.choctawnation.com)
- Rehrig Pacific, [www.rehrigpacific.com](http://www.rehrigpacific.com)
- American Waste Control, [www.americanwastecontrol.com](http://www.americanwastecontrol.com)

## Glass Sponsors

- Keep Oklahoma Beautiful, [www.keepoklahomabeautiful.com](http://www.keepoklahomabeautiful.com)
- OSU Cooperative Extension Services,  
[extension.okstate.edu/programs/solid-waste-management/index.html](http://extension.okstate.edu/programs/solid-waste-management/index.html)

## Plastic Sponsors

- D<sup>6</sup>, [www.d6inc.com](http://www.d6inc.com)

# Thank you to our Cookout Sponsors and Exhibitors!

## Cookout Sponsors

- Chappell Supply and Equipment, [www.chappellsupply.com](http://www.chappellsupply.com)
- Fertile Ground Coop, [www.fertilegroundok.coop](http://www.fertilegroundok.coop)
- Rambling Wood Event Consulting, [nancejnb@yahoo.com](mailto:nancejnb@yahoo.com)

## Exhibitors

- BadTayst
- Chappell Supply and Equipment, [www.chappellsupply.com](http://www.chappellsupply.com)
- Cram-A-Lot, [www.cram-a-lot.com](http://www.cram-a-lot.com)
- D<sup>6</sup>, [www.d6inc.com](http://www.d6inc.com)
- Indian Nations Chapter SWANA, [www.okswana.org](http://www.okswana.org)
- J&R Equipment, [www.jandreequipment.com](http://www.jandreequipment.com)
- The M.E.T., [www.metrecycle.com](http://www.metrecycle.com)
- Natural Evolution, [www.naturalevolution.com](http://www.naturalevolution.com)
- Oklahoma Compost and Sustainability Association, [www.okcomposts.org](http://www.okcomposts.org)
- Oklahoma Recycling Association [www.recycleok.org](http://www.recycleok.org)
- Ram Products, [www.rampressurewashers.com](http://www.rampressurewashers.com)
- River City Hydraulics, [www.rivercityhyd.com](http://www.rivercityhyd.com)
- Rehrig Pacific, [www.rehrigpacific.com](http://www.rehrigpacific.com)
- Show Inc., [www.showinc.org](http://www.showinc.org)



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**Special thanks to Crafting Wood for a Better World for the speaker gifts.**

### **Paul Stevenson - Crafting Wood for a Better World**

Paul Stevenson began wood turning after a nearly fatal head-on collision with a drunk driver left him totally paralyzed. After multiple surgeries and months of physical therapy, he walked his daughter down the aisle at her wedding. Paul turned to woodturning first as physical therapy, finding the way he turned bowls on the lathe actually strengthened his damaged back.

He does not sell his work; he gives to others and donates his work to worthy causes. He makes his bowls from logs reclaimed from local trees destined for a landfill. His aesthetic highlights the unique wood grain in each piece. Cracks or "defects" are inlaid with semi-precious stone. "Giving discarded wood a new life has become a metaphor for my own recovery."



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*Take our survey and tell us*  
**WHAT YOU WANT  
TO LEARN ABOUT!**

SCAN THE QR CODE AND LET US KNOW  
WHAT YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT WHEN IT  
COMES TO RECYCLING IN OKLAHOMA



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