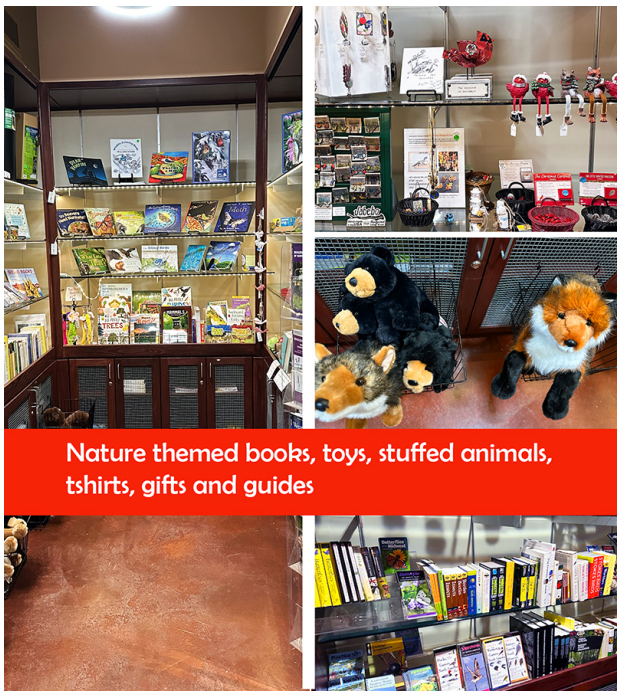
A particularly enjoyable December event at Oxley Nature Center is the annual Winter Solstice Walk! This year the walk will be held on the 21st from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. We invite you and your family to embrace the Winter Solstice and join us for a celebration of the longest and darkest night of the year. We will gather by the campfire and craft lanterns to illuminate the path on a self-guided walk through the forest. This community gathering is intended to be a time to slow down and honor the magic of the season. This is a free event for all ages and all supplies will be provided. Registration is not required, but please RSVP online or by calling the Nature Center to help us plan.

Book Review from the All About Nature Book Club
Sisters of the Earth, by Lorraine Anderson

Sisters of the Earth is a collection of prose and poetry about nature written by more than one hundred women and edited by Lorraine Anderson. It includes pieces by well-known authors (Ackerman, Carson, Cather, Dickinson, Kingsolver, Tempest Williams, Walker) as well as lesser-known writers who deserve more recognition. Topics include Nature as mother, victim, companion, healer, and source of delight. Our book club member Mary McCormack writes the following review:

"Sisters of the Earth — The book was nourishing for me, comforting. So many people I know now are in a hurry, busy, going, going, going. Meetings. Busy. Grand children and great grand children states away. Going, going, going. Cruise ship travels to places overwhelmed with tourists. In a hurry. The book gave respite. Story after story recorded the lives of women staying in place; tending the earth immediately around them; learning the land by slowly and quietly living with it. The stories reflect a sense of knowing and familiarity with the land just outside the doorstep, something I so want to learn. Lorraine Anderson chose American authors across a long range of time, mostly authors whose names I didn't know. Talking across decades about getting to know the land."



Burr Oak Nature Store

Nature-Themed Holiday Gifts at the Bur Oak Nature Store!

Use your member discount and support Oxley by shopping at the Bur Oak Nature Store in the Interpretive Building:

- Oxley t-shirts, hats, pins, patches, mugs, stickers and more:
- Douglas stuffed animals
- Puzzles
- Children's Books
- Jabebo earrings
- Greeting cards
- Field Guides
- Hiking Sticks
- Art work
- The Best selection of books about Nature and more
- Gift memberships to Friends of Oxley are also available either at the front desk or through the website www.oxleynaturecenter.org

Frost Flower | Bryan Tapp

Mary K. Oxley Nature Center - December Programs

Call 918-596-9054 to register for any program that requires pre-registration.

***Full Cold Moon Walk**
December 4, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Join us as we head out in small, guided groups to experience the nocturnal sights and sounds of Oxley.

***Nature Story Time**
December 4, 11, and 18, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
In partnership with Early Learning Works Talking is Teaching program, Oxley Nature Center invites families with children 8 and under to join us for a free, fun, nature-themed opportunity to TALK, READ, and SING. This event includes time to enjoy a book with your child, a free book to take home, a fun activity, and an optional short nature walk. We still have a few spots left for this month!

Saturday Morning Birding
December 6, 8:00 – 9:45 a.m.
All ages and skill levels are welcome for this free drop-in Birding Walk, guided by a staff naturalist. Bring binoculars if you have them!

***Nature Journaling Group**
Meets on Thursdays, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Led by Mary Seabourn, this program offers the opportunity to dive in deep with your observations of the more-than-human world. Each session will include time out on the trails, time to reflect, write, and sketch about what you notice, and time for optional sharing and group discussion. Participants can join the group at any time; There is a one-time materials fee of $20.

***Little Seedlings, December's theme: "Winter Life"**
December 9 and 12, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
This program for curious little nature-lovers (ages 1-5) and their caregivers includes a craft and a guided trail walk to explore the theme of the month; (The Tuesday and Friday

sessions are the same).

All About Nature Book club
December 19, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
December's selection: "Vanishing Treasures: A Bestiary of Extraordinary Endangered Creatures" by Katherine Rundell.

Plant Walk
December 20, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Oxley Naturalists guide this free drop-in event, where we explore the lives of plants in the forest, prairie, and wetlands.

Winter Solstice Walk
December 21, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Embrace the Winter Solstice at Oxley Nature Center, where we invite you to join us for a celebration of the longest and darkest night of the year. Gather by the campfire as we craft lanterns to illuminate the path on a self-guided walk through the forest. This community gathering is intended to be a time to slow down and honor the magic of the season. This is a free event for all ages and all supplies will be provided. Registration is not required, but please RSVP online or by calling the Nature Center to help us plan.

Project FeederWatch
Every Thursday and Friday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Stay warm inside while helping collect community science data to submit to Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

Fall-Winter Discovery Walks
Fridays at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
These informal walks will be facilitated by Oxley staff naturalists. Meet by the message board in the parking lot and we'll walk together to see what the trails have to show us. These are free, drop-in events for all ages and abilities.

***Track Chairs**
We are taking reservations for folks interested in taking the Track Chairs out onto the trails. These all-terrain motorized chairs are available any time the building is open and can be reserved by anyone who has any type of mobility issues. Call us for more information or to reserve!

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2026 Artist Residency

Applications are now open and will be accepted until mid-January. More information can be found here: https://irp.cdn-website.com/fc433091/files/uploaded/2026+Oxley+Artist+In+Residence+Info.pdf And a link to the application is here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfWiBTesrjL3tuldfDp9CyeCuihupNMhEharJGDkoZ2-uHYxQ/view form

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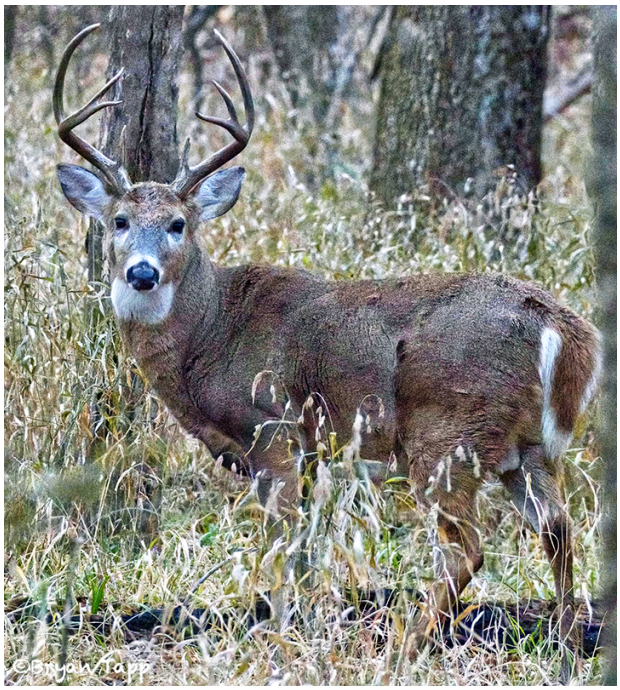
*indicates that pre-registration is required. To register for programs or to find out more please visit https://tulsaparks.recdesk.com/Community/Program?category=14



OXLEY NATURE CENTER HOURS

Interpretive Center hours are 10-4:30PM Tuesday through Saturday, and Noon - 4:30PM on Sunday.

The Interpretive Building will be closed Tuesday December 24th & Wednesday December 25th for holidays. (Trails will still be accessible to enjoy).

After Interpretive Center hours, trails are open for hiking until 9:00 PM.

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