

## PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION

A simple "thank you" cannot express the extent of appreciation for those who go above and beyond to lend a hand. Such is the case with the many groups that have become invaluable Partners in Conservation for Oklahoma's tremendous natural resources. Contributions and support for the Wildlife Department, from quality organizations like these, ultimately benefits sportsmen and women and the conservation of wildlife and habitat in Oklahoma. Partners listed here contributed at least \$5,000 in 2020.

The Wildlife Department also extends sincere gratitude to the many other groups and individuals who provide support through monetary gifts or in-kind products and services in support of all Department activities. This list does not include our partners who contribute to the Department's Wildlife Expo. Thank you, partners!



- **Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever Oklahoma Chapters** to support habitat projects on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).
- **National Wild Turkey Federation** for support of habitat enhancement on public and private lands statewide (including several WMAs open to public hunting), plus major support for ODWC outdoor educational programs.
- **City of Grove** for a large-scale fish habitat project at Grand Lake.
- **Chickasaw Nation** for habitat and user facility improvement at Arbuckle Springs WMA.
- **Blue River Fly Fishers** for the purchase of trout for the catch and release portion of the Blue River Public Fishing and Hunting Area and for general improvements to the area.
- **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation** for habitat work on Cherokee WMA.
- **Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation** for the continued support with conservation projects throughout all of Oklahoma.



## Do You Care About Wildlife? Help Us Protect Them...

Operation Game Thief (OGT) is a program of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation designed specifically to stop illegal killing of the fish and game which belong to you, whether you're an angler, sportsman or outdoor enthusiast. It's a big problem with no simple solution. Help from public sportsmen and sports-women makes all the difference.

Here's why:

- One day before the opening of a recent deer season, two poachers killed four whitetail bucks.
- Late one summer night, three men steered their boat across a state reservoir, stopped at their illegal net site and hauled in a load of striped bass and other open-water fish they could sell for \$1 a pound on the commercial market.

In each of these examples, you were the loser. You lost hunting and fishing opportunities or the chance to view wildlife in their natural surroundings. At the same time, law-abiding sportsmen received a bad reputation from those who fail to distinguish between legal and illegal hunting. OGT is something everyone can do to help wildlife and help us apprehend the poachers.

**The OGT toll-free phone number is (800) 522-8039. Callers can remain anonymous.**

## Operation Game Thief trailer is on the move!

Thanks to generous contributions from the Oklahoma Station Chapter Safari Club International and Safari Club International, the Department has equipped a traveling trailer to highlight the importance of obeying game laws. The Operation Game Thief trailer is hitting the roads and educating Oklahomans young and old about wildlife conservation. Keep your eyes peeled; the trailer may be coming to an area near you!

