

# YARD BY YARD: A COMMUNITY RESILIENCY PROJECT

DOES YOUR  
PROPERTY  
MAKE THE CUT?

COMMUNITY  
RESILIENCY  
PROJECT



# YARD BY YARD



[OKCONSERVATION.ORG/YARDBYYARD](http://OKCONSERVATION.ORG/YARDBYYARD)



OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

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THE YARD REVOLUTION HAS BEGUN!



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## YARD BY YARD - CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST

Please fill out all the required information. Check all the boxes that apply and submit this checklist with your video or photos. Certification requires that you maintain a pesticide-free yard and utilize 5 practices across 3 of our 4 categories. Email completed checklist to [yardbyyardproject@gmail.com](mailto:yardbyyardproject@gmail.com) or send it to your local conservation district.

Name:

Date:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

- I maintain a pesticide-free yard. (This means no use of synthetic herbicide, pesticide, or pre-emergent applications)

### Soil Health

- Use of organic mulch (non-rubber, non-dyed) such as wood chips or leaves to help build soil organic matter and hold moisture  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/all-you-need-to-know-about-mulch.html>
- On-site Composting system capturing organic waste for use in the landscape  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/backyard-composting-in-oklahoma.html>
- Practice mulch mowing of lawn rather than bagging lawn clippings  
<https://www.okc.gov/departments/utilities/squeeze-every-drop/saving-water-outdoors>
- Improve soil and plant health through compost amendments  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/healthy-garden-soils.html>
- Increase mowing height to at least 3"  
<https://www.okc.gov/departments/utilities/squeeze-every-drop/saving-water-outdoors>

### Water Conservation

- Xeriscape and/or other heat/drought tolerant plants that require little or no extra water  
[https://ag.ok.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Trees-Xeriscape\\_Demonstration-Garden.pdf](https://ag.ok.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Trees-Xeriscape_Demonstration-Garden.pdf)
- Use of efficient irrigation equipment and controllers  
<https://www.okc.gov/departments/utilities/squeeze-every-drop/saving-water-outdoors/irrigation-checkup>
- Utilize rain barrels to capture rainwater for irrigation use  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/design-of-rainwater-harvesting-systems-in-oklahoma.html>
- Use of a rain garden or bioswale to capture, slow and infiltrate rainwater  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/sustainable-landscapes-designing-a-rain-garden-for-residential-property.html>



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## **Home Food Production**

- Presence of vegetable garden, whether in ground, containerized, or raised bed  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/topics/plants-and-animals/crops/vegetables/index.html>
- Presence of herb garden for cooking and/or medicinal purposes  
<https://havenscapes.com/how-to-plant-an-herb-garden/>
- Use of cover crops or companion plantings  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/earth-kind-gardening-series-cultural-control-practices.html>
- Presence of fruit-producing trees or shrubs  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/topics/plants-and-animals/crops/fruits-and-tree-nuts/index.html>
- Integration of grazing/ pasture animals (chickens, goats, etc.)  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/backyard-flock-production.html>
- Maintenance of honeybee hives for honey production  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/beginning-honey-beekeeping-equipment-and-associated-costs.html>

## **Wildlife Habitat**

- Use of native or well-adapted plants to Oklahoma  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/oklahoma-proven-plant-selections-for-oklahoma.html>
- Use of host plants for native wildlife (ex. milkweed for monarchs)  
<http://www.okiesformonarchs.org/what-to-plant-where-to-buy/>
- Nonnative or invasive plant species excluded or removed from landscape  
<https://www.okinvasives.org/about-invasives>
- Lawn and turf grass areas have been reduced or eliminated  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/bermudagrass-suppression-methods-for-oklahoma-home-gardens.html>
- Functional and flowering lawn species like clover are protected and not mowed  
<https://www.almanac.com/clover-comeback>
- Plant diversity providing nectar and pollen for wildlife throughout the growing season  
<http://www.okiesformonarchs.org/what-to-plant-where-to-buy/>
- Presence of native trees/shrubs creating vertical structure  
<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/Websites/forestry/Images/Putting%20Down%20Roots%20-%20OKC.pdf>
- Presence of bee hotels, birdhouses, and/or bat boxes  
<https://extension.okstate.edu/fact-sheets/snags-cavity-trees-and-downed-logs.html>  
<https://content.yardmap.org/learn/bee-hotels/>
- Presence of rock or brush pile  
<https://choosenatives.org/articles/brush-pile-build-wild-friends/>
- Presence of a water source for wildlife  
<https://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=10847>



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## Size of Habitat/Garden

Small (less than 200 sq ft)

Medium (200-499 sq ft)

Large (500-999 sq ft)

X-Large (1,000-4,999 sq ft)

XX-Large (5,000 sq ft or more)

If you are submitting a video and/or if you would allow photos/videos of you or your yard to be utilized for educational and promotional purposes, please sign the photo release below.

### Photo/Video Release Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please print) grant permission to the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts and the \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation District the irrevocable and unrestricted right to reproduce the photos/videos images taken of me for the purpose of publication, promotion, illustration, advertising, or trade, in any manner or medium. I hereby release the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts and the \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation District for all claims and liability relating to said images/video. Furthermore, I grant permission to use my statements that were given during an interview, with or without my name, for the purpose of advertising and publicity without restriction. I waive my right to compensation.

I acknowledge that I am over eighteen (18) years of age \_\_\_\_\_ (initial)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **For District Use Only:**

Date Video/Photos Received:

Date Site Visit Completed:

Date Sign Provided:

Follow-up Scheduled For: