

Summit Agenda

HOSTED BY:



the
**Chickasaw
Nation**

WEDNESDAY

Foundations of Stewardship and Action

8:00a.m. Registration, The Lodge at Lake Murray

8:00 a.m. - Undergrad Poster Displays - Art of Science Communication

9:00a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks

"We abuse the land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect" - Aldo Leopold

9:30a.m. - The Value of Grasslands

What will it take to protect our last intact grasslands? What strategies are there for balancing development and conservation? How do we secure a water future?

10:00a.m. Break

10:15a.m. - Facilitated Strategic Planning - What's Your why?

11:30a.m. - Facilitated Critical Conversations - Who Isn't at the Table?

12:30p.m. Networking Luncheon & Buffet

1:30p.m. Less Talk, More Action: Field Excursion: Exploring Conservation in Practice

- Locations: Wheelock Property and Coffey Ranch
- Field Activities Include:
 - Infiltration Testing (Treated vs. untreated sites) – Assessing soil health & water retention
 - Soil Decomposition Experiment – "Soil Your Undies" activity
 - Insect Transects – Measuring biodiversity
 - Root Wash Demonstration – Understanding soil-plant interactions
 - Landscape Comparisons – Cedar forest vs. restored prairie vs. remnant prairie
 - Aerial Imagery Review – Tracking land use changes over time

6:00p.m. On-Site Dinner & Evening Entertainment : Chuck wagon dinner and special entertainment by Gary Pratt

8:30p.m. Return to Ardmore

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THURSDAY

Strengthening Partnerships & Building Conservation Networks

8:00a.m. Registration, The Lodge at Lake Murray

8:00a.m. Grad Student Posters Display - Art of Science Communication

8:30a.m. Opening Session - Building Meaningful Collaborations

9:30 a.m. Opportunities for Collaboration Panel: Why Alliances Matter

10:00a.m. Break

10:30a.m. Facilitation and Brainstorming - Collaborative Conservation - Moving from Discussion to Action

11:30a.m. Closing Remarks

12:00p.m. Optional Lunch & Networking

1:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. Expanding the Conservation Delivery Network (CDN) Working Group
Ready to dig into some strategic planning? Your ideas and thoughts are important. Stay for this afternoon intensive where we will work in small groups focused around critical conversations to explore ideas, opportunities, needs, and strategies. Don't be shy! Here is your opportunity to build a better conservation tomorrow.

