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News Release

For Immediate Release: September 3, 2010
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Oklahoma Recycling Seminar Scheduled for October 15

Sharing local solutions will be the theme of this year's Oklahoma Recycling Seminar, scheduled for October 15 at the ConocoPhillips Alumni Center on Oklahoma State University's Stillwater campus.

The full-day seminar is designed for city and county government officials, recycling professionals, community and business leaders, educators, students and Oklahoma residents interested in the business of recycling or expanding local programs.

Registration includes all sessions, a buffet lunch and refreshment breaks. Cost is \$40 if registered by October 8 and \$50 after that date. Current Oklahoma Recycling Association (OKRA) members may register at the discounted rate of \$25 until October 8 and \$35 thereafter. Students can attend for \$15. Exhibitor rates are \$100 for business or government and \$50 for non-profit organizations. Participants can register by contacting OSU Ag Conference Services at 405-744-6489 or online at www.recycleok.org/events-activities.php.

One of the panel presentations, "Regional Recycling Collaborations," moderated by Fenton Rood of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), will feature multi-county reuse and recycling partnerships as well as an example of providing animal bedding from composted paper. Another panel will explore product stewardship issues such as the Oklahoma Computer Equipment Recovery Act and pharmaceutical take-back programs.

"Sessions like 'What Happens to Our Plastics?' and 'Processing Glass for a Variety of Uses' will provide insights about the processes that take place after collection and before recycled materials are turned into new products," OSU Cooperative Extension Assistant State Specialist for Solid Waste Management Programs Ilda Hershey said. "A new Oklahoma facility that recycles expanded polystyrene, popularly known as Styrofoam, will be introduced as well."

In the afternoon, participants will decide between two concurrent sessions on reduce, reuse and recycle strategies: one for the business sector and the other for educators. The seminar will conclude with an open question-and-answer session where all participants will have an opportunity to share best management practices in reducing waste and recycling.

"Oklahoma Connections: Sharing Local Solutions" is hosted by OKRA and is sponsored by DEQ, Oklahoma Environmental Management Authority, the Sierra Club, Oklahoma Chapter; OGE Energy Corp. and the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

Continuing education credits will be offered to members of the Solid Waste Association of North America who attend the seminar.

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