

Future

G O A L S

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality is taking aggressive steps to repair the environmental damage of the past and to protect our environment for the future. Today, we know the land itself is one of the great resources of Oklahoma and the DEQ is determined to restore and protect it.

Land restoration will continue to be a top priority for many years. The DEQ has pioneered the use of materials recovered from solid waste – sewage sludge, wood chips, yard waste, and paper mill sludge to restore land to productive use that was damaged by past industrial and mining practices.

The DEQ Air Quality Staff will continue to work with industrial, municipal and regional partners to maintain healthy air for the citizens of our state. Keeping Oklahoma off of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's non-attainment list will be a top priority.

Keeping our State's water clean will involve promoting pollution prevention practices and partnering with public water supplies and wastewater treatment plants, providing our customers with the latest technical information.

We pledge to be sensitive to our "customers" needs and will partner with them to develop innovative solutions to the challenges of environmental protection without compromising our quality of life.

Important

T E L E P H O N E

NUMBERS

**24-HOUR COMPLAINTS
HOTLINE
(800) 522-0206**

**CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE
HOTLINE
(800) 869-1400**

Hours for the following numbers:
Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Administration	(405) 702-0100
Air Quality	(405) 702-4100
State Environmental Laboratory Services	(405) 702-1000
Environmental Complaints and Local Services	(405) 702-6100
General Information	(405) 702-7100
Land Protection	(405) 702-5100
Water Quality	(405) 702-8100

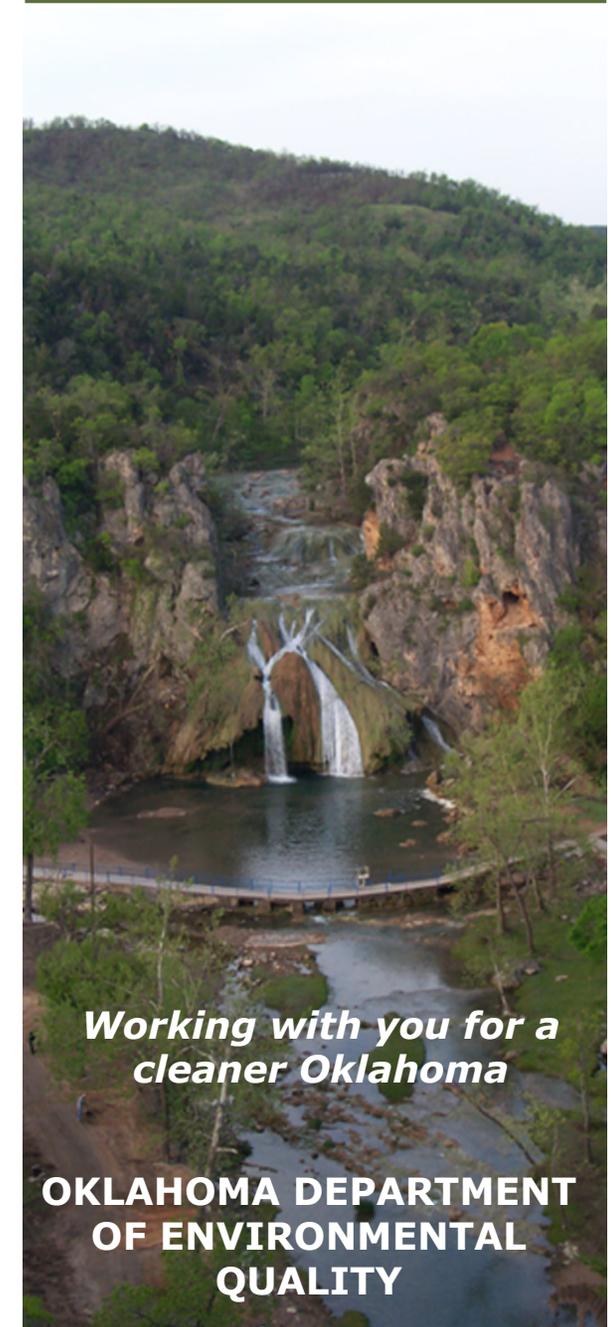
**DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**
707 N. Robinson, P.O. Box 1677
Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1677



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Protecting

our
ENVIRONMENT



*Working with you for a
cleaner Oklahoma*

**OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY**

Protecting our ENVIRONMENT

It's everyone's job

Protecting the environment is the joint responsibility of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and all Oklahomans.

The DEQ was created by the Oklahoma Legislature July 1, 1993, after many years of study. It was determined that the best way to protect the environment and public health was to create a stand-alone agency to address air, water and waste issues.

DEQ employees work in the divisions of Air Quality, State Environmental Laboratory Services, Environmental Complaints and Local Services, Land Protection, Water Quality, and Administration. This staff includes environmental specialists, geologists, hydrologists, chemists, engineers, lawyers and support personnel.

The DEQ has local offices across the state with a central office in downtown Oklahoma City.

Responsibilities

- Enforce state and federal environmental laws, including:
 - Clean Air Act
 - Clean Water Act
 - Oklahoma Solid Waste Management Act
 - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
 - Safe Drinking Water Act
 - Superfund Amendments and Title III Reauthorization Act (SARA)
 - Oklahoma Radiation Management Act
- Be responsive to environmental complaints and operate a 24 hour toll-free hotline.
- Write and issue permits for:
 - Air pollution control construction and operation
 - Construction of public drinking water supply systems
 - Hazardous waste facilities
 - Radioactive materials
 - Solid waste landfills
 - Municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants
 - Stormwater runoff
- Assist municipalities, businesses and citizens with understanding and complying with environmental laws, rules, and best practices.

Accomplishments

- Established a 24 hour hotline to be responsive to environmental complaints.
- Established a nationally recognized complaints resolution system.
- Developed a program to assist citizens with on-site wastewater and disposal systems (septic systems).
- Developed a program to assist municipalities and industries through the maze of the permit process.
- Developed a tier system to streamline the permitting process to speed up the review time and allow permits to be reviewed according to risk.
- Developed a nationally recognized program to dispose of and reuse old tires.
- Developed a program to clean up historical pollution programs and aggressively working on land restoration.

