

REZ RECYCLER

A Tribute to Our Water

The Reservation creeks have a history, and hold many stories and experiences of the surrounding people that fished, worked, swam, and played within Big Soldier, Little Soldier, James Creek, Crow Creek and all of the other streams on the Reservation. Read the quotes below, and tell us some more favorite memories of your own!

“When we were children, after a big rain, we would find a spot (current) and we would roll around underneath and surface somewhere else. We would be scratched up from sticks and rocks. Now, I can’t imagine letting the kids do that. I also used to enjoy night fishing with Bill Rice. He worked as a cook at Bingo. I’d go pick him up after work. We would go every night. He was always ready to go.”

-Mary LeClere

“Back when the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) Camp and WPA (Works Progress Administration) built check dams they used mules and horses. There was one check dam built on Little Soldier using four horses. They were powerful. Another time, I remember gypsies passed through not in covered wagons, but buggies. They stopped and camped at Big Soldier. They played their music and danced.”

-Roy Hale

“It’s peaceful. The whole creek is peaceful. I used to like camping at the old Evan’s place.”

-Andrew Pahmahmie

As a kid growing up in the Little Soldier area, we took advantage of the creek. We went swimming quite a bit and ran through the water all the time.

-Joe Hale Sr.



“One night I was fishing and dropped my stringer line. I thought I lost it. The next morning I found it and I had 8 fish hooked!”

-Bill Wilbur

“There used to be a playground along Big Soldier Creek at Fatty Wells’ old place. A big truck would pick up all the school kids and take them there. Nowadays, they call it a field trip. There was even a ball diamond and they would have games. It was Big Soldier against Little Soldier.”

-Francis Jensen

When it would rain real hard you could hear the water running and crashing. It was real loud, like the ocean. Sometimes we would run down and check it.

-Rose Hale and Judy Wabaunsee

“By my Mother’s house, we had a creek. My brothers, Larry, Eddie, and I used to play and we had to learn how to swim. It seemed like back then there used to be more water. There isn’t that much anymore.”

-Gary Mitchell

As a kid we always went to Rocky Ford. The water wasn’t deep there and it was just clear. Little babies could crawl around. You could see all kinds of little sun fish, all different colors. It’s muddy now. That was my family’s allotment. Our whole families would go down in the wagon. The Wahwassuck’s, Nahconbe’s, and ClayBears, the whole family.

-Thamar Morris

There was a swimming hole. We used it until they shipped us off to school. Four years later we came back and it was filled in. My mother used to say the spirits used to enjoy our company and they kept it clean when we played. When we left they filled it in.

-Mas Hale

I.H.S. Office of Environmental Health and Engineering in Holton, KS.

Submitted by Jamison S. Honeycutt, Environmental Health Officer/Project Officer, Holton OEH&E Field Station

Within the Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEH&E), Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service, there are two divisions, the Division of Environmental Health Services (DEHS) and the Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction (SFC).

The goal of the Division of Environmental Health Services is to protect the health and prevent disease among American Indians through the development and implementation of a comprehensive environmental health program. This objective is met through an assessment of current hazards and risks, utilization of available resources, development of program priorities with tribal input, specific program activities are established with attainable goals, provision of technical assistance to the Indian people concerning environmental health matters, and evaluation of the effectiveness of the environmental health program.

Our job is to provide a comprehensive environmental health program to tribes and tribal organizations to effectively address environmental health and safety concerns affecting public health. This type of program is based on a consultative environmental health approach. One of our primary activities using this type of approach is surveying facilities and programs. While it is true that we have no enforcement authority over tribes and tribal facilities, we do have a responsibility to accurately and completely identify deficiencies in operations or physical facilities, and to provide sound recommendations to both the program managers and the appropriate tribal officials in order for them to make informed decisions. Under the authority of P.L. 86-121, the Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction is engaged in a program to assist American Indian families with the construction of sanitation facilities, which include water supply and sewage disposal facilities.

In order to become a participant of a sewage or water construction project, participants must complete an application and provide certain supporting documents for review by the Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction.

Participants must be a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, band, or group and provide documented proof of this membership. Our office will seek sponsorship from one of the local tribes in the Indian Health Service area in which you reside on the participants behalf.

Participants must own the property on which their home is located and provide to the IHS OEH&E a copy of the deed, title, or contract of sale. If you are building a new home or moving a home/mobile home to a site, the site must be evaluated by the Indian Health Service and found suitable for the provision of sanitation facilities.

If we can assist you with an environmental health issue or you need assistance in completing an application for water supply or sewage disposal facilities, or if you have questions regarding your eligibility, please contact the Office of Environmental Health and Engineering below:

Holton Office of Environmental Health and Engineering Field Station
Indian Health Service
324 New York Ave
P.O. Box 349
Holton, KS 66436
Tel: (785) 364-4164

ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES

Youth Environmental Council

The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection recognizes the newly-formed PBPN Youth Environmental Council as Environmental Heroes. The Council is comprised of Reservation youth dedicated to conserving and protecting the environment, and instilling environmental stewardship amongst all youth. They worked very hard to organize and conduct the first ever Youth Environmental Council Summit during last year's Earth Day Celebration.

We are very excited to have had the opportunity to work with such a motivated group of young people. They are providing a voice from the next generation that will positively impact the decisions made by community leaders, parents, teachers, and all decision-makers. We will continue working with them on several upcoming projects. One project in particular, will focus on their recommendation for community service implementation in order to combat roadside littering.

Leo Nadeau

The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection has selected Leo Nadeau as an Environmental Hero for the 2009-2010 year. With the skills and ingenuity polished throughout his 50 years as a mechanic, Leo converted a diesel-fueled engine to operate on a renewable fuel source. His engine is powered by used vegetable oil. Leo worked on his project full-time for a period of 3-4 months before coming up with a successful, working model. He experimented with the filtering process and the dilution rate. His engine operates on 1 gallon of unleaded gasoline to 5 gallons of vegetable oil.

The Youth Environmental Council is comprised of the following members:

Mittina Hale, Pami Hubbard, Sierra Pahmahmie, Lakota Knoxsah, Kwaki Spoonhunter, Wahp LeClere & Hannah Wahwassuck



Leo's vegetable powered truck ☺



Leo's use of a renewable energy source is commendable. While waste vegetable oil is not yet a federally-registered vehicle fuel source, research regarding its merits is highly favorable. Vegetable oil produces less carbon dioxide emissions upon combustion. In another outstanding effort, Leo has expressed his determination to invent some type of new use for the large oil containers that he collects.

Leo has reached out to a few sources of oil within the community, but is always looking for more.

ENVIRONMENTAL HERO

PBPN Health Center Pharmacy Staff



Mary Shopteese was present at the 12th Annual Earth Day event and received the reward for the Pharmacy staff



The Division of Planning and Environmental Protection has selected the staff of the PBPN Health Center Pharmacy as Environmental Heroes for the 2009 year. Dr. Michael Carpenter and the pharmacy staff are responsible for developing a medication disposal program. The program was established with the intent of preventing the reintroduction of pharmaceuticals into our water bodies and trash cans. Community members are encouraged to return expired and/or leftover medications to the Health Center for proper disposal. In addition, the pharmacy staff proposed and initiated a recycling component to their new program. They collect and recycle medication containers, utilizing the services of the Division of Planning and Environmental Protection. Their efforts contribute to the health of our community and environment. The PBPN Health Center Pharmacy Staff are our Environmental Heroes!

Temperature Inversion and Air Pollution

Myron Shield, GIS/Environmental Technician, presented information on the relationship between the climate and air pollution. His activity included a hands-on demonstration of temperature inversion. Myron assisted the youth in creating their own model of temperature inversion utilizing wide-mouth jars, hot water, and

cold water. He explained that temperature inversion commonly occurs when cool air is trapped under a blanket of warm air. Fog, smog, and pollution are also trapped within the cool air closest to the earth's surface. While temperature inversion is an inevitable act of nature, the pollution created by automobile exhaust, factory smokestacks, and man's activities can be avoided or at the least, reduced.



Earth Day Winners

3- Mile RUN

Female 0-10 yrs.

1st – None
2nd – None
3rd – None

Female 11-17 yrs.

1st – ***Adree Shield* 22:04***
2nd – Sylvana Levier 30:30
3rd – Sierra Pahmahmie 30:30

Female 18-39 yrs.

1st – Miyah Danielson 34:34
2nd – Stacy Leeds 39:31
3rd – None

Female 40+ yrs.

1st – Royetta Rodewald
26:01
2nd – None, 3rd – None

Male 0-10 yrs.

1st – Nue Tinajero 43:30
1st – Komesh Spoonhunter 43:30
2nd – Saotep Spoonhunter 43:31
3rd – Jaiden Wamego 44:44

Male 11-17 yrs.

1st – ***Rory Lange* 23:05***
2nd – Trent Blalock 29:01
3rd – None

Male 18-39 yrs.

1st – Raphael Wahwassuck
32:35
2nd – Roy Spoonhunter 43:38
3rd – None

Male 40+ yrs.

1st – None
2nd – None
3rd – None

3- Mile BIKE RIDE

Female 0-10 yrs.

1st – Briana Wabaunsee
27:07
2nd – Candy Alcantar 28:08
3rd - None

Female 11-17 yrs.

1st – ***Peqwas Hernandez* 13:37***
2nd – Hannah Wahwassuck 16:17
3rd – Shobwas Hubbard 19:13

Female 18-39 yrs.

1st – Stacy Leeds
2nd – None
3rd – None

Female 40+ yrs.

1st – None
2nd – None
3rd – None

Male 0-10 yrs.

1st – Bem Hubbard 18:03
2nd – Preston Torres 19:44
3rd – Mando Tinajero 20:16

Male 11-17 yrs.

1st – ***Nahtos Tailfeathers* 11:14***
2nd – Rory Lange 11:26
3rd – Ivan Levier 13:33

Male 18-39 yrs.

1st – Raphael Wahwassuck
32:35
2nd – None, 3rd – None

Male 40+ yrs.

1st – Robbie Lange 12:56
2nd – David Criqui 16:06
3rd – None

3- Mile PREDICTOR'S WALK

Female 0-10 yrs.

1st – Candy Alcantar 1:50
2nd – Tiffany McRory 1:53
3rd – Felicity Price 5:39

Female 11-17 yrs.

1st – Faith Potts :31
2nd – Elizabeth Gaona 1:53
3rd – Nes Hubbard 1:56

Female 18-39 yrs.

1st – ***Saleena Masquat* :12***
2nd – Jackie Levier 1:11
3rd – Nikki Price 1:13

Female 40+ yrs.

1st – Gaynelle Jessepe :37
2nd – Lydia Goslin 1:17
3rd – Maggie Catron 1:29

Male 0-10 yrs.

1st – Nue Tinajero :30
2nd – Pak Hale 3:20
3rd – Izaiah Graves 3:33

Male 11-17 yrs.

1st – Wahp LeClere 1:07
2nd – Tarin Blalock 1:57
3rd – Skylor Criqui 4:29

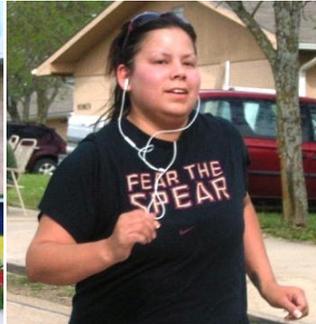
Male 18-39 yrs.

1st – ***Raphael Wahwassuck :07***
2nd – Mikes Potts :33
3rd – Nathan Hale 4:14

Male 40+ yrs.

1st – Don Don LeClere 1:00
2nd – Al Murata 1:28
3rd – David Criqui 4:25

****Bold italicized*** indicates OVERALL EVENT WINNER







Vermicomposting Activity

During the PBPN Boys & Girls Club Spring Break, Kyle Miller . Solid Waste Assistance and Erin Hubbard . Solid Waste Specialist introduced vermicomposting to the youth. Vermicomposting is a process that uses worms to decompose various food scraps into organic fertilizer containing no pesticides. The youth then made their own vermicomposting bins using shredded paper, water, cardboard and a toter. Currently the worms are at work by processing the food scraps and materials to soil. The process should be complete by the end of the summer. We will then show the children their soil that was made from their composing efforts. Good Job Kids!!

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
Division of Planning & Environmental Protection
15434 K Road
Mayetta, KS 66509
Office: 966-2946
Solid Waste Center: 966-2773
Wastewater Treatment Plant: 966-0111

REDUCE! REUSE! RECYCLE!