



Thank you for your interest in the Aquatic Resources Education Program (AREP). You are probably wondering what it takes to become certified with our program so you can be involved in educating the public and youth about our aquatic resources in Oklahoma. Below you will find information on the program and the process for becoming a certified AREP volunteer.

What is the AREP?

In 1988, the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) created AREP to:

1. Increase the understanding, appreciation, and awareness of Oklahoma's aquatic resources; and
2. Facilitate the learning of angling skills, outdoor ethics, and sportfishing opportunities in the state.

What does AREP do?

Throughout the state, ODWC employees and volunteers provide information on how and where to fish through informational presentations. Also fishing clinics are the backbone of AREP! ODWC employees and volunteers assist beginning anglers in learning how to fish by providing a fishing clinic. Youth groups, scouts, schools, and many other youth organizations have participated in AREP fishing clinics.

What do fishing clinics teach?

Fishing clinics consist of an educational portion that teaches one or more topics ranging from casting (including safety), water safety, knot tying, outdoor ethics, fish identification, fish cooking & cleaning, laws & regulations, water quality and equipment demonstration. Following the educational portion participants are allowed to try their luck at a nearby fishing site. Rods, reels, and tackle are provided.

How can you become involved?

There are many ways to participate in AREP. The most common is to become an AREP Volunteer Instructor by attending a FREE Volunteer Instructor Training in your area. This is also a great way for civic organizations and fishing clubs to introduce someone to the lifelong sport of fishing!

Below is the process for becoming an AREP Volunteer:

1. Please fill out the VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTOR application provided and mail to:
Daniel Griffith – Aquatic Education Coordinator
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
P. O. Box 53465
Oklahoma City, OK 73152
2. Once your application is received a background will be conducted. If you pass the background check you will be invited to the next scheduled training. If you do not pass the background check you will receive a letter in the mail.
3. Attend a training course to complete certification. Once training complete you will be an official AREP volunteer and can start assisting with or conducting your own clinics under the program guidelines.

For additional information or questions contact Daniel Griffith - AREP Coordinator at (405) 990-9753 or via email daniel.griffith@odwc.ok.gov



INSTRUCTIONS: Complete application and forward to:
EDUCATION SECTION
PO BOX 53465
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
AQUATIC AND HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

BACKGROUND CHECK: _____
GW INTERVIEW: _____
TEACHING SEGMENT: _____
WORKSHOP DATE: _____
INST. NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS A VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTOR

ARE YOU APPLYING TO THE AQUATIC ED (___) OR HUNTER ED (___) PROGRAM (Check one or both)

NAME _____ AGE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____
Last First Middle (Optional)

GENDER Male ___ Female ___ RACE _____ Social Security Number _____
(Optional) (Optional)

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ COUNTY _____

TELEPHONE (____) _____ (____) _____ May we contact you at work? _____ OCCUPATION _____
May we share your number with other ODWC volunteers? Yes ___ No ___

EMPLOYER _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

EDUCATION LEVEL: High School 9 10 11 12 College 1 2 3 4 Other/Major _____

Briefly list any clubs or memberships or related qualifications, training, skills or interests _____

Hunter Education student number _____ (required for hunter education, but not for aquatic education)

Have you ever received a citation for violation of state and/or federal laws? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please describe in detail. Use a separate sheet if necessary. _____

Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of violence? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please describe in detail _____

Have you ever been charged with a misdemeanor of felony? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please describe in detail _____

Do you have any disabilities that you would like us to be aware of? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please describe _____

If selected as a Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) volunteer instructor, I will volunteer the time necessary to teach classes in accordance with policies and procedures outlined by the ODWC. The ODWC may terminate or revoke certification if a volunteer fails to perform in accordance with policy outlined in the Volunteer Instructor Handbook. I further certify that, under penalty of perjury, I have not committed a felony or a crime of moral turpitude and that I will accept my responsibilities as an ODWC Volunteer Instructor. I understand that my misrepresentation or concealment of material fact will be sufficient ground for rejection of my application for certification. I also understand that a background investigation will be conducted as a part of this application process. I hereby authorize such action by my signature below.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

This program receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and thus prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age and sex (gender) pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (as amended), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. To request an accommodation or informational material in an alternative format, contact Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, (405) 521-3851. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or service, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office for Diversity and Workforce Management, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041.