





# The Wild Side!



# **Watch Wetland Wildlife at Wildlife Management Areas**

Wetlands provide a great opportunity to get your wildlife-watching feet wet! These diverse habitats not only welcome a number of secretive birds, but also serve as homes for small mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates.

Get tips for visiting wetland Wildlife Management Areas, including Red Slough WMA

## **Species Spotlight: Plains Spadefoot**

This spring's rush of rain could draw many species of amphibians, including the Plains Spadefoot, out of hiding! This toad is an eruptive breeder, emerging from the ground to mate and lay eggs only after heavy rains.

Learn more in the Wildlife Department's Field Guide



## to Your Backyard

One easy way to attract songbirds like eastern bluebirds, Carolina chickadees and house wrens to your backyard is to put up a small nest box. You'll not only be helping our feathered friends (and getting hours of entertainment in return) but you can also help biologists learn more about these resourceful birds.

Get a simple nest box construction plan, print a form to help you monitor nest boxes, and learn more about the Wildlife Diversity Program's Nest Box Survey

## **Migration Nation on Facebook**

For many species of wildlife, spring is a time to put on traveling shoes. Whether these creatures voyage thousands of miles through several countries or stay in the same county, migration is one possible solution to their survival. We'll be posting about members of this Migration Nation each week of the spring season!

Learn more about Oklahoma's Migration Nation by searching Facebook for Jena Donnell, Wildlife Diversity Specialist



### **Celebrate Oklahoma's Bats**

National Bat Appreciation Day was April 17, but every day can be Bat Appreciation Day! Oklahoma's only flying mammals, bats can consume thousands of insects each night and provide other important ecological services.

Our biologists offer six ways Oklahomans can celebrate our 20-plus bat species.



#### **Calendar of Events**

#### **Virtual Spring BioBlitz! Oklahoma**

April 1-30, 2017

Report your statewide plant and wildlife observations for the month with iNaturalist

## **Red Slough Birding Convention**

May 6-9, 2017 Idabel, Oklahoma

The Wild Side e-newsletter is a project of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's Wildlife Diversity Program. The Wildlife Diversity



Program monitors, manages and promotes rare, declining, and endangered wildlife, as well as common wildlife not fished or hunted. It is primarily funded by Wildlife Department license plate fees, publication sales and private donors.

Get involved with the Wildlife Diversity
Program and learn more about Oklahoma's
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