

Quapaw Wetlands Training Workshop

Sept. 9-11, 2025

Quapaw, OK

Quapaw Nation Community Building

5681 S 630 Road, Quapaw, OK 74363

9:00am to 4:30pm Daily

Agenda

Day 1 – Introduction to Wetland Ecology & Restoration

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| 8:30a | Sign-in, coffee, fruit, pastries |
| 9:00a | Welcome – Michelle Bowden/Dana Hummell/Craig Kreman |
| 9:10-9:30a | Introductions, Workshop Overview, Steve Patterson |
| 9:30-10:20 | Wetland ecology, Steve Patterson |
| 10:20-10:30a | Break |
| 10:30-11:20a | Wetland restoration, Steve Patterson |
| 11:20-11:30a | Break |
| 11:30-12:00p | River Cane Restoration, Hailey Blackwell |
| 12:00-1:30p | Lunch |
| 1:30p-4:30p | Field trip |

Day 2 – Introduction to Wetland Creation & Ecological Engineering

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| 8:30a | Sign-in, coffee, fruit, pastries |
| 9:00a | Wetland Creation, Steve Patterson |
| 9:30-10:20 | Introduction to wetland creation and ecological engineering, Bob Nairn |
| 10:20-10:30 | Break |
| 10:30-11:20 | Passive treatment system design at Tar Creek, Bob Nairn |

11:20-11:30	Break
11:30-12:00	Permaculture Design Principles and Practices, James Spicer
12:00-1:30p	Lunch
1:30p-4:30p	Field trip

Day 3 – Mini Wetland Ecological Design Charrette

8:30a	Sign-in, coffee, fruit, pastries
9:00-9:15a	Charrette introduction & overview, Steve Patterson
9:15-12:00p	Divide into small groups and begin work
12:00-1:00p	Lunch – at the Community Center - Elder’s lunch brown bag available (\$7 cash) or bring your own (menu that day for the Elder’s lunch is: BLT Sandwich with Fixings, Broccoli Cheese Soup, Salad, and Cantaloupe)
1:00p-1:30p	Small groups put finishing touches on designs
1:30p-3:30p	Re-gather into larger group and present designs & findings to each other
3:30p	Drawing to win a copy of <i>Wetlands</i> , 6 th ed, by Bill Mitsch, et. al.

Hailey Blackwell and Annie Sales are assisting with the charrette.

Workshop Leaders & Speakers

Steve Patterson, Bio x Design, Workshop Lead - Steve Patterson has been restoring ecosystems and leading workshops and symposia for 30-plus years. He received his Ph.D. in Geography with a specialization in Biogeography from UCLA. Steve has developed restoration plans for a wide range of ecological systems from alluvial fan sage scrub in southern California to freshwater lagoons at Lake Tahoe to freshwater marsh at Lake Eufaula in eastern OK. He has designed wetlands from mountain meadows in the Sierra Nevada to reclaimed land in the Pearl River estuary in China to floating wetlands at Lake Wister, OK. Currently, Steve is leading the effort to develop plans for the enhancement of the Lake Frances floodplain on the Illinois River in eastern Oklahoma.

Hailey Blackwell, OU - Hailey Seago is an environmental scientist and PhD candidate at the University of Oklahoma and a graduate research assistant with the Center for Restoration of Ecosystems and Watersheds (CREW) led by Dr. Robert W. Nairn. Hailey is from Claremore, Oklahoma, and a citizen of the Cherokee Nation. She is currently working on dissertation research at Lake Frances with a specific interest in rivercane and riparian restoration using geospatial technologies and watershed-based modeling and analyzing the effects of climate variability on rivercane.

Bob Nairn, OU - Bob Nairn is an environmental scientist and professor at the University of Oklahoma. His research team, the Center for Restoration of Ecosystems and Watersheds (CREW), examines watershed and ecosystem biogeochemistry and nature-based solutions applications to solve environmental challenges, with an emphasis on water quality. CREW is actively conducting research at Tar Creek.

Annie Sales, IRWP - Annie Sales is the Director of Restoration Services for the Illinois River Watershed Partnership, where she leads restoration projects that improve water quality, restore native ecosystems, and enhance community resilience. With expertise in ecological restoration, vegetation management, and sustainable landscape design, she collaborates with landowners, municipalities, and developers to create lasting conservation outcomes across the watershed.

James Spicer, Green Country Permaculture - James Spicer is the founder and owner of Green Country Permaculture, a consultancy based in Northeast Oklahoma dedicated to building agro-ecological infrastructure and regenerative land systems. With a background in agro-ecology from Prescott College and a Permaculture Design Certificate from the Aprovecho Institute, he has worked with universities, schools, governments, nonprofits, and farmers to create resilient landscapes and food systems across the region. Beyond his professional work, James is an avid farmer, cook, musician, and hiker, bringing both expertise and personal passion to every project he takes on.