

Welcome to the 7th Annual Conference of the

# Oklahoma Sustainability Network



March 28-29, 2008  
in downtown Norman, OK

Andrews Park  
Downtown Fitness  
Dreamer Concepts Studio  
Hall at Old Town Plaza  
MainSite Art Gallery  
Norman Chamber of Commerce  
Norman Municipal Complex  
Norman Public Library  
Norman Santa Fe Train Depot  
Republic Bank

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**W**elcome to the seventh annual Oklahoma Sustainability Network conference, *Red Dirt, Green Culture: growing sustainable communities*. Every year the conference brings hundreds of people with diverse backgrounds and interests together to unite in their efforts to preserve our state's economy, community, and environment. We want to thank all attendees for helping to make the OSN Conference into the premier sustainability event in Oklahoma.

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New for this year's conference is a children's track on Saturday and venues spread out all over downtown Norman. We hope you will enjoy exploring our community over the course of the weekend. Most importantly, we hope you will leave inspired in your efforts to ensure a sustainable future for us all.

Sincerely,  
The Norman Sustainability Network  
& the Conference Planning Committee



## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Kara Joy McKee**, conference chair  
**Susie Shields**, exhibitors  
**Reinhild Meissler**, speakers  
**Jacki Sellens**, volunteers  
**Gene Perry**, publicity  
**Angela Chase**, art / facilities  
**Sara Kaplan**, finances  
**Jason Claborn**, fundraising  
**George Ahmadi**, hootenanny  
**Shanah Ahmadi**, children's track  
**April Harrington**, food  
**Adam Lanman**, green architecture track  
**Steve Morton**, accommodations  
**Danny Terlip**, parking & transportation

Thanks to the chairs and the many other volunteers who made it all happen!

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## SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Time	Event	Location
6:30 a.m.	Yoga Class	Downtown Fitness
8:00 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast	Old Town Plaza
9:00 a.m.	Session I	See Below
10:15 a.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits	Santa Fe Depot
10:35 a.m.	Session II	See Below
11:30 a.m.	Lunch	Old Town Plaza
1:00 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits	Santa Fe Depot
1:15 p.m.	Awards Presentation	Andrews Park
1:30 p.m.	Keynote Address	Andrews Park
2:15 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits	Santa Fe Depot
2:30 p.m.	Session III	See Below
3:45 p.m.	Break / Visit Exhibits	Santa Fe Depot
4:00 p.m.	Session IV	See Below
<b>Friday only:</b>		
8:00 p.m.	Hootenanny with Tall Cotton String Band	Old Town Plaza
<b>Saturday only:</b>		
5:30 p.m.	Reception/Book Signing	TBA

### Track Locations -- Friday, March 28

Track 1: Powering Down	Chamber of Commerce
Track 2: Powering Up	Republic Bank
Track 3: On the Porch	Municipal Complex
Track 4: Human to Human	MainSite Art Gallery
Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table	Old Town Plaza

### Track Locations -- Saturday, March 29

Track 1: Getting Around Lite	Norman Public Library
Track 2: Green with Spirit	Chamber of Commerce
Track 3: Sharing Space	MainSite Art Gallery
Track 4: Dwelling Well	Republic Bank
Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table	Old Town Plaza
Track 6: Growing Up Green	Andrews Park Pavilion

## Friday, March 28

6:30 a.m.

YOGA CLASS (*Downtown Fitness*)

8:00-9:00 a.m.

**REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST** (*Hall at Old Town Plaza*)  
**VISIT EXHIBITS** (*Sante Fe Train Depot*)

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

**SESSION I**

*Track 1: Powering Down: Authentic Lives & Simple Living*  
(*Chamber of Commerce*)

### Voluntary Simplicity Workshop (Part I)

Duane Elgin is an author, speaker, educator, consultant, and media activist. He pioneered the "Voluntary Simplicity" movement with his now classic first book, titled by the same name, published in the 1980s. The book provided an exploration of the practical and philosophical meaning of simplicity, as well as a comprehensive overview of the precarious ecological predicament of our planet.

*Track 2: Powering Up: Business of Energy, Building & Design* (*Republic Bank*)

### Architectural and Urban Design Economics

Lee Fithian is the owner and architect/planner of a firm specializing in sustainability and integration of services including Sustainable Architecture, Urban Design, Facilities Operations and Historic Preservation. She is also an Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma, College of Architecture. Her presentation will focus on synthesizing green building practices, sustainable development and true affordable housing through a review of current practices and a look toward achieving sustainable growth.

*Track 3: On the Porch: Politics, Policy & Leadership*  
(*Municipal Complex*)

## Sustainable Law, Government and Politics: Food, Fire and Water

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Harlan Hentges is a graduate of the University of Texas with a juris doctorate from the School of Law and a Master of Public Affairs from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs. He also earned a B.S. in agricultural economics from Oklahoma State University. He practices law with the firm Mulinix Ogden Hall Andrews & Ludlam PLLC. Hentges will discuss sustainability of law, government and politics in the context of Oklahoma's current events including poultry and other agricultural pollution, coal burning power plants and water.

**Track 4: Human to Human: Non-violence & Anti-oppression**  
(MainSite Art Gallery)

### Antidotes to Five Common Kinds of Community Conflict (Part I)

Diana Leafe Christian is the author of *Creating a Life Together: Practical Tools to Grow Ecovillages and Intentional Communities and Finding Community: How to Join an Ecovillage or Intentional Community*. For 14 years she was editor of *Communities* magazine, and now publishes "Ecovillages," a free online publication ([EcovillageNewsletter.org/subscribe](http://EcovillageNewsletter.org/subscribe)). She has been interviewed by Time Magazine, the New York Times, Harper's Magazine, AARP magazine, NPR, and the BBC. Her website is [www.DianaLeafeChristian.org](http://www.DianaLeafeChristian.org). Through lively presentation, experiential exercises, musical skits, and role-plays, this workshop addresses five typical kinds of conflict communities experience and effective, field-tested remedies.

**Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table:**  
**Food, Land & Permaculture** (Hall at Old Town Plaza)

### Wild Food

John Rushton is a long-time community activist with past involvement in a wide variety of projects dedicated to social justice and ecological sustainability. He is most recently co-founder of the Third Space Infoshop and the Greenbriar Gardens project and an herbalist studying under the School of Natural Healing. Nature produces an abundance of resilient wild food and medicinal plants, free and available for use, not only in the countryside, but in every city and suburb in the nation. This is an easy way for anyone to reduce their ecological footprint, increase their personal autonomy, and reconnect with the surrounding landscape, with health, financial, emotional and spiritual benefits.

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10:15-10:35 a.m.

### BREAK

10:35-11:30 a.m.

### SESSION II

**Track 1: Powering Down: Authentic Lives & Simple Living**  
(Chamber of Commerce)

### Voluntary Simplicity Workshop (Part II)

Presenter & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 2: Powering Up:**  
**Business of Energy, Building & Design** (Republic Bank)

### Don't Wait for Renewable Technology to Come to You

Mark Morrissey is an Associate Professor of Meteorology at the University of Oklahoma. He currently teaches a course on climate and renewable energy. Morrissey worked in the Pacific Islands from June to August setting up solar powered village radio stations used for emergency management. He will demonstrate several simple ways in which you can watch your monthly home energy bill go down. Many of these projects involve a simple trip down to the home improvement store and a little time.

**Track 3: On the Porch: Politics, Policy & Leadership**  
(Municipal Complex)

### Community Radio

Mary Francis is a retired educator, activist, and former NPR commentator. She spent 10 years in the Alaskan 'bush' where radio provided a vital communications link for the Eskimo villages where she lived. Her activism is aimed at improving the future for her 3 children, 7 grandchildren, and the earth. In October the FCC opened a window for applications for a full power, NCE (non-commercial educational) FM broadcast license. The story of why we should value local, community radio and how the VOICE of REASON Project came about is the topic of this presentation.

**Track 4: Human to Human: Non-violence & Anti-oppression (Main-Site Art Gallery)**

**Antidotes to Five Common Kinds of Community Conflict (Part II)**

Presenter & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table: Food, Land & Permaculture (Hall at Old Town Plaza)**

**Food Insecurity**

Lisa Sorrells is the Executive Director of Food and Shelter for Friends. She has over ten years of working experience in the field of social services addressing issues such as poverty, homelessness, domestic violence and healthcare. She currently serves on the Mayor's Ending Chronic Homelessness Committee and on the executive committee of the Cleveland County Continuum of Care. She will be doing a talk and workshop on food insecurity followed by a planting of fruit trees in downtown Norman.

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**LUNCH** (*Hall at Old Town Plaza*)

**VISIT EXHIBITS** (*Sante Fe Train Depot*)

1:00-1:15 p.m.

**BREAK**

1:15-1:30 p.m.

**AWARDS PRESENTATION** (*Andrews Park Amphitheater*)

**Green Business & Emma McCauley Leadership Awards**

1:30-2:15 p.m.

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS** (*Andrews Park Amphitheater*)

Julie Frieder is a sustainability expert with 15 years experience in public and private sector organizations. She has worked with the EPA and the U.S. Forest Service, and she served on the President's Council for Sustainable Development under President Clinton. Currently Frieder is an environmental

analyst for the Calvert Group, a large mutual fund company that specializes in socially responsible investing. She conducts research on global companies to determine if they meet corporate social responsibility criteria and identifies emerging issues that affect social well-being and environmental quality.

2:15-2:30 p.m.

**BREAK**

2:30-3:45 p.m.

**SESSION III**

**Track 1: Powering Down: Authentic Lives & Simple Living (Chamber of Commerce)**

**Homesteading: 30 Years with Renewable Energy**

Bruce Johnson grew up in Minnesota and moved to Oklahoma in 1970. In 1977 he began work establishing a small homestead northeast of Oklahoma City. He and his wife Barbara were married in 1987 and continue to seek living gently and living well. Bruce will show pictures taken over the years on their homestead, sharing experiences and ideas about the use of solar and wind energy, especially if one is working with a modest budget. Gardening in winter will also be included in the presentation.

**Track 2: Powering Up: Business of Energy, Building & Design (Republic Bank)**

**Building a Sustainable Oklahoma: Toxins in Consumer Goods Workshop (Part I)**

Huantian Cao, Mihyun Kang and Cheryl Ann Farr are faculty members in the Department of Design, Housing, and Merchandising at Oklahoma State University. This "Building a Sustainable Oklahoma" workshop will discuss the wide presence of toxic materials in consumer products and the public's roles in sustainable development. Sustainable product and housing design projects by OSU apparel and interior students and faculty will also be introduced. This workshop is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Pre- and post-training questionnaires will be used to evaluate the effect of the workshop. Participants who complete the workshop and questionnaires will be awarded a certificate.



**Track 3: On the Porch: Politics, Policy & Leadership**  
(Municipal Complex)

**The DEQ Green Team**

Fenton Rood is the Director of Waste Systems Planning for the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. The DEQ Green Team began as a network of employees who shared a common interest in helping Oklahoma's premiere environmental agency "walk its own talk." As the group has pursued successful projects it has become institutionalized and valued by agency management. Rood will share experiences and focus on how to apply the same concepts to other organizations.

**Track 4: Human to Human: Non-violence & Anti-oppression**  
(MainSite Art Gallery)

**Conflict Resolution Workshop (Part I)**

Tom McLain is the founder of Compassionate Communication Oklahoma. He offers introductory lectures, consulting, mentoring, training and workshops and is the Support Person for the Center for Nonviolent Communication (cnvc.org) in Oklahoma. He is also on staff at The Mediation Institute.

**Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table:**  
**Food, Land & Permaculture** (Hall at Old Town Plaza)

**Victory Gardens**

Evan Dunn recently graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in International Business and Economics. He received a minor in Chinese and in the Summer of 2002 traveled throughout China. He started the non-profit Show Your Love Foundation in 2007 and the Norman Victory Gardens Project in 2008. Dunn will speak about what the Norman Victory Gardens and its benefits.

**Value Added Products**

April Harrington is the owner of Earth Elements Farm and the new Earth Elements Market and Bakery. Over the last ten years, she has grown organic production crops for grocery stores and specialty crops for restaurants, and she has value-added a large variety of produce and herbs for farmers'

markets and health food stores. Harrington will present an overview of a small farm working to fill in the gaps of labor with animals and value-adding seconds and surplus from the garden to complete the system.

3:45-4:00 p.m.

**BREAK**

4:00-5:00 p.m.

**SESSION IV**

**Track 1: Powering Down: Authentic Lives & Simple Living**  
(Chamber of Commerce)

**Greening Your Consumption: How to Make Effective Choices**

Professor Deborah W. Dalton received her Master of Landscape Architecture in 1976, studying with the late, internationally renowned environmental planner and author Ian McHarg. She has served as dean of the OU College of Architecture and taught as a member of the landscape architecture program. In August of 2003, Dalton moved to OU's College of Arts and Sciences to head up the Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Environment (IPE) program. This presentation will review the framework for making effective choices in individual consumption that will reduce environmental impacts. *The Consumer's Guide to Effective Environmental Choices: Practical Advice from the Union of Concerned Scientists* provides the scientific basis for this framework.

**Track 2: Powering Up: Business of Energy, Building & Design**  
(Republic Bank)

**Building a Sustainable Oklahoma: Toxins in Consumer Goods Workshop (Part II)**

Presenters & Session Overview: See Part I.

**This session will run until 5:35 p.m.**

**Track 3: On the Porch: Politics, Policy & Leadership**  
(Municipal Complex)

## Integrated Pest Management

Dr. Tom Royer is an associate professor and director of the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program at OSU. IPM is a sustainable approach to manage pests that combines prevention, avoidance, pest monitoring and suppression in a manner that minimizes health, economic, and environmental risk. IPM serves as a framework to provide an effective, comprehensive, low-risk approach to protect people and resources from pests.

**Track 4: Human to Human: Non-violence & Anti-oppression** (Main-Site Art Gallery)

## Conflict Resolution Workshop (Part II)

Presenter & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table: Food, Land & Permaculture** (Hall at Old Town Plaza)

## Buy Fresh, Buy Local

Doug Walton has worked with and on behalf of small farmers and local food systems in three states over the last fourteen years. He coordinates Buy Fresh, Buy Local and other community food initiatives at the Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture. Rita Scott is president of Sustainable Green Country, a chapter of OSN located in northeast OK. Sustainable Green Country launched the Buy Fresh, Buy Local national campaign last fall in the Tulsa metro area. They plan to take it statewide through grassroot efforts. In this session you can hear what's happening with this exciting new initiative in Oklahoma and learn why we need efforts making it easier for citizens to find and purchase locally-produced foods; how this is happening across the country and in northeast OK; and what may be in store for your community.

8:00 - 10:00 p.m.

**HOOTENANNY** (Old Town Plaza)

Contra dancing with the Tall Cotton String Band

## Saturday, March 29

6:30 a.m.

**YOGA CLASS** (Downtown Fitness)

8:00-9:00 a.m.

**REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST** (Hall at Old Town Plaza)  
**VISIT EXHIBITS** (Sante Fe Train Depot)

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

**SESSION I**

**Track 1: Getting Around Lite: Biofuels & Transportation** (Norman Public Library)

## Bicycle Workshop

Tobin Vigil, the owner of Buchanan Bicycles, will present a workshop on shopping for a bike, bicycle fit, and bicycle repair.

**Track 2: Green with Spirit: Environmental Ethics & Religion** (Chamber of Commerce)

## Earth Literacy & Eco-Spirituality Workshop (Part I)

Pat Hoerth is a United Methodist Deaconess, a trained spiritual director, retreat leader, and co-owner at the Turtle Rock Farm Retreat Center (<http://turtlerockfarmretreat.net/>). Ann McFerron is a certified Energy Kinesiologist and is on the board of the Energy Kinesiology Association and the International Association of Specialized Kinesiology. She is co-owner of Turtle Rock Farm. Mary Moloney has been a Catholic Sister of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, since 1960. She is currently a spiritual director and chaplain at Turtle Rock Farm. This workshop will explain earth literacy and how to become spiritually and ecologically mature. There will be examples of spiritual exercises with time for group participation.

**Track 3: Sharing Space: Humans & Other Creatures** (MainSite Art Gallery)

## Biodiversity and Sustainability: So What?

Dr. Ellen Censky joined the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History as Director in 2003. Her research interests are in the field of herpetology and have involved field research in Costa Rica, Paraguay, British West Indies, Dominican Republic, and several states in the US. She has authored 42 scientific papers and 3 books. She authored the BioBlitz Guide which has been used by people around the world to organize BioBlitzes. Her presentation will look at how we take for granted clean water, fertile soil, and air to breathe. Yet these are all the result of working ecosystems filled with species that perform these tasks. From our morning shower to our late night snack, we are supported by biodiversity every minute of the day.

### *Track 4: Dwelling Well: The Sustainable Home from Concept to Construction (Republic Bank)*

#### **Part I: Concept and Planning of the Sustainable Home and Community**

Panel members include: Sara Jo Peterson (OU Planning), Nick Bentley (To Market), Corp. Commissioner Jim Roth, Reid Coffman (OU Urban Ecology), Marjorie Callahan (OU, LEED AP), and Ken Fitzsimmons (Task Design) The panel moderator is Adam Lanman, architect with Elliott and Associates Architects and director at mudsill.org. Part I of the housing discussion will cover preliminary steps in the building process. Topics include planning, design strategies, pros and cons, new innovations, team strategies, approval of innovative design ideas, codes vs. innovation, systems integration strategies, and creating a game plan.

### *Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table: Food, Land & Permaculture (Hall at Old Town Plaza)*

#### **Holonic Farming Workshop (Part I)**

Joel Salatin is an author and owner of Polyface Farm in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. A third generation alternative farmer, he returned to the farm full time in 1982 and continues refining and adding to his parents' ideas. He has authored six books, including You Can Farm: The Entrepreneur's Guide to Start and Succeed in a Farming Enterprise and Everything I Want to Do Is Illegal: War Stories from the Local Food Front. This workshop looks at how integrating plant and animal symbiosis for complementary income streams creates an economic and ecological synergism. Diversifying the production and patron portfolio spreads risk and stimulates opportunities.

### *Track 6: Growing Up Green: Stories, Imagination & Play -- Ages 3-12 (Andrews Park Pavilion)*

#### **Musician and storyteller Kathryn Thurman (Part I)**

Thurman will perform three stories for children ages 3-12.

Session One: Walk Softly, Look Carefully, and Listen Quietly (Protecting the Sounds of our natural world). This program will feature sights and sounds of the world we call nature. Using interactive stories and sounds of animals and birds, we can take a look at some of the wildlife that lives there.

Session Two: Oklahoma's Fantastic Frogs (how to hear and enjoy their songs). Is there such a thing as a percussion frog? What about a cricket frog? Do some frogs really sing? What makes frogs so important to our environment? Come for a hands on program for families focusing on the fascinating world of frogs.

Session Three: It all started with a tree and then they added me! This program will focus on the different sounds of music that is made from hard and soft wood flutes made from various types of trees. See the handmade original flutes and hear their song and the story of how they came to make music.

10:15-10:35 a.m.

#### **BREAK**

10:35-11:30 a.m.

#### **SESSION II**

### *Track 1: Getting Around Lite: Biofuels & Transportation (Norman Public Library)*

#### **City Bicycle Committee Presentation**

Gary Miller is a member of the City of Norman Bicycle Advisory Committee, member and former president of the Bicycle League of Norman, co-director of the 2007 Norman Conquest bike ride, and an active recreational cyclist. He will speak on the City of Norman's Bicycle Advisory Committee, existing and planned bike trails, legislation, general aspects of bicycle riding, and the Bicycle League of Norman.



**Track 2: Green with Spirit: Environmental Ethics & Religion**  
(Chamber of Commerce)

**Earth Literacy Workshop (Part II)**

Presenter & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 3: Sharing Space: Humans & Other Creatures**  
(MainSite Art Gallery)

**Sharing Space With Animals**

Janet Schmidt lives her passion through the Little River Zoo to teach children and all people about respect, kindness, compassion and empathy – qualities that are necessary for the conservation of each other, animals and the planet as a whole. Usually when we think of how we as humans can share space with animals, we operate on two premises. One, that it is “ours” to share, and two, that we are speaking of the physical space of the yard, the neighborhood, the land, or the planet. This presentation looks at the possibility of learning to shift our thinking away from the biological and cultural biases that potentially make the notion of sharing space a possible challenge to overcome.

**Track 4: Dwelling Well: The Sustainable Home from Concept to Construction** (Republic Bank)

**Part II: Execution Strategies for the Sustainable Home and Community**

Panel members & moderator: See Part I.

Session Overview: Part II of the housing discussion will cover execution strategies for constructing sustainable homes, neighborhoods, and communities. Topics of discussion include construction, project management, materials, delivery, contractors and subs, LEED certification, cost control, experimentation, and post occupancy evaluation.

**Track 5: Around the Kitchen Table: Food, Land & Permaculture**  
(Hall at Old Town Plaza)

**Holonic Farming Workshop (Part II)**

Presenter & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 6: Growing Up Green: Stories, Imagination & Play -- Ages 3-12** (Andrews Park Pavilion)

Presenter & session overview: See Part 1.

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**LUNCH** (Hall at Old Town Plaza)

**VISIT EXHIBITS** (Sante Fe Train Depot)

1:00-1:15 p.m.

**BREAK**

1:15-1:30 p.m.

**AWARDS PRESENTATION** (Andrews Park Amphitheater)

**Mother Earth Sustainability Education & Carrie Dickerson Lifetime Achievement Awards**

1:30-2:15 p.m.

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS** (Andrews Park Amphitheater)

**Dancing with Dinner**

Joel Salatin is an author and owner of Polyface Farm in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley. A third generation alternative farmer, he returned to the farm full time in 1982 and continues refining and adding to his parents’ ideas. He has authored six books, including You Can Farm: The Entrepreneur’s Guide to Start and Succeed in a Farming Enterprise and Everything I Want to Do Is Illegal: War Stories from the Local Food Front. His speaking and writing reflect dirt-under-the-fingernails experience punctuated with mischievous humor. He passionately defends small farms, local food systems, and the right to opt out of the conventional food paradigm.

**Childcare will be provided at the Andrews Park Pavilion during the keynote address.**

2:15-2:30 p.m.

**BREAK**

2:30-3:45 p.m.

## SESSION III

### *Track 1: Getting Around Lite: Biofuels & Transportation (Norman Public Library)*

#### **Biofuels Panel**

Bobby Wegener is the Oklahoma Deputy Secretary of Energy. Dr. Linda Wallace is Samuel Roberts Noble Presidential Professor of Botany at the University of Oklahoma, where she has been for 27 years. Todd Stephens is one of the founders of Tulsa Biofuels, LLC, whose primary mission is to produce a clean burning alternative fuel called biodiesel from waste cooking oil.

### *Track 2: Green with Spirit: Environmental Ethics & Religion (Chamber of Commerce)*

#### **Interfaith Dialogue on Environmental Ethics (Part I)**

Tom W. Boyd is the David Ross Boyd Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Oklahoma. With his wife Barbara, he teaches in the OU Religious Studies program. John Fletcher taught at the University of Oklahoma for 36 years in the Department of Botany and Microbiology and speaks about Quaker Earthcare Witness, a movement among American Quakers to integrate their concern for the environment with Quakers' long-standing testimonies for simplicity, peace, and equality. Jan Rose is a member of Windsong Dojo and the Dharma Center of Oklahoma. She is a retired children's therapist and is on the board of Sustainable OKC.

### *Track 3: Sharing Space: Humans & Other Creatures (MainSite Art Gallery)*

#### **Xeriscaping and Permaculture: Basic Principles for Building Successful Gardens in Central Oklahoma (Part I)**

Asia Scudder's studies in ecology along with her work with The Nature Conservancy - researching mid-grass prairie hierarchical systems as well as assisting in prairie restoration projects - well prepared her for the rigors of creating successful gardens in Central Oklahoma. Her business Native Landscapes, Inc., established in 1995, has evolved to incorporate many of her primary studies in ecology. This presentation will feature a brief history of permaculture and valuable, practical information for how the individual can create environmentally smart lawns and gardens in the Central Oklahoma region.

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### *Track 4: Around the Kitchen Table: Food, Land & Permaculture (Hall at Old Town Plaza)*

#### **Food and Land Panel (Part I)**

Joel Salatin is an author and owner of Polyface Farm in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. Robert Stelle owns and operates Sunrise Acres, a 10 acre certified organic farm and greenhouses located north of Blanchard, Oklahoma. Bob Waldrop is the founder of the Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House (which delivers food to people in need who don't have transportation), the president of the Oklahoma Food Cooperative, and works as director of music at Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church.

### *Track 5: Dwelling Well / Growing Up Green -- Ages 3-12 (Andrews Park Pavilion)*

#### **'I Rammed Earth at Red Dirt' (Part I)**

Children ages 3-12 are invited to participate in the "I Rammed Earth at Red Dirt" session, where they will create their own rammed earth brick. Families will learn the sustainable technique of rammed earth - a durable, low maintenance, healthy building alternative. Commemorative T-shirts and educational flyers concerning the nature and history of earth construction in Oklahoma will be available at the event.

3:45-4:00 p.m.

## **BREAK**

4:00-5:00 p.m.

## SESSION IV

### *Track 1: Getting Around Lite: Biofuels & Transportation (Norman Public Library)*

#### **Amtrak: Reconnecting America**

Evan Stair helped found the Northern Flyer Alliance (<http://www.northflyer.org>) that seeks civic support and unity for Heartland Flyer expansion to Kansas City, Missouri through Wichita. Amtrak successfully returned to Oklahoma in 1999 after a 20 year absence. Today, funding shortfalls and a lack of positive

direction from the governor, the legislature, and state transportation officials have left the train operating only between Fort Worth and Oklahoma City with no northern connection. The Northern Flyer Alliance is restarting expansion talks on a local level, and civic leaders are becoming excited about how Amtrak can bring economic, environmental and transportation benefits.

**Track 2: Green with Spirit: Environmental Ethics & Religion**  
(Chamber of Commerce)

**Interfaith Dialogue on Environmental Ethics (Part II)**

Presenters & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 3: Sharing Space: Humans & Other Creatures**  
(MainSite Art Gallery)

**Xeriscaping and Permaculture: Basic Principles for Building Successful Gardens in Central Oklahoma (Part II)**

Presenter & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 4: Around the Kitchen Table: Food, Land & Permaculture**  
(Hall at Old Town Plaza)

**Food and Land Panel (Part II)**

Presenters & Session Overview: See Part I.

**Track 5: Dwelling Well / Growing Up Green -- Ages 3-12**  
(Andrews Park Pavilion)

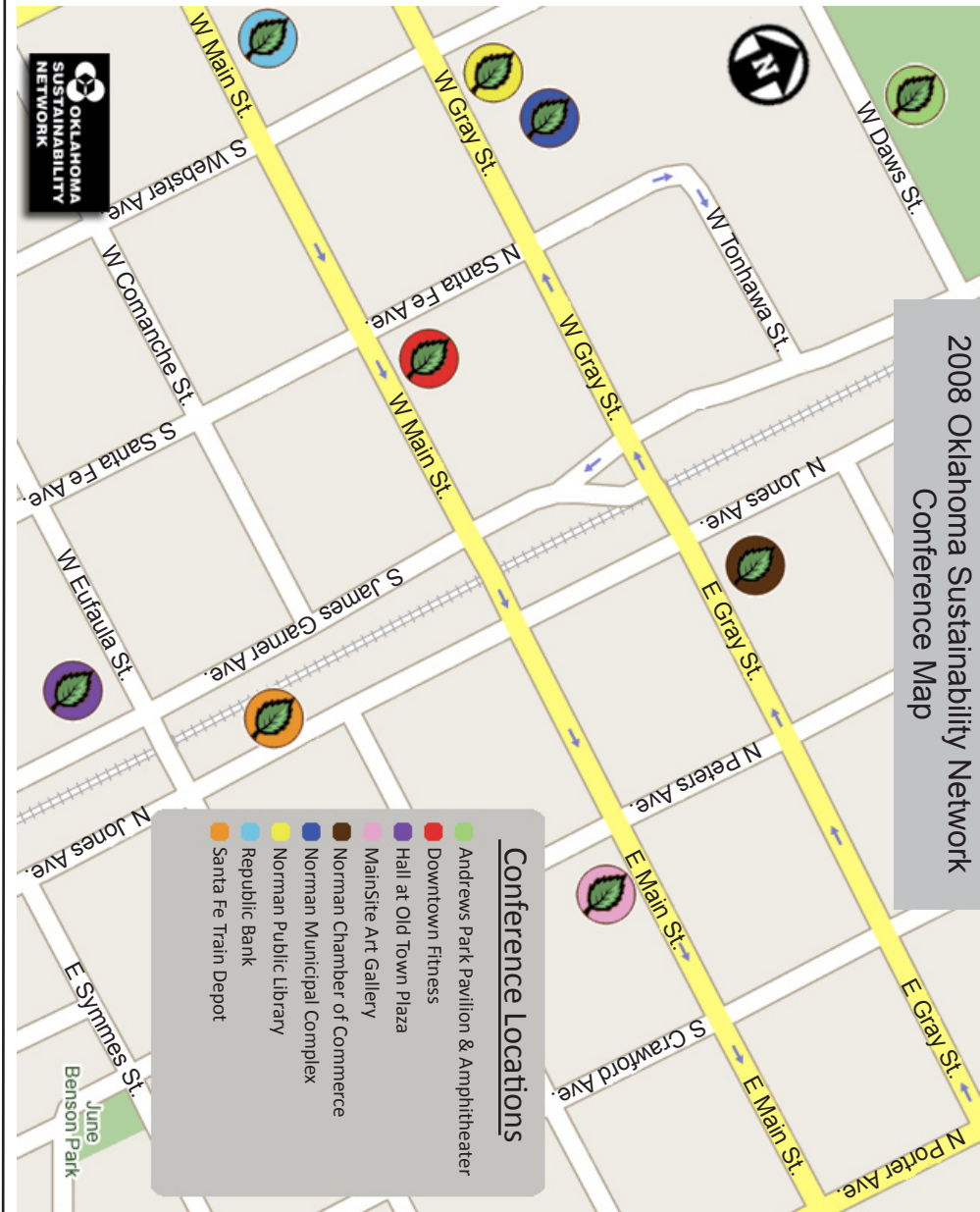
'I Rammed Earth at Red Dirt' (Part II)

Session Overview: See Part I.

5:30-7:00 p.m.

**RECEPTION AND BOOK SIGNING** (Location TBA)

The special reception and book-signing will feature authors Joel Salatin and Diana Leafe Christian. Advance tickets are required and not included with the basic registration.



## CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

*Please take some time to visit our conference exhibitors in the Santa Fe Train Depot and various locations.*

ACOG Clean Air Committee  
 Apple-A-Day  
 Barefoot Books  
 Bergey Windpower  
 Blue Thumb  
 Carrie Dickerson Foundation  
 Centaurus Technologies  
 The Current  
 DEQ Green Team  
 Edward Jones Investment Office, Edmond  
 Electric Green, Inc.  
 Energy Wise Systems, Inc.  
 GKU low-speed electric vehicles  
 Goodwill  
 Guaranteed Watt Saver (GWS)  
 Homestead School  
 Keep Oklahoma Beautiful  
 Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture  
 Land Legacy  
 Mannington Commercial  
 Modern Wealth Management  
 Mudsill  
 OG+E Energy Corp.  
 Oklahoma Bioenergy Center  
 Oklahoma Master Naturalists  
 Oklahoma Sierra Club  
 Oklahoma Water Resources Board  
 OSN Chapters  
 OSU Environmental Science Graduate Program  
 OWPI  
 Quaker Earthcare Witness  
 Red Earth Sierra Club  
 Sunrise Alternative Energy  
 Sustainable Green Country "Buy Fresh, Buy Local"  
 Sustainable Tulsa  
 Task Design, Inc.  
 To Market, LLC  
 Troque Farms  
 Turtle Rock Farm  
 Unitarian Universalist Community Church  
 Earth Elements/OK Food Coop  
 Wagon Creek Creamery  
 Bucky's Fruits & Vegetables  
 Barbara Shove

## ABOUT OSN

The Oklahoma Sustainability Network (OSN) serves to connect and educate the people of Oklahoma concerning the many aspects of sustainability. OSN is a catalyst and a resource for the improvement of Oklahoma's economy, ecology, and equity.

Interest areas range from agriculture to commerce, energy to education, and design to preservation. OSN encourages people to communicate, ask questions, request help or advice, submit event information, and relate stories pertaining to their environmental experiences in Oklahoma.

More information about OSN is available on the web at [www.oksustainability.org](http://www.oksustainability.org). The website includes links to chapters and partner organizations, an Oklahoma resource guide, discussion forum, information about campaigns, and listserv subscriptions.

## ABOUT NSN

The Norman Sustainability Network (NSN) is a local chapter of OSN. We are people of all ages and backgrounds, out of the many talented individuals working in Norman and surrounding areas. Rather than become another isolated group among many, we hope to network these diverse efforts toward our common goals:

***To preserve and improve*** the economic, social, and environmental resources of Norman, for ourselves and future generations.

***To foster*** a people-centered community respecting the principles of cooperation, balance, and diversity.

***To bring together*** new friends and allies.

***To promote*** our community's shared responsibility for the future.

More information about NSN is available on the web at [www.normansustainability.org/blog/](http://www.normansustainability.org/blog/).