

Portrait of a Volunteer Monitor

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Biographical Sketch

Cheryl Cheadle is the director of the Blue Thumb Water Pollution Education Program for Oklahoma Conservation Commission's Water Quality Division. In this position, Cheryl recruits volunteers, helps start new programs, offers volunteer training, and participates in educational activities. Cheryl is a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a BS degree in wildlife ecology. She has been in her present position for six years.

Abstract

"Portrait of a Volunteer Monitor" is a poster presentation that offers insight into several aspects of volunteerism, including:

- ✓ Blue Thumb volunteer duties
- ✓ Volunteer motivation
- ✓ The "good" volunteer
- ✓ Volunteer age variations
- ✓ The geographically distant volunteer
- ✓ Meeting volunteer needs
- ✓ Assessing program success/lack of success
- ✓ When a volunteer says "goodbye"

Observations will be offered by a program director who serves as a volunteer within her own program, and also with a completely different organization. This range of activities has allowed for very useful thoughts and comparisons to form about the Blue Thumb Program, and volunteers in general. This presentation will be at its best if folks in attendance are comfortable adding their own tales and leaping into discussions. Proposed time frame is 30 minutes.