

## Time to get gardening: join OG&E in preserving pollinator habitats



Click **HERE** to download images of pollinator habitats planted at OG&E facilities

**OKLAHOMA CITY (APRIL 22, 2022)** – One of the most impactful seasons for improving pollinator habitats is upon us, and Oklahoma Gas & Electric (OG&E) is marking Earth Day by encouraging community members throughout its service area to grab their gardening gloves and start planting seeds. OG&E has dedicated 60 acres of outdoor space at its facilities to protect the habitats for pollinators like bees, hummingbirds and butterflies, and will have a presence at Earth Day celebrations throughout its service area.

OG&E team members will give away free pollinator seed kits in the following communities:

- Pauls Valley, Okla. |4/22 | 10 a.m. 6 p.m. | FirstUnited 315 W. Grant Ave
- Ardmore, Okla. | 4/23 | 10 a.m. 2 p.m. | Thompson Square on Broadway
- Van Buren, Ark. | 4/23 | 10 6 p.m. | 711 N Main, Van Buren, AR.
- Norman, Okla. | 4/24 | 12 5 p.m. | Andrews Park, 201 W Daws St.

"Bringing awareness to the importance of sustaining pollinator habitats to our customers and communities is a unique role OG&E can play," said Usha Turner, Energy Policy Director at OG&E. "Most plants, including fruit and grain crops, rely on pollinators, so they are critical to our food supply. We want to remind customers that they can support these important creatures in simple ways, such as planting flowers and other plants important to pollinators in their own backyards."

OG&E has a long history of supporting Oklahoma pollinator habitats, and recently worked with the OKC Zoo to publish a children's book, "Juniper's Butterfly Garden," as part of Read for Adventure, a statewide library program that inspires readers to take care of their environment. The book focuses on Oklahoma's most iconic pollinator, the Monarch butterfly, which migrates through OG&E's service area, and feeds on flower nectar.

Some of the company's facilities double as seasonal habitats or waystations for the Monarch and other pollinators. The electric company uses automated, solar-powered mowers to limit human activity onsite and reduce maintenance costs.

"Our support of pollinator habitats exemplifies OG&E's commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation," Turner said. "We know we are only as strong as the communities we serve, and we are committed to identifying opportunities to promote sustainability through our operations and public outreach."

In order to reduce its carbon emissions, Turner said the utility has invested in 32 megawatts of owned solar capacity, 449 megawatts of owned wind power generation, 342 megawatts of wind purchased power contracts, and converting coal to natural gas. OG&E was the first utility in Oklahoma to offer universal solar power, and now has solar centers in Branch, Arkansas, and Billings, Covington, Davis and Durant, Oklahoma with the latter two locations serving the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations.

OGE has reduced emissions from its power plants by 40% since 2005 and plans to lower emissions by 50% by 2030 as well as retire 95% of its current fossil-fueled generation by 2050.

## **About OG&E**

Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of OGE Energy Corp. (NYSE: OGE), is Oklahoma's largest electric utility. For more than a century, we have provided customers in Oklahoma and western Arkansas the safe, reliable electricity needed to power their businesses and homes with the nation's lowest electric rates, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence. Our employees are committed to generating and delivering electricity, protecting the environment, and providing excellent service to nearly 880,000 customers. OG&E has 7,081 MW of electric generation capacity fueled by natural gas, wind, low sulfur coal, and solar. OG&E employees live, work, and volunteer in the communities we serve. For more information about OG&E, visit us at OGE.com or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.