

# What is the Oklahoma Stream Team?

The Oklahoma Stream Team is an association of Federal, State and local environmental agencies, universities, and engineering consultants devoted to providing communities, planners and developers with *realistic options for stream modification and stormwater management projects that protect and enhance water quality.*

The Oklahoma Stream Team promotes stream restoration and watershed planning by providing technical *assistance in the project planning phase* that will result in greater compliance with Federal and State permits under Section 404 and stormwater regulatory programs.

# What Assistance Does Stream Team Provide?

The Oklahoma Stream Team can provide recommendations concerning innovative solutions for:

- Flood control
- Stream bank erosion control
- Stream and pond restoration
- Section 404 permit mitigation
- Environmental protection in designing stream corridor and floodplain projects.

The Stream Team will make recommendations based upon all stream and riparian functions, including:

- Fish and wildlife habitat
- Water quality
- Sediment transport
- Native plant species
- Local hydrology and geology.

Yukon, OK  
Stream  
Team Project



Stream bank erosion, recreational pond, potential public trail.

Upon request, the Stream Team can:

- Assist with project planning by identifying alternatives and making recommendations
- Informally review project proposals and offer suggestions on alternative methods
- Review proposed city ordinance changes (e.g. subdivision regulations, drainage ordinances, etc.) for ways to allow or promote alternative methods
- Identify resources for planners and engineers on alternative designs.

The role of Stream Team role is **ADVISORY ONLY, NOT REGULATORY.**

Stream Team assistance can be a valuable part of Section 404 permit compliance.



Typical hardened stream channel







## Why Should My City or Consulting Firm Consider Stream Management?

To solve stream problems such as flooding and erosion, communities and developers traditionally use concrete lining and other structural "stream-hardening" techniques. Such methods reduce wildlife habitat quality and are not as attractive as more **natural settings**.

Today, there are many new options available to a project designer or engineer. Depending on stream and adjacent land use conditions, **non-structural, more natural alternatives** may be appropriate and may even **cost less**.

Methods such as bio-stabilization to control stream bank erosion using native plants and natural rock can restore stream habitat more efficiently and **enhance property values**.

## What is the Cost for Assistance?

Stream Team services are free of charge!

## How Can a Stream Team Consultation Help You?

The partnerships established between the Oklahoma Stream Team and regulatory/ permitting agencies can streamline permit acquisition and often save money and time. In addition, bringing nature into your project can increase marketability and enhance appearance.

### Internet Resources

Stream Corridor Restoration:  
Principles, Processes and Practices  
[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/stream\\_restoration/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/stream_restoration/)

Restoration Techniques: Watershed Technology  
Electronic Catalog (WTEC)  
<http://www.epa.gov/OWOW/watershed/wacademy/acad2000/restor.html>

EPA Low Impact Development  
<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid/>

NRCS Water Related Best Management Practices  
in the Landscape  
<http://www.abe.msstate.edu/csd/NRCS-BMPs/>



For more information, please contact:  
Richard Smith,  
INCOG, Tulsa, OK  
(918) 584-7526  
rsmith@incog.org

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**O K L A H O M A**  
**STREAM TEAM**

## Environment-Oriented Options for Urban Stream Protection

The Oklahoma Stream Team works closely with the U.S. Corps of Engineers Tulsa District to help 404 Permit applicants meet environmental requirements for mitigation and protection of water resources. Stream Team resources are voluntary and provided at no cost.

*Technical Resources for Developers and Consulting Engineers*