agweather connection

FOOD! FAMILY! FUN!

As high temperatures settle across the state like a heavy down blanket, Oklahomans are still finding ways to celebrate food and fellowship.

From farmers markets, food festivals and vineyards to picking your own fruit, there are many opportunities to get the family together. Guthrie's Farmers Market is one venue that is hoping to beat the heat, and bring together producers, artisans and the public.

"In an old style marketplace, you not only bought goods for your family, but you spent time with neighbors and fellow residents. We are trying really hard to create that experience," said Jennifer Rosson, Executive Assistant at Guthrie Chamber of Commerce. "We don't want you to shop and leave. We want you to shop and hang out."

Before planning an excursion to your local farmers market, take a quick glance at the Agweather forecast page. With several forecast options to choose from, you can get a detailed prediction of any approaching severe weather.

The policy at the Guthrie Farmers Market is that as long as the vendor wants to stay, the market will remain open, said Rosson. "If it is just a little rain, I think we will stick it out," said Rosson. "However, if there is harmful or dangerous weather, we will cancel."

To find your Agweather forecast, click here. Check out more forecast products on pages two and three.

EXPLORE AGWEATHER

7 Day Forecast

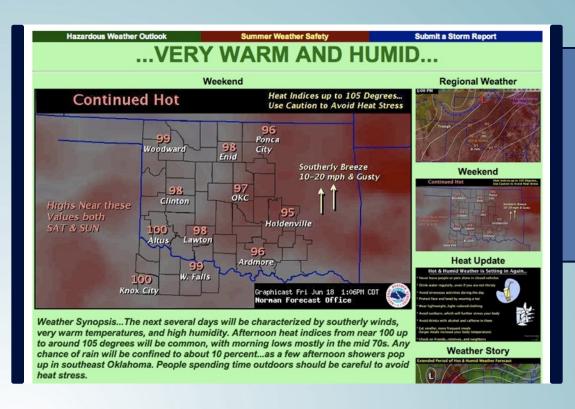
- Start at http://agweather.mesonet.org
- Be sure to select your closest location in the "Current Weather at" box on the top right
- Then select "Forecast" from the top menu
- Your 7-day forecast should automatically appear
- To change locations, enter a new city and state or a new zip code



Hour-by-hour Forecast

- While in the "Forecast" section, click "NAT. WEATHER SERVICE" from the left menu
- Then click "Hour-by-Hour Forecast" from the left menu
- You can turn weather variables on and off by checking and unchecking the items
- Then click "Submit"
- You can also change the time frame you are viewing by clicking the drop-down menu next to "48-Hour Period Starting"
- Then click "Submit"





Regional Outlook

- While in the "Forecast" section, click "NAT. WEATHER SERVICE" from the left menu
- Then click "NWS Regional Outlook" from the left menu
- This gives you a brief illustration of any weather news in the state
- There are multiple graphics on the right side to choose from

Current Watches, Warnings and Advisories for Oklahom...

Special Weather Statement issued June 23 ... w-nws.webmas

w-nws.webmaster@noaa.gov Today, 9:36 PM

...SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY... THIS SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY IS FOR LOGAN AND PAYNE COUNTIES. AT 935 PM CDT...THUNDERSTORMS WERE DEVELOPING FROM 5 MILES NORTHWEST OF MARSHALL TO MULHALL...MOVING SOUTHEAST AT 15 MPH. MONITOR THE WEATHER SITUATION CLOSELY AND BE ALERT FOR THREATENING WEATHER CONDITIONS. THESE STORMS WILL INITIALLY PRODUCE BRIEF HEAVY Read more...

Special Weather Statement issued June 23 ... w-nws.webmaster@noaa.gov Today, 9:18 PM

...SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY... THIS SIGNIFICANT WEATHER ADVISORY IS FOR GARFIELD...KAY AND NOBLE COUNTIES. AT 916 PM CDT...THUNDERSTORMS WERE SCATTERED ALONG A LINE FROM 5 MILES NORTHEAST OF BRECKENRIDGE TO 7 MILES EAST OF MARLAND...MOVING SOUTH AT 20 MPH. STRONG WIND GUSTS AROUND 45 MPH WILL OCCUR NEAR Read more...

Heat Advisory issued June 23 at 7:16PM CD... w-nws.webmaster@noaa.gov Today, 7:16 PM

...HEAT ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 11 PM CDT THURSDAY... A HEAT ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT... FOR THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES... * IN OKLAHOMA...CHEROKEE...PUSHMATAHA...MAYES...CHOCTAW...CRAIG... SEQUOYAH...LE FLORE...LATIMER AND HASKELL. HAZARDOUS WEATHER... Read more...

Watches, Warnings

- While in the "Forecast" section, click "WATCHES AND WARNINGS" from the left menu
- Then click "Oklahoma Watches, Warnings by County" from the left menu
- This gives you a list of any active watches or warnings issued by the National Weather Service

OklahomaAdventures

t's easy to liven up the summer with the many agricultural activities offered across the state. The Oklahoma Agritourism website offers an easy-to-use searchable database for outdoor agricultural adventures. These adventures are sorted into a dozen categories. Below, three of the hundreds of adventures are described.

Pick your own

For more than 40 years, Livesay Orchards in Porter, Okla., have offered residents the opportunity to handpick their own peaches and also browse a vast farmers market. "We sell peaches, nectarines, watermelon, cantaloupe, pumpkins in the fall, tomatoes, homegrown vegetables like cucumber, green beans, potatoes, sweet corn and squash," said Kent Livesay, who co-owns Livesay Orchards with his brother Steve. "We grow most the produce, but we also get some things from other local farmers."

Livesay Orchards see several thousands visitors each season, with both returning customers and those who are new to production agriculture. "We see several new faces each year," said Livesay. "And, kids really enjoy it. From mid-September to October, we have apples and pumpkins. They get pretty excited."

Livesay Orchards is open from mid-June through October, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. For pick-your-own, Livesay said it's best to call ahead for availability. The number is 918.483.2102. For more information about Livesay Orchards, click here.

Farmers Market

Located in historic downtown Guthrie, Okla., the Guthrie Farmers Market showcases local producers, artisans and bakers. Having only been opened a short time, the Guthrie Farmers Market has become a popular place on Saturdays. "This is only our third year. We started out small. In the first year, we had only four vendors," said Jennifer Rosson, Executive Assistant at Guthrie Chamber of Commerce. "Last weekend, we had 15 vendors."

Among those vendors are Broome's fried pies, which sell out incredibly fast, a smoothie booth, local crafts, quilts and locally grown produce, said Rosson. There are unique blown glass beads for jewelry, live pottery demonstrations, fresh-baked goods from local bakeries and fresh mint tea. This all adds to the feeling of a community market place, said Rosson.

"Pioneer Picnic Tables donated several tables that we put down the middle of the street," said Rosson. "We are really trying to make it a family environment. There is starting to be a lot of 'Hey, how are you doing?' It's like a block party atmosphere. It's just going to enhance the whole downtown experience."

The Guthrie Farmers Market is open on Saturday from the first weekend in June until September 25 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information about the Guthrie Farmers Market or to learn how to become a vendor, contact Jennifer Rosson at 405.282.1947 or e-mail Jennifer@authrieok.com.

Vineyard and Winery

Over 1,100 vines and three varieties of grapes are planted on the 2.5 acres that make up Roberdes Family Vineyards and Winery located just east of Claremore, Okla. Though the vineyards were only opened in 2006 and the winery in October 2009, it hosts many activities such as wine festivals, civic meetings and car shows. They also carry a variety of wines and Wine-arita mixes, a flavored powder that is mixed with wine and blended with ice.

"The are four flavors of Wine-a-rita mixes, but by far, the most popular is the Peach Bellini," said Teresa Roberdes, who co-owns the vineyard with her husband Mark. "You whip it right up just like a frozen margarita. It's funny. A lot of our new customers are either beer drinkers or just not into wine. We usually start them with a white wine on the sweeter side. Most of them, probably 90 percent, are pleasantly surprised. Very few don't find something they like. If so, I just give them a Peach Bellini Wine-a-rita."

Roberdes Family Vineyards and Winery is a member of the Grand Country Wine Trail, a group of four area wineries situated on a very scenic back road tour through the countryside. "We are currently working on a brochure and a passport for the tour. At every stop, you get a stamp in your passport and when you visit the fourth winery, no matter where you start or finish, you get your name entered into a monthly drawing for a \$40 gift certificate for any product at any of the wineries," said Roberdes.

Roberdes Family Vineyards and Winery are open all year long. The summer season begins April 1 and goes through November 1. The hours are Thursday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. During the winter months, the winery is opened Friday, Saturday and Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. or by appointment. To learn more about the Roberdes Family Vineyards and Winery, click here or call 918.342.1038.

