



National Rural Development Partnership Annual Conference

August 29 through September 2, 2004 – Oklahoma City, OK
Tentative Agenda

Sunday, August 29

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	SRDC Executive Directors Meeting with working lunch
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	SRDC Council Leaders Meeting with working lunch
2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Registration
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Joint Meeting of Executive Director and Council Leaders
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Partners for Rural America Membership Meeting
6:00 p.m.	Opening Reception

Monday, August 30

7:00 a.m.	Registration
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet provided
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Welcome Address “Opening Gateways to Rural America”
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Concurrent Learning Stations
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.	Concurrent Learning Stations (con’t)
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch provided
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Plenary: National Rural Policy Coordination
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <i>Track #1 – Health Care</i> <i>Track #2 – Tourism</i> <i>Track #3 – Agriculture</i> <i>Track #4 – Entrepreneurship/Mainstreet Development</i> <i>Track #5 – Technology</i> <i>Track #6 – Workforce Development</i> <i>Track #7 – Council Tools</i>
6:00 p.m.	Awards Banquet – Bricktown Coca Cola Event Center With cultural entertainment

Tuesday, August 31

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet provided
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Mobile Workshops <i>#1 – “Come Experience the Value of the Plains”</i> <i>#2 – “Oklahoma Mainstreet – Home on the Range”</i> <i>#3 – “Western Paradise”</i> <i>#4 – “The Great Southwest”</i> <i>#5 – “From Tornados to T-Rexes”</i> <i>#6 – “Gateway to the World”</i>
5:00 p.m.	Dinner on your own

Wednesday, September 1

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet provided
7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Regional Meetings
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 am	Plenary
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions <i>Track #1 – Health Care</i> <i>Track #2 – Tourism</i> <i>Track #3 – Agriculture</i> <i>Track #4 – Entrepreneurship/Mainstreet Development</i> <i>Track #5 – Technology</i> <i>Track #6 – Workforce Development</i> <i>Track #7 – Council Tools</i>
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch provided
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Bridge to 2005 Policy Consultation
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Break
3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.	Bridge to 2005 Policy Consultation (con't)
6:00 p.m.	Closing Banquet – Cox Convention Center With cultural entertainment

Thursday, September 2

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet provided
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Education Session <i>#1 – Subjects from Community Direction Summits**</i> <i>#2 – Website Design</i> <i>#3 – Rural Action Partnership Program**</i> <i>#4 – Rural Health</i> <i>#5 – Women's Small Businesses</i> <i>#6 – Marketing Councils</i> <small>**Oklahoma Related Subjects Only</small>
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch provided
1:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Oklahoma Rural Development Council Statewide Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rural Summit Overview• Business

MOBILE WORKSHOPS

#1: “COME EXPERIENCE THE VALUE OF THE PLAINS”

On this tour you will experience examples of value-added agriculture from a small winery, to a cattle feedlot operation, to large grain elevators, to one of the largest meat processing companies in the country. You will experience value-added tourism and recreation that includes history, heritage, nature-based sites such as an historical B&B, an original sod house, birding and wildlife viewing, hiking and equine nature trails, crystal digging, fishing, hunting, camping and other attractions. Finally you will see value-added quality of life amenities not usually found in rural areas, such as a symphony hall, community ballpark, and a community-designed and developed, hands-on children’s museum and one of the countries largest outdoor adventure playground.

SCHEDULED STOPS: OKC – RINGWOOD – CHEROKEE/ALFALFA COUNTY – ENDI – OKC

#2: “OKLAHOMA MAINSTREET-HOME ON THE RANGE”

Come visit three of Oklahoma’s most talked about Mainstreet Cities. These cities demonstrate how to bring the past alive with completely renovated buildings that are on the National Historical Registry. These Mainstreet cities have won numerous awards through their unique methods of teamwork and community input to make their downtowns thrive.

SCHEDULED STOPS: OKC – PERRY – PAWNEE – PERKINS – OKC

#3: “WESTERN PARADISE”

Western Oklahoma is truly a paradise. On this tour you will experience the grandeur of Red Rock Canyon in its beautiful rainbow of colors. Try to find your way out of a GIGANTIC corn maize. See how a small rural community went from striving to thriving when a state-of-the-art correctional center was built. Visit Fort Reno, which helped protect settlers in the West.

SCHEDULED STOPS: OKC – EL RENO – HINTON – HYDRO – OKC

#4: “THE GREAT SOUTHWEST”

This tour is going to be a lot of fun. We start out with a tour of the Braums Ice Cream Plant – eat a light breakfast because you will want samples. Oklahoma grows a lot of peanuts – we will see several large peanut farms. With the sky rocketing price of electricity alternative ways of producing it are evident everywhere – we will visit a wind farm that is awesome to look at. Finish up with a tour of the Ft. Sill museum, one of the nation’s best.

SCHEDULED STOPS: OKC – TUTTLE – ANADARKO – NE OF MEERS – LAWTON – OKC

#5: “FROM TORNADOS TO T-REXES”

We will visit the National Severe Storm Laboratory (NSSL), which is one of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administrations internationally known research laboratories, leading the way in investigations of all aspects of severe weather. Headquartered in Norman, Oklahoma, the people of NSSL, in partnership with the National Weather Service, are dedicated to improving severe weather warnings and forecasts in order to save lives and reduce property damage.

We will then visit the highly acclaimed Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. On May 1, 2000 the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History opened its doors. Over 300 million years of Oklahoma’s natural history can be seen in a 195,000 square foot facility. Five galleries feature thousands of artifacts in 50,000 square feet of exhibit space. We can immerse ourselves in the fascinating natural and cultural history of Oklahoma.

SCHEDULED STOPS: OKC – NORMAN – OKC

#6: “GATEWAY TO THE WORLD”

We will visit the Will Rogers Museum, one of the #1 tourist attractions in the State of Oklahoma. It was constructed in 1938 on 20 acres of property originally owned by Will & Betty Rogers. The next stop will be the Port of Catoosa – the 445 mile McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigational System was constructed between 1963 and 1970. It opened for business in 1971. We will enjoy a barge ride on the river with a BBQ luncheon. Then it’s on to County Fever, Oklahoma’s largest outdoor music festival which provides a stage for first class County, Bluegrass and Christian music on 400 acres. We will also visit Camp Dry Gulch which is a camp/retreat with shopping and historical information.

SCHEDULED STOPS: OKC – CLAREMORE – CATOOSA – PRYOR - OKC