OFMA FALL CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 20-22 - WESTERN HILLS LODGE

In response to the many requests to hold the fall conference in a resort lodge, our fall conference will be September 20, 21, and 22, at Western Hills Lodge in Wagoner Oklahoma. The planning committee is taking a new approach this year to provide a package price that includes registration, materials, all meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner, banquet) socials, and refreshments all in one price. Rooms will be available in the lodge for $55.00 a night single and $65.00 a night double. Suites or Cabanas will be available at $85.00 a night. There are also several cottages that sleep from 2 to 6 people priced from $65 for two beds to $90 for 6 beds.

The program will center on information and training most important to flood managers, along with fun activities such as a Hay Ride. Golf will be available, the Nature Center will be open, the park is full of deer and turkey, and the view of the lake is spectacular.

Western Hills is about a one-hour drive away from Tulsa. The cost this year will be $175 for registration with all the meals and goodies included. Western Hills is now accepting room reservations. All rooms are presently reserved for OFMA at Western Hills, so be sure to tell them you are with the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association when you call. Reservations need to be made before September 1, 2004. A registration form has been enclosed in this issue.

~Call for Awards Nominations~

Our annual awards banquet will be held Tuesday Night, September 21st at Western Hills Lodge during the OFMA Fall Conference. Nominations are solicited for the following awards:

- Floodplain Manager of the Year Award
- Public Official of the Year Award
- Special Recognition Award
- Silver Scoop Award
- W. Kenneth Morris Honorary Lifetime Award
- Charles Don Ellison Memorial Award
- Project Award
- Scholarship Award
- Ben Frizzell Media Award

Award explanations and applications are in your membership directories. We welcome and appreciate all applications!
The B.F.E.

June 2004

Check out the new OFMA Website!

The OFMA Board of Directors began talking about improving the look of our website during a meeting in Bartlesville in April 2003. A search was initiated for a website designer, ending with a contract with Tinna Song-Wallis.

The Board wants to thank Hank Elling for his many years of service as webmaster, as well as Laureen Gibson-Gilroy for coordinating the website contract and changes.

OFMA has formed a website committee that will coordinate the updates to the site. Comments and suggestions are solicited and welcome. Visit the site often for information and news of upcoming events.

~ FEMA Personnel Changes ~

Due to a minor realignment in the Region 6 Mitigation Division, Carl Watts is no longer filling the role of Regional CRS Coordinator. Linda Delamare is now holding this position. Please direct all requests for information to her at linda.delamare@dhs.gov or 940-898-5279.

Lonnie Ward is covering the Texas Coastline, and Jack Graham is now the FEMA Mitigation Specialist that will handle Oklahoma floodplain programs. Mr. Graham is an Oklahoma native from Kingfisher and is a CFM and OFMA member.
OFMA SPRING CONFERENCES EMPHASIZE “KEYS TO A FLOOD SAFE COMMUNITY”

The Lawton conference was held Friday, March 5, 2004, at the Great Plains Technology Center, 4500 West Lee Blvd., Lawton, Ok. The Tulsa session was held Friday, March 12, 2004, at the Tulsa Technology Center, Riverside Campus Facility, 801 E. 91st Street, Tulsa OK. Topics included:

- Welcome, by Andy Kincaid, OFMA Chair
- An overview of Floodplain Management in Oklahoma by Mike Mathis, OWRB, State NFIP Coordinator
- Discussion on the implementation of a Master Drainage Plan, by Robert Hitt, City Engineer, Enid Oklahoma
- Discussion of Stormwater Detention/Retention, Compensatory Storage and Conveyance, by Janet Meshek, Meshek & Associates, Inc. (OFMA Past Chair)
- Discussion on Team Building, by Jim Coffey, Bixby City Planner (OFMA Vice-Chair)
- Lunch Speakers - State Rep. Don Ames (Lawton) and Dick Faurot, Meteorologist, KOTV Channel 6 (Tulsa)
- Discussion on Flood proofing, Joe Remondini, Tulsa District Corps of Engineers (former OFMA Chair)
- Discussion on the Contribution of GIS to the stormwater world by Chris Hill, Meshek & Associates
- Closing Remarks by Andy Kincaid

Thanks to all who made these conferences a success!

Bill Targets Repeated Flood Damage Claims

Legislation heading for the president's signature would begin to crack down on property owners who make repeated flood damage claims that sometimes far outstrip the value of the property. The new procedure, targeting a fraction of the 4.5 million policyholders in the National Flood Insurance Program, would force repeat claimants to accept flood mitigation efforts, move, or face significantly higher premiums. The House on Monday voted by voice to extend the life of the program, founded in 1968 to help people in flood-vulnerable areas get reasonably priced insurance, until September 2008. The Senate passed the bill last week.

The flood insurance program partners with some 20,000 communities around the country, offering cheaper insurance rates in exchange for efforts to reduce future flood damage. It is a component of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA estimates that these partnerships cut flood damage by nearly $1 billion a year. But the insurance program, self-supporting overall, also pays out about $200 million annually, nearly 30 percent of total claims, to property owners who hold only 1 percent of policies. These repetitive loss properties are defined as those with two or more claims of more than $1,000 over the deductible within a 10-year period.

The new loss mitigation pilot program applies to an even smaller group, some 6,200 properties nationwide classified by FEMA as subject to repetitive losses. These include properties for which four or more separate claims have been made, with the amount of each claim exceeding $5,000, or the cumulative amount exceeding $20,000.

Rep. Doug Bereuter, R-NE, leading sponsor of the bill, cited one example where a home valued at $114,000 had received $806,000 in flood insurance claims over 18 years. "Congress is finally acting to stop the very expensive treading through the water of repetitive loss after repetitive loss," said Bereuter, joined in sponsoring the bill by Rep. Earl Blumenauer, D-OR, and in the Senate by Sen. Jim Bunning, R-KY.

Under the new program, funded at $40 million, landowners would be offered assistance in elevation, re-location, floodproofing or demolition and rebuilding. Owners who refuse the offer would see their premiums increase by 50 percent the first time, and an additional 50 percent for every future claim exceeding $1,500 until reaching the actuarial rate for the property. Bereuter's office said the national average for premiums under NFIP was $396 a year, about 38 percent of the true risk rate.

- 2004 Associated Press.
Web Sites

OFMA  www.okflood.org
ASFPM  www.floods.org
OWRB  www.owrb.state.ok.us
FEMA  www.fema.gov
OEMA  www.angelfire.com/ok2/oema
OEM  www.odcem.state.ok.us
Corps of Engineers (USACE)  www.swt.usace.army.mil
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)  ok.water.usgs.gov
Advanced Study Institute  web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi
CLOMR/LOMR Forms:  www.fema.gov/forms/forms.htm
EPA NPDES Phase II site:  www.epa.gov/npdes/
SMRC Stormwater Mgr Resource Center:  www.stormwatercenter.net
Link to:  44 CFR Ch. I (10-1-02 Edition)  http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/fr/waisidx_02/44cfrv1_02.html

Webmaster:  Tinna Song-Wallis  stsong@cox.net

Calendar of Educational Opportunities

- **ACCO Annual Conference**: July 20-22, Biltmore Hotel, Oklahoma City, for more information call 405-524-3200.
- **OML Annual Conference**: August 18-20, Cox Business Services Convention Center, Contact: OML, P.O. Box 268984, Oklahoma City, OK 73126-8984.
- **OWRB Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP**: August 23-27, 2004, Contact: Rhonda Bowers, OWRB, 3800 North Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73118; for more information, call 405-530-8800; website: www.owrb.state.ok.us.
- **OFMA 14th Annual Fall Conference**: “Lighting the Way to Floodplain Management”, September 20-22, 2004, Western Hills Lodge/Sequoyah Resort Park, Wagoner, OK; 800-368-1486. Contact: OFMA, P.O. Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; website: www.okflood.org
- **CRS Training Class**: to be announced
- **OWRB Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP**: Jan. 10-14, 2004. Contact: OWRB, 3800 North Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73118; for more information, call 405-530-8800; website: www.owrb.state.ok.us.
- **Twenty-Eighth Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers**: June 12-17, Madison, Wisconsin. Contact: ASFPM Executive Office, 2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Ste. 204, Madison, WI 53713-3120; (608) 274-0123; fax: (608)274-0696; e-mail: asfpm@floods.org; website: www.floods.org

**Local Insurance Agents to Receive Advertising Help from NFIP**

A public relations firm hired by the National Flood Insurance Program is beginning a massive advertising campaign to promote flood insurance at the local level. This campaign includes TV advertising on major cable channels, co-op advertising, a direct mail campaign in some states (unfortunately, not Oklahoma), and promotion of a website (www.FloodSmart.gov.)

At the 2004 Association of State Floodplain Managers conference held in Biloxi, Mississippi in May, Meg Bartow of Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide met privately with OFMA Education and Legislation Committee Chair Laureen Gibron Gilroy to discuss the program.

Here are the highlights of the meeting:

1. The NFIP has been expanded to include a non-residential Preferred Risk Policy for commercial properties and contents. This means properties outside the high risk, Special Flood Hazard Areas.
2. The co-op advertising will begin in July. Agents or companies may download and use any of ten items to promote their agencies and flood insurance. NFIP will give a 25 percent reimbursement for the cost of the ad.
3. Agents who took an NFIP class in the previous year will receive a 50 percent reimbursement on advertising. Flood Forum workshops held by Dorothy Martinez and Diana Herrera each year in Oklahoma would qualify.
4. If a company or an association runs an ad, NFIP will work with them so they pay only 50 percent up front.
5. And the biggie - if the ad is part of a "sales event", the agents will receive a 75 percent incentive.

Floodplain managers may not understand all this marketing jargon, but we expect insurance agents to latch on to this new program. We will pass on more details as they become available.
GOVERNOR SIGNS HOUSE BILL 2284

Governor Brad Henry signed into law House Bill 2284 amending 82 O.S 2001, Section 1085.2, adding definitions for floodplain managers, expanding the authority of the floodplain boards, and establishing accreditation standards for floodplain administrators. OFMA is very appreciative to Representative Thad Balkman, District 45, who authored the bill and worked with OWRB and OFMA, to present the bill in proper form to the House of Representatives. Representative Balkman deserves all our praise for his efforts that made this bill a reality. Thank you Representative Balkman. Senator Bruce Price authored the bill in the State Senate. Senator Price worked hard to help OFMA through the Senate Committee and present the bill to the State Senate. Without his help this bill would not have been passed. Thanks also to our NFIP Director, Mike Mathis, and the Water Resource Board Executive Director Duane Smith for their support and encouragement and help in making this bill a reality. Also thanks to Ken Morris who has worked hard for several years to promote a Training Bill in the Legislature. A special thanks to our Vice Chairman Jim Coffey who worked with Representative Balkman on the context of the bill and made numerous trips to the State Capital to promote HB 2284 before House and Senate Sub Committees. Jim was available for each vote in case questions were raised from the floor.

The bill defines a Floodplain Manager as, “a person accredited by the Board and designated by a floodplain board, to administer and implement laws and regulations relating to the management of floodplains.” It confers upon the Water Resources Board the authority “To accredit a person having requisite knowledge in floodplain management and in minimization and prevention of flood hazards and losses.” “In determining accreditation standards for floodplain administrators, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board may consider the knowledge, experience, skills, and training of an applicant in floodplain management and in minimization and prevention of flood hazards and losses. The accreditation standards may include: 1. Passage of an examination; 2. Completion of approved training; or 3. Certification by nationally recognized floodplain management organization.

The bill will take effect on January 1, 2005, and work is now underway to provide training opportunities and set in action the process under which the bill will be administered. Thanks to everyone who contacted their Legislator and promoted passage of the HB 2284.

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association

**Vision**
Floodplains are for floodwaters, habitat, water quality enhancement and recreation.

**Mission**
We encourage and support, with our partners, flood-safe development and flood mitigation. We promote sound floodplain management practices and the natural and cultural benefits of the floodplain. We support the floodplain management profession through education and certification.

Saving lives from floods and reducing property loss from floods are paramount to us.

An Invitation to Join OFMA

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.

**OFMA Regions**

The best investment that $30.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

**OFMA Membership Application**

Name: ____________________________
Title: ______________________________
Work Phone: ________________________
Fax: ________________________________

Detach and Mail to:
OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

New Member: ☐ Renewal: ☐
Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5
Committees: ______ Mitigation
________ Mapping and Engineering
________ Education/Legislative
________ Certification
________ Conference

Company/Organization: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City/Town: __________________ State: _______ Zip: ________
E-Mail: ____________________________

Dues Schedule:
First-Year dues are probated depending on the quarter during which you join. The fiscal year starts October 1st and ends September 30th.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Dues Schedule</th>
<th>Oct-Dec</th>
<th>Jan-Mar</th>
<th>Apr-Jun</th>
<th>Jul-Sep</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Membership</td>
<td>$ 30.00</td>
<td>$ 22.50</td>
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<td>Student Membership</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>11.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency Membership</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>12.50</td>
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<td>(Plus $10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate Sponsor</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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Notes from the State NFIP Coordinator

Mike Mathis, Oklahoma Water Resources Board

House Bill 2284, introduced by Rep. Thad Balkman and Sen. Bruce Price, was signed by Governor Henry on April 14, 2004. This vitally important legislation will establish much-needed accreditation standards for Oklahoma’s floodplain administrators. The bill strengthens the Oklahoma Floodplain Management Act, as well as the state’s overall floodplain management program. While the original Floodplain Management Act was enormously successful in increasing NFIP enrollment and in promoting sound development within the state’s designated floodplains, it lacked appropriate language to ensure fundamental training of local floodplain officials. Other states in this region, such as Arkansas and New Mexico, offer accreditation and official certification of local floodplain managers who provide a critical role in community land use and development.

The OWRB has submitted its final draft proposal to FEMA Region VI for first year participation in the federal Map Modernization program. If you are unfamiliar with this program, it is essentially part of an effort to upgrade the nation’s 100,000 panel flood map inventory. Major aspects of the Map Modernization plan include updating existing flood hazard data, conversion of floodplain delineation maps and data to a digital format, integration of community and state partners into the mapping process, and improvement of the map update process as well as customer service. When complete, the strategy should result in much-improved guidance for communities in developing flood-prone areas.

Once again, I want to thank Gov. Henry for his Flood Month proclamation for May 2004. This yearly public awareness effort is a tremendous help to the Water Board and community officials in educating the public on flood safety procedures and floodplain management techniques. On a related note, this is a great time to warn citizens about the hazards of driving into floodwaters. As you know, almost one-half of all flood-related fatalities occur in vehicles, primarily when people drive into flooded highway dips or low drainage areas at night. Already this year, we’ve seen the usual flooding episodes, including loss of life that could possibly have been avoided if people had just been better educated about the dangers of flooding and how to protect themselves and their families from these insidious natural disasters.

Finally, I want to offer special thanks to our many partners who assist the OWRB in organizing and conducting our Spring Floodplain 101 Workshops. In particular, I want to recognize our partners, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and OFMA, who provide so much help in educating the state’s floodplain officials on intelligent development, administration and enforcement of local flood damage prevention ordinances.

OFMA General Store

Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association gifts are now available. The attractive OFMA articles are of the highest quality. You will be proud to wear and display them.

To Order: OFMA
P.O. Box 8101
Tulsa, OK 74101

Or call Carolyn Schultz (918) 669-4919

OFMA Golf Shirt
(S, M, L, X-L) 35.00
Briefcase 25.00
Baseball Cap
(One size fits all) 15.00
Insulated Mug 10.00
Umbrella 20.00
Portfolio 25.00
Lapel Pin 3.00
CFM Lapel Pin 5.00

Shipping and handling $4.95 per order.
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma</strong></td>
<td>Dusty Birdsong</td>
<td>429 NE 50th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105</td>
<td>405 524-3200, 405 524-3700 fax</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CinnaBar Service Company</strong></td>
<td>Terry Young</td>
<td>5121 South Wheeling Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74105</td>
<td>918 742-0082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cobb Engineering</strong></td>
<td>Darby Anderson</td>
<td>4516 NW 36th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73122</td>
<td>405 415-9400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Crafton Tull and Assoc., Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Phil Hagen</td>
<td>235 North MacArthur Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73127</td>
<td>405 787-6270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eagle Consultants, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Satish Dasharathy</td>
<td>2803 South Bryant Avenue, Edmond, OK 73013</td>
<td>405 844-3900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>R.D. Flanagan &amp; Associates</strong></td>
<td>Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM</td>
<td>2745 East Skelly Dr., Suite 100, Tulsa, OK 74105</td>
<td>918 749-2696, 918 749-2697 fax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FTN Associates, Ltd.</strong></td>
<td>Conrad Battral, PE, CFM</td>
<td>3 Innwood Circle, Suite 220, Little Rock, AR 72211</td>
<td>501 225-7779, 501 225-6738 fax, <a href="mailto:cjbl@ftn-assoc.com">cjbl@ftn-assoc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand River Dam Authority</strong></td>
<td>Robert W. Sullivan, Jr.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 409, Vinita, OK 74301-0409</td>
<td>918 256-5545, 918 256-5289 fax, <a href="mailto:bsullivan@grda.com">bsullivan@grda.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Harden and Associates Surveying</strong></td>
<td>Jim Harden, LS</td>
<td>10759 East Admiral Place, Tulsa, OK 74116</td>
<td>918 234-4859, 918 437-0540 fax, <a href="mailto:jim@guyengr.com">jim@guyengr.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JGVE, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Donald D. Vick, PE</td>
<td>124 NW 10th St., Suite 101, Oklahoma City, OK 73103</td>
<td>405 236-8313, 405 232-2660 fax, <a href="mailto:dvick@jgve.com">dvick@jgve.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Center for Natural Hazards &amp; Disaster Research</strong></td>
<td>Baxter Vieux, Ph.D., PE</td>
<td>202 West Boyd, CEC Room 334, Norman, OK 73019</td>
<td>405 325-3600</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Meshek and Associates, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Janet K. Meshek, PE</td>
<td>25 S. Oklahoma Ave., Suite 400, Oklahoma City, OK 73104</td>
<td>405 840-7094, 405 840-2977 fax, <a href="mailto:jmeshek@meshekengr.com">jmeshek@meshekengr.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Bart Standley</td>
<td>16225 Park Ten Place, #420, Houston, TX 77084-5142</td>
<td>281 579-4579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OK Morris Consulting, LLC</strong></td>
<td>Ken Morris, CFM</td>
<td>510 Elmcrest Drive, Norman, OK 73071</td>
<td>405 329-2844, 405 570-1814 mobile, <a href="mailto:wkmorris@owrb.state.ok.us">wkmorris@owrb.state.ok.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Myers Engineering</strong></td>
<td>Bill Myers</td>
<td>President 116 Northwest 132nd Oklahoma City, OK 73112</td>
<td>405 755-5325</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oklahoma Municipal League</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>201 N.E. 23rd Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3199</td>
<td>405 528-7515</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oklahoma Society of Land Surveyors</strong></td>
<td>Burk Cornelius</td>
<td>P.O. Box 720126, Oklahoma City, OK 73172</td>
<td>405 840-9116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PBS&amp;J</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>12101 Indian Creek Court, Beltsville, MD 20705</td>
<td>301 210-6800</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sheridan Engineering</strong></td>
<td>John F. (Jack) Sheridan</td>
<td>P.O. Box 219, Haskell, OK 74436</td>
<td>918 482-3417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swift Water Resources Engineering, LLC</strong></td>
<td>Mark S. Swift, PE, CFM, President</td>
<td>6 East 5th Street, #205, Tulsa, OK 74103-4434</td>
<td>918 582-1380, 918 582-1381 fax, <a href="mailto:swiftwaterresources@msn.com">swiftwaterresources@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tanner Consulting</strong></td>
<td>Dan Tanner, PE, Owner</td>
<td>5323 S. Lewis, Tulsa 74105</td>
<td>918 745-9929, <a href="mailto:dan@tannerbaits.com">dan@tannerbaits.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vieux &amp; Associates, Inc.</strong></td>
<td>Jean Vieux</td>
<td>2101 Crossroads Boulevard, Suite 118, Norman, OK 73072</td>
<td>405 292-6259, 405 292-6258 fax, <a href="mailto:jv@vieuxinc.com">jv@vieuxinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Smith Roberts Baldischwiler, LLC</strong></td>
<td>Matthew Smith, PE</td>
<td>25 S. Oklahoma Ave., Suite 400, Oklahoma City, OK 73104</td>
<td>405 840-7094, 405 840-2977 fax, <a href="mailto:mat@smith-roberts.com">mat@smith-roberts.com</a></td>
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