

Tourism and Recreation Department, Oklahoma (74 O.S. § 2201)

Commission (74 O.S. § 2201)

Agency Code 566 (1A) 120 N Robinson, 6th Floor; PO Box 52002, Oklahoma City, 73152-2002
405/230-8300, FAX 405/230-8600, Literature Requests—800/652-6552, Reservations—800/654-8240
www.oklatourism.gov and www.travelok.com

Mission Statement To advance the exceptional quality of life in Oklahoma by preserving, maintaining, and promoting our natural assets and cultural richness.

Administration Hardy Watkins, Executive Director, 405/230-8301

Administrative Services, Lisa McKim, 405/230-8311

Conservation and Planning, Kris Marek, 405/230-8476

Discover Oklahoma, Shel Wagner, 405/230-8431

Film and Music, Jill Simpson, 405/230-8441

Human Resources, Scott Lange, 405/230-8358

Oklahoma Today magazine, Joan Henderson, 405/230-8450

Parks, Lodges, and Golf, Kris Marek, 405/230-8476

Tourism Promotion Division, Sandy Pantlik, 405/230-8401

Personnel 264 classified, 206 unclassified, 364 temporary (seasonal)

History and Function Administered by an executive director under the guidance of a nine-member commission, the department began in 1931 when the Oklahoma Legislature appropriated \$90,000 for the land on which Lake Murray is located. In the late 1930s, Congress directed the U.S. Corps of Engineers to begin construction on several large reservoirs, primarily for flood control and water supply. In 1951 Lake Murray State Park also became the site for the first of seven state-owned resort lodges. Through the years, park, lodge, and tourism programs rested in the Planning and Resources Board, the Department of Commerce and Industry, and the Industrial Development and Park Department. In 1972 the legislature created the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, now made up of six divisions.

Oklahoma Tourism Promotion Advisory Committee (68 O.S. § 50015)

405/230-8402

Oklahoma Today Magazine (74 O.S. § 2237)

405/230-8450