

## Information Regarding Oklahoma's Eastern Red Cedar and Red Cedar Industry Resources

### Eastern Red Cedars

Eastern red cedars are the most widely distributed conifer of tree size in the eastern United States and are found in 37 Eastern states. The species can be found from swamps to dry ridges, and can withstand extremes of drought, heat and cold. While native to Oklahoma, it is not indigenous to many of the areas where it now grows.

Although Eastern red cedar is generally not considered to be an important commercial species, its wood is highly valued for its beauty, durability and workability. The number of trees and volume of Eastern red cedar are increasing throughout most of its range. It provides cedar wood oil for fragrance compounds, food and shelter for wildlife, and protective vegetation for fragile soils.

### Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board

In 2010, the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board was formed to promote the management and utilization of Eastern red cedar. It believes that market creation and product development would slow Eastern red cedar encroachment into non-native habitats through utilization. The board operates under the authorities outlined by the **2010 Oklahoma Eastern Red Cedar Initiative, or House Bill 2686**

The Board consists of members appointed by the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, as well as specific members named in the legislation. They meet approximately on a bimonthly basis.

More information about the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board, as well as meeting agendas when posted, can be found at <http://www.forestry.ok.gov/ercregistryboard>.

### Red Cedar Canopy Cover Maps

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) for Oklahoma is the repository of GIS Red Cedar Canopy Cover Maps for many Oklahoma Counties. The coverage maps were developed from 2004-2005 Landsat-5 satellite imagery and are available at

[http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ok/technical/dma/gis/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_000527](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ok/technical/dma/gis/?cid=nrcs142p2_000527)

(Acrobat Reader required).

### Eastern Red Cedar Revolving Fund

*Added by Laws 2010, c. 454, § 8, eff. July 1, 2010. Amended by Laws 2012, c. 304, § 19.*

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board to be designated the "Eastern Red Cedar Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the State Board of Agriculture for the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board from the state income tax checkoff as provided for in Section 18-408 of this title, the special license plate issued pursuant to Section 1135.5 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes, any state-appropriated funds, federal funds, donations, grants, contributions,

and gifts from any public or private source. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the State Board of Agriculture as directed by the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board for the purposes set forth in the Eastern Red Cedar Registry Board Act. Expenditures from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

**For more information regarding business incentives that may apply to manufacturing within the Red Cedar industry:**

<http://okcommerce.gov/new-and-existing-business/incentives/>

**For more information on the Oklahoma Eastern Red Cedar:**

**Oklahoma Forestry Services**

<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/erc>

**Oklahoma Eastern Red Cedar Registry and Marketplace** for Landowners, Harvesters and Producers

<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/ercregistry>

**Aromatic Cedar Association**

<http://acedar.org/>

**Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation**

<http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/wildlifemgmt/cedarremoval.htm>

**Oklahoma State Representative Richard Morrisette**

D-Oklahoma City, District 92

405.557.7404

[richardmorrisette@okhouse.gov](mailto:richardmorrisette@okhouse.gov)