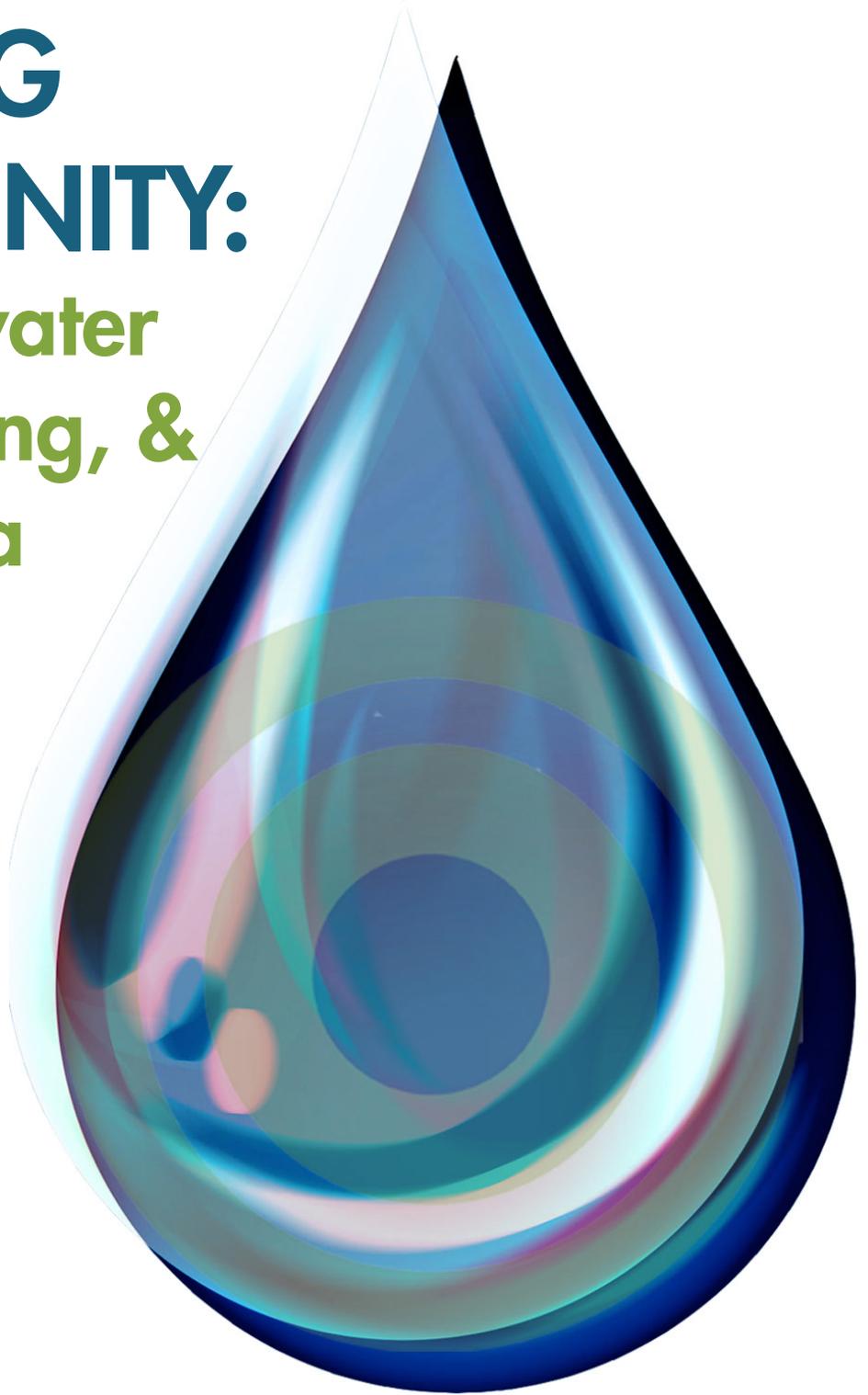


GROWING OPPORTUNITY:

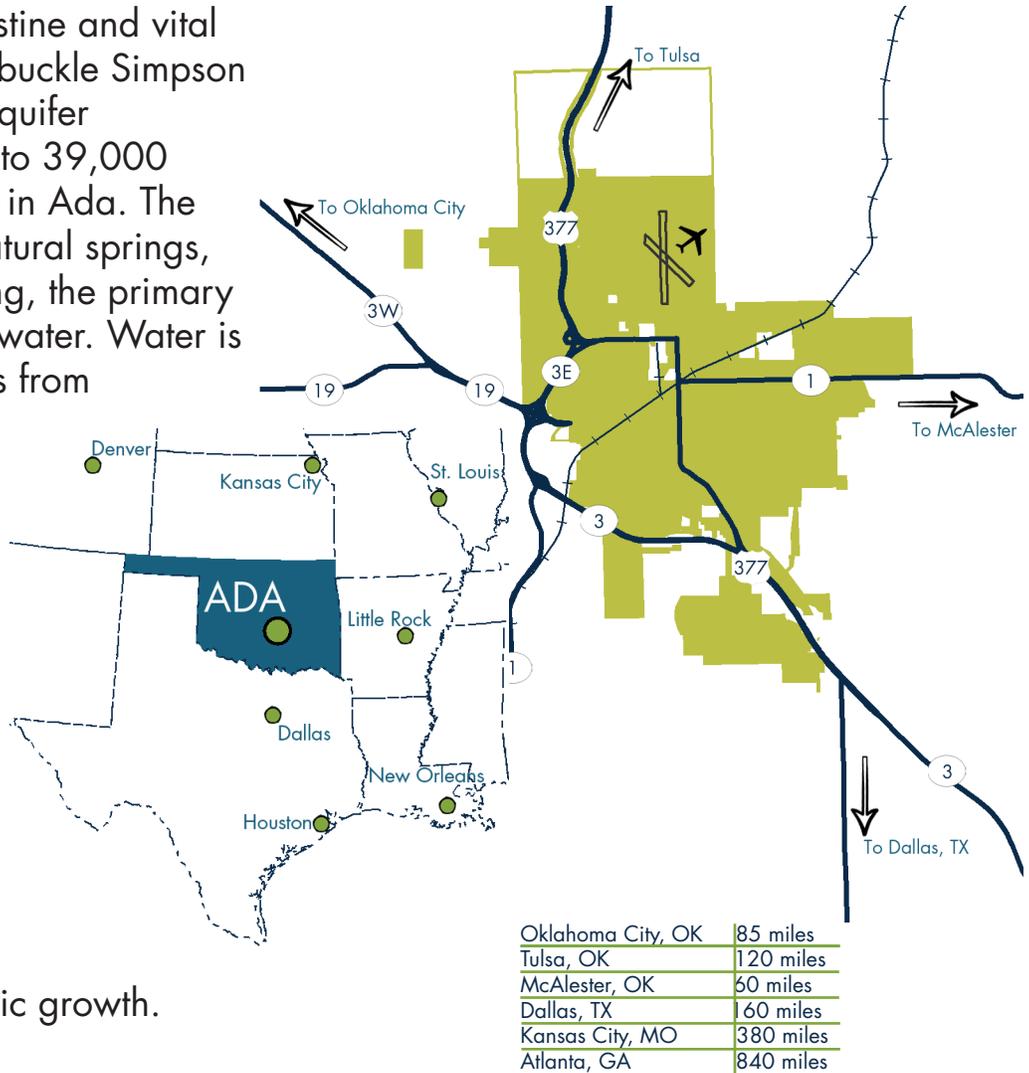
coalescing water
drilling, testing, &
policy in Ada



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ADA, OKLAHOMA NATURALLY POSITIONED

Ada is located over a pristine and vital natural resource. The Arcbuckle Simpson Aquifer is a sole-source aquifer providing drinking water to 39,000 residents, including those in Ada. The aquifer feed numerous natural springs, including Byrds Mill Spring, the primary source of Ada's drinking water. Water is under numerous pressures from agriculture, oil and gas, industry, commercial, and residential uses. As such, the resource is in a precarious position world wide and there is a push from numerous stakeholders to protect, preserve, and use water wisely. As such, Ada is targeting this sector from multiple perspectives: research, policy, testing and drilling, and economic growth.



Snapshot: Byrds Mill Spring



Source: USGS, Scott Christenson

GROWING ON WATER

THE PIECES OF A CLUSTER

The aquifer extends over 500 miles, providing water for industry, residents, and recreation from Ada to Ardmore. Water has been a hot topic in the area for decades. The **Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Center**, an EPA lab focused on transport and transformation of contaminants in soil and ground water from a variety of uses, is located in Ada. **East Central University offers majors in Environmental Health Science that leads to careers in environmental protection.**



The general outcrop area of the Arbuckle-Simpson aquifer extends some 500 miles between Ada and Ardmore in south central Oklahoma.

This is one of ECU's larger programs and offers students from around the state to work in proximity to one of the state's most interesting geologic formations. This program is one of 30 programs accredited by the National Environmental Health Science And Protection Accreditation Council. The City maintains an environmental coordinator position and public works department that works with public infrastructure including water and waste water. The oil and gas industry is heavily active in the area and the state with an interest in water policy and use. Related industries and companies such as Elite Tank have interests in regulations for waste water and pollutant containment. In addition, the agriculture industry fights ferociously for its interests in water rights.

Snapshot: Stakeholders & The EPA Cluster Program

Stakeholder Sample

- ECU
- Kerr Lab
- Farm Bureau
- Private Industry
- City of Ada

The EPA works to support cluster efforts in the United States. The EPA disseminates best practices, communicates EPA priorities, and connecting EPA programs to organizations. More information can be found at www2.epa.gov/clusters-programs.

Ada and the region have many of the components needed to form an innovative water cluster, and the Ada Jobs Foundation hopes to increase efforts and interest in developing such a cluster in Oklahoma.

Partnering for Effectiveness

A central location, trained labor, low utility costs, and unique incentives are some of the reasons to land your business in Ada, Oklahoma, for long-term cost effectiveness. The Ada Jobs Foundation works with the city, educators, financial institutions: including the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce; East Central University; Ada Industrial Development Corporation; and the Chickasaw Nation. We strive to recruit new business and jobs, retain those and existing jobs, and to encourage start-ups, to bring the best economic opportunity to Ada residents and the state of Oklahoma. Ada is now considered one of

Oklahoma's fastest growing labor markets.



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