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Growing up in southeast Oklahoma definitely has its advantages. Although teens complain that there is nothing to do around here, some would disagree.

We actually live in the heartland of a country boy's dream. If there is not a tradition of hunting or fishing in your family, I would be surprised. Some of the best hunting and fishing is in our backyard.

Some people may not hunt or fish, but they look forward to being outdoors for peace. However, others enjoy the excitement of taking down a 10-point buck or catching an 8-pound bass. I personally like both hobbies. I have my favorite ponds and parts of the lake to fish. Also, I have my favorite place to hunt.

At Hugo High School, we have an outdoor recreation class that teaches students safety while enjoying the outdoors.

Fall is the outdoorsman's favorite time of year. Some people think of Halloween or Thanksgiving. An outdoorsman waits for bow season, black powder season and deer gun season. Don't forget, after deer season comes duck season. A lot of father and son (or daughter) bonding can take place during these outings. These memories can last a lifetime.

Entire families can camp out together and enjoy the beautiful scenery of southeast Oklahoma. We are rich in the abundance of water and wildlife here. This fall, try your skills out on a lake or in the woods around Hugo.