Clark County

Ouachita District

Clark County was created by the legislature of Missouri Territory on Dec. 15, 1818, and named for the territorial governor, William Clark.

A tornado in the F-4 category ripped through Clark County in a north eastern direction, causing major damage to much of the county, including heavy damage to the downtown portion of Arkadelphia. The tornado also heavily damaged other parts of the state. By later media accounts, Arkadelphia was the hardest hit that day. The event was on such a scale that it prompted a visit and tour by US President Bill Clinton on March 4, 1997. That one tornado resulted in 6 people being killed and 113 injured in Clark County alone, with 25 deaths statewide. Within a decade, the county and city of Arkadelphia were commended for their recovery efforts, having repaired or rebuilt almost every building affected by the storm, and with the downtown portion of Arkadelphia thriving beyond its former success. Due to the tornado of March 1, 1997, Arkadelphia was the first community in Arkansas to participate in the "Project Impact" initiative of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

That recovery effort proves that Clark County has strong community involvement. Clark County is also blessed with other beneficial resources including access to many lakes & colleges. Even though the downtown seems to be thriving following the tornado rebuild, the services of The Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center (APAC) could assist in that continued success.

County Highlights

Clark County

Ouachita District

Land area (square miles): 866.07
% of high school graduates: 86.2
% with bachelor's degree or higher: 21.4
Median travel time to work (minutes): 19.9
Median household income: $32,721
Persons below poverty level: 24.3%
Total number of firms: 1,689
Manufacturer’s shipments (1000s): $433,867
Retail sales per capita: $10,461

Source: United States Census Quickfacts

County Extension Office

640 S 6th Street Suite B
Arkadelphia, AR 71923
Phone: (870) 246-2281
Fax (870) 246-7583

County Extension Agents

Jerry Clemons, Staff Chair
JoAnn Vann, Family and Consumer Sciences Agent
Amy Simpson, 4-H & Agricultural Agent

Business Resources for Lawrence County

Arkadelphia Regional Economic Development Alliance & Area Chamber of Commerce
http://www.arkadelphiaalliance.com/pages/chambers-commerce/

Arkansas Procurement Assistance Center
www.uaex.edu/APAC

Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC) – Henderson State University, Arkadelphia
http://www.hsu.edu/sbtdc/