

# Walmart Opens 3rd Broken Arrow Supercenter

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## *Sign Of Confidence in Broken Arrow*



Retail leakage that has plagued Broken Arrow for years is beginning to subside thanks in part to the world's leading retailer.

The latest example of Walmart's confidence in Broken Arrow can be seen in its newest store that will open Sept. 16 at 209th East Avenue and Kenosha. If the outlet follows the pattern of its sister stores here, it will spark a retail explosion around that portion of the Creek Turnpike.

An upgraded version of the prototype introduced a year ago in Glenpool, the 186,000-square-foot store is a first for Oklahoma. With construction complete except for a few finishing touches, the retailer is now focused on transforming the empty building into a fully stocked Walmart merchandise and grocery store.

Store Manager Tammy Claunch said the facility will employ approximately 350 associates, many of whom have already reported to work to help prepare for the opening. It will join two other superstores within the Broken Arrow city limits and a sister facility just a few miles away in Coweta.

While not exactly typical, having four stores in an area this size is not unheard of, Claunch said, noting location decisions are all based on population density and carefully developed corporate evaluations of market potential.

Another factor that is obviously present is that "C" word — confidence.

Claunch, who began her career as a part-time cashier and has managed Walmart stores in Alabama, Texas and Arizona before coming to Broken Arrow, said she believes customers will be drawn by her store's drive through pharmacy and garden center and many new features, including a Game Place facility filled with electronics designed to appeal to younger shoppers.

She said a personal commitment to serve shoppers is her main motivation to succeed. But it is not the only one. Her husband, Collin, manages the Walmart store in Glenpool, providing a family rivalry, as well.

The couple has three daughters, one a law student in Norman and two who are students in the Broken Arrow Public Schools system.