



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

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For Immediate Release

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4th Annual Marvin Schwilling Memorial Butterfly Count at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve



You are invited to join in a fun day of citizen science field research by counting butterflies in the Flint Hills on Saturday, June 23. No prior experience in identifying butterflies is necessary to participate. Named in honor of prominent biologist/naturalist Marvin Schwilling, who was born and raised in Chase County, the butterfly census will take place on and near Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Please bring binoculars, water, sunscreen and bug spray. A digital camera will

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also come in handy. Suggested attire includes hiking boots, hat, and long pants. As a courtesy, **please RSVP to 620-273-6034. Lunch and water will be provided.** Forgot to RSVP? Last minute walk-ins are still welcome. Introductions and group coordination will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the preserve's historic 3-story stone barn on KS Hwy 177. Counts will be conducted in groups that can be either whole or half day. Group counts will run from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 (noon) and again from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. A short lunch break between sessions will occur to compare notes, share adventures, and switch groups and locations. Transportation to counting locations will be by car-pooling in private vehicles, which will be no farther than seven miles one way from the stone barn.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway) and is a partnership between The Nature Conservancy and the National Park Service. For more information or to make group reservations, visit the preserve's website at www.nps.gov/tapr, email tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, or call the preserve at (620) 273-8494 or 6034.

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