



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

May 14, 2012

For Immediate Release

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Children's Farm and Ranch Special Event at the Preserve



On Saturday, May 26th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. children will have the opportunity to experience life on a working ranch. Living history interpreters at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve will assist children in doing authentic ranch chores such as gathering eggs, feeding the chickens, grinding grain, milking the goats, currying the horse, and cleaning the barn stalls from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. After completing each chore, children will collect a sticker token and then earn a Spring Hill Ranch certificate.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



On Sunday, May 27th and Monday, May 28th in celebration of the “Let’s Move Outside” and the National Park Service’s 21st Century “Call to Action” goals, enjoy a ninety-minute ranger-led hike along the Fox Creek Trail riparian corridor. Learn about the riparian community consisting of bottomland prairie grasses, wildflowers, birds, and wildlife. Visitors are encouraged to bring binoculars, water, wear appropriate walking shoes, and spray with insect repellent. Meet at the Bottomland Trail parking lot at 9 a.m. located 2 miles south of the historic ranch headquarters on K-177, then travel east 1/3 mile on the gravel county road 227 adjacent to St. Anthony cemetery.

Other opportunities to experience the prairie and historic buildings are also available:

Visit the one-room Lower Fox Creek Schoolhouse on weekends in May and June from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. and learn about a prairie education. The school is furnished with historic desks, McGuffey Readers, a recitation bench, and other classroom items. Preserve volunteers will be available to answer questions and provide information about the school’s rich history.

Explore nature and hiking trails through two short nature trails. For the more adventurous, there are over 41 miles of hiking trails to experience. All trails are open 24 hours, with some of the best wildlife viewing in the early morning and evening hours. Observe the bison herd in Windmill Pasture or hike around the pasture to observe the bison at a distance.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway). 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 7034.

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