



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

For Immediate Release
Heather Brown, (620) 273- 6034
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Special Horse- Drawn Haying Demonstration and Other Cultural Activities at the Preserve

Living history interpreters at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve will demonstrate historic haying and raking methods using draft horses and 19th century machinery throughout the day on Saturday, June 5th from 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Visitors will have the opportunity to help “pitch hay” into the hay wagon with the assistance of ranch characters. Living history interpreters will also demonstrate 19th century techniques of Dutch oven and ranch stove cooking, while preparing a meal for the ranch hands. Special interpretive programs will be given at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. From noon until 1 p.m., ranch workers will stop for a mid- day meal. Throughout the day listen to live historic music and watch wool spinning demonstrations in the barn.


On Sunday, June 6th learn about life on the ranch as living history characters go about their daily activities. Special interpretive programs will be given at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

On weekends in June visit the one- room Lower Fox Creek Schoolhouse 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. National Park Service volunteers will be available to answer questions and provide information about the school’s rich history.

A 6.4- mile bus tour of the preserve’s backcountry is available daily at 11 a.m. with more available as staffing allows from April 24 through October 31, 2010. There is no charge for the tours. Advance reservations for the bus tours are recommended, but arrangements can be made on the day of the visit if space and staffing are available. A minimum of two passengers is required per bus tour. For more information, please call the park rangers’ offices at (620) 273- 8494.

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



Guided tours of the historic 1881 limestone ranch house are conducted hourly (as staffing allows) on the half- hour starting at 9:30 a.m. and concluding at 3:30 p.m.

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. Superintendent Wendy Lauritzen can be reached at the Cottonwood Falls office headquarters at 620- 273- 6034.

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