



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

August 18, 2009
For Immediate Release
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Quilt Show and Living History Activities Over Labor Day Weekend

On Saturday, September 5th from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., living history interpreters at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve will demonstrate the fine arts of wool spinning, natural fiber dyeing, small loom weaving, and present period music. They will also demonstrate 19th century techniques of Dutch oven and ranch stove cooking, while preparing a meal for the ranch hands. At 10:30 a.m. a special interpretive program on historic cooking will be presented at the cooking area. From noon until 1 p.m. ranch workers will stop for a mid- day meal under the walnut tree by the barn. At 2:30 p.m. a special program, *Dyeing on the Prairie*, will be presented in the historic barn with examples of natural dyed fibers on display.

The preserve's *Prairie Quilt Display* will be held during all three days of the holiday weekend. View local quilts on display in the historic limestone barn from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and vote for your favorite quilt. On Monday, September 7th at 1 p.m., the winner will be announced. Quilting demonstrations will be available all three days and visitors will have the opportunity to learn from National Park Service rangers and local experts about the origins of quilting, traditional designs, and modern techniques. If you would like to display your quilt during the show, please call the preserve before Wednesday, September 2nd to reserve a space.

Visit throughout the weekend with historic characters as they go about their daily ranch chores in preparation for the holiday festivities.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



A 6.4- mile bus tour of the preserve's more remote backcountry is available at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily through October 25, 2009. There is no charge for the bus tours. Advance reservations for the bus tours are recommended, but arrangements can be made on the day of the visit if space is available. For more information, please call the park rangers' offices at (620) 273- 8494.

The Lower Fox Creek School, a one- room schoolhouse, is staffed by volunteers and is open to the public from 12 noon until 4 p.m. on weekends in September and October. The school will be open Labor Day Monday.

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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