



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

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Birds of Prey Program and Birding 101 Wagon Rides at the Preserve



On Saturday, July 9th the ever popular *Birds of Prey* program will return, presented by naturalist Vanessa Avara from the Milford Nature Center. Live birds are part of the program, and this offers a unique opportunity to observe these winged predators up close. There will be two presentations, both located in the historic limestone barn. The first program begins at 10:30 a.m. and the second at 12:30 p.m. Each program lasts approximately 45 minutes, followed by more fun after the presentation. A touch table with “birds on a stick” will be available, letting visitors discover different bird species, comparing their commonalities and differences.

A new interpretive program this year is the *Birding 101 Wagon Rides*, which will be conducted at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., with advanced free reservations required. Please call 620-273-8494 (hit 0) to make your reservation today. Some binoculars provided. Be sure and wear long pants, use insect spray, and

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

check for ticks after the program. Please check in with the rangers at the Visitor Center to catch the shuttle to the wagon rides. Walk-ins will be allowed if space is available. Please check with the rangers.

Interpretive Birding Program Schedule

10:30 a.m. - Raptors program in the barn with live birds (45 minutes)

11:30 a.m. - Birding 101 Wagon Ride (45 minutes)

12:30 p.m. - Raptors program in the barn with live birds (45 minutes)

1:30 p.m. - Birding 101 Wagon Ride (45 minutes)

Follow-up the bird programs by exploring bird watching on your own. There are two short nature trails for self-discovery. For the more adventurous, there are over 40 miles of hiking trails to experience. All trails are open 24 hours, with some of the best bird watching in the early morning and evening hours.

In celebration of the National Park Service 2016 Centennial, Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve invites you to discover the meaning of national parks, how your park inspires you - both in personal connections and memorable experiences. 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 unique public/private partnership between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy. For more information, visit the preserve's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NPS.TallgrassPrairie> , website at www.nps.gov/tapr, email tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, or call the preserve at (620) 273-8494.

To learn more about The Nature Conservancy in Kansas, visit the Conservancy's website at www.nature.org/Kansas or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TNCKansas> .

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