



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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### **Kid's Hard Work and Play at the Preserve over Memorial Day Weekend**



On Saturday May 28, 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, milking the goats, grinding corn, and currying the horse. After completing each chore, children will collect sticker tokens earning a Spring Hill Ranch certificate for all their hard work. From 12 noon to 4 p.m. visitors can experience the prairie grasses and wide open spaces with a horse-drawn wagon ride, while learning about modes of transportation in the 1880s. Wagon rides are given approximately every 20 minutes and cowboys will be available to answer questions, as they go about their daily tasks. All activities are free of charge.

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#### **EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA**

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

The fun continues on Sunday, May 29 with a program called *Lazy Sunday Fishing* from 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. as kids fish along Fox Creek with real park rangers. Bring a picnic lunch, your favorite fishing pole, and enjoy some good old-fashioned fun. Some fishing poles will be available. All fishing at the preserve is catch and release. Children age 15 and under are not required to have a Kansas fishing license. Residents age 16 through 74, must have a resident license in possession while fishing in Kansas. Non-residents 16 and older must have a valid non-resident license to fish in Kansas. To obtain a Kansas fishing license, go to the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism at <http://ksoutdoors.com/Fishing/Fishing-Application-and-Fees>.

On Monday, May 30 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, kids have the opportunity to learn painting techniques, while capturing the beauty of the prairie. All painting supplies will be provided. Please wear appropriate clothing for getting dirty. To assure enough art supplies, please call the preserve and make a free reservation at 620-273-8494 (hit 0). All activities at the preserve are free of charge.

Visit the one-room Lower Fox Creek schoolhouse from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. all three days 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 in the afternoon and provide information about the school's rich history.

To complete the holiday weekend, hike one or more of the over 40 miles of hiking trails. Trail maps are available at the visitor center or can be downloaded online at [www.nps.gov/tapr](http://www.nps.gov/tapr). If hiking through the bison pasture, please heed all warning signs and keep at least a football field's length between you and the animal. Bison are wild animals and will react aggressively if provoked. You may also hike around the bison pasture to reach your destination. Information is available at the visitor center kiosk and at the pasture hiking gate. Please be safe during your visit to the preserve and come back often.

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](http://www.nps.gov/tapr), email [tapr\\_interpretation@nps.gov](mailto: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](http://www.nature.org/Kansas) or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TNCKansas>.

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