



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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Become a Centennial Junior Ranger at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve



The preserve is kicking off National Park Week with a Junior Ranger program called “The First 100 Years for the Next 100 Years”. The program celebrates the first 100 years of the National Park Service, while looking to the future for the next 100 years.

Come to the preserve on Saturday morning, April 16, 2016 to become one of our Centennial Tallgrass Prairie Junior Rangers. Please call the preserve at 620-273-8494 (hit 0) to make your reservation. Program is free of charge.

There are three sessions, with the first beginning at 9 a.m. and second and third sessions beginning again at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Space is limited to 60 spots per session. During each hour-long session, children rotate through six stations learning about the natural and cultural history of the preserve. Topics include

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

the Greater prairie-chicken, ranching skills and hard work, HAM radio technology, and counting tree rings in relationship to natural history weather events. At the end of each session, children gather for a group swearing in ceremony and receive their special Junior Ranger patch, badge, and certificate. Children will become part of an elite group of National Park Service Junior Rangers for the Centennial year.

If you cannot come to this special celebration Junior Ranger event, the typical Tallgrass Prairie Junior Ranger program is still available daily on site and on the web. For the typical program children must complete five activities in the booklet to receive their badge and patch. Booklets are downloadable at <https://www.nps.gov/tapr/learn/kidsyouth/beajuniorranger.htm>. Kids may complete the activities, mail or bring the booklet to the preserve for stamping, then receive the same Junior Ranger badge and patch as they will receive at the special event. Special patches are limited (500) and will be given out this year as supplies last. Come to the preserve to be a special Centennial Junior Ranger today.

In celebration of the National Park Service 2016 Centennial and Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's 20 year anniversary, the 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 additional information on Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, please visit www.nps.gov/tapr, email tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, call the preserve at (620) 273-8494, or visit the preserve's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NPS.TallgrassPrairie>. 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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