



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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Harken Back to the “Good Ol’ Days” with Historic Activities



Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve announced today that special activities are scheduled for the July 4th holiday weekend.

On Saturday July 3rd from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, watch the women of the ranch prepare the noon meal for the hired hands. A special interpretive cooking demonstration will be provided at 10:30 a.m. Beginning at 10 a.m. visitors will have the opportunity to ride in the historic reproduction Bain farm wagon and listen to historic characters play live music and spin “yarns” and wool as they talk about their plans for the holiday celebration. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. smell the smoke

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from the forge and hear the ring of the blacksmith's anvil as he demonstrates hard work and the art of metallurgy by using heavy hammers and hot metal. From 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., join in the fun of a good old fashioned barn dance held in the historic limestone barn with the Tallgrass Express String Band. Light refreshments served.

On Sunday July 4th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., join in the historic games of an old- fashioned egg- toss, rope jumping contest, hoop and stick, tug- of- war, and a lively bucket brigade.

On Monday July 5th, enjoy a day of music and clogging in the historic barn. Clogging demonstrations will be given at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. with visitor participation.

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.

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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