



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

2480 B Ks. Hwy 177
Strong City, KS 66869

620-273-8494 phone
620-273-8066 fax

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

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For Immediate Release

Heather Brown, (620) 273-6034 x 241

Summer Activity Schedule Begins June 1st at the Preserve



Beginning Sunday, June 1, 2014 and extending through Labor Day weekend, daily guided ranch tours will be given at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Tours begin at the visitor center and last approximately 40 minutes. Visitors will learn about the building of the historic ranch, the natural tallgrass prairie environment, and how the prairie and the people affected each other. Walking tour will conclude on the Southwind Nature Trail, where you will be encouraged to continue your prairie experience with a walk to the Lower Fox Creek one-room schoolhouse.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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



New this year, the Lower Fox Creek one-room schoolhouse will be open every day beginning June 1st through Labor Day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The school is furnished with historic desks, McGuffey Readers, a recitation bench, other classroom items, and informational exhibits. On weekends in May, June, September, and October from noon to 4 p.m., volunteers will be available at the school to answer questions and provide additional information about the school's rich history.

On Fridays, bring the kids for *Fun with Flora and Fauna Fridays* all during the month of June. Kids go on a nature hike with a ranger, learn about the plants and animals that make up the tallgrass prairie, and then use this knowledge to create their very own artwork masterpiece using soil as paint. Program runs from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. Materials are provided free of charge. Meet at the visitor center.

Explore nature and hiking trails through two short nature trails. 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 wildlife viewing in the early morning and evening hours. Observe the bison herd in Windmill Pasture or hike around the pasture to observe the bison from a safe distance.

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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