



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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1st Annual Marvin Schwilling Memorial Butterfly Count at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve

Please join us on Saturday, June 27, for a day of fun counting butterflies in the Flint Hills. The census, named in honor of Marvin Schwilling, a prominent biologist/naturalist who was born and raised in Chase County, will take place on and near Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Introductions and orientation to butterfly identification will begin at 9 a.m. at the Preserve's historic stone barn. Following, participants will head out to the prairie to ID and count butterflies. No prior experience in identifying butterflies is necessary. Please bring binoculars, water, sunscreen and bug spray. A digital camera will also come in handy. Suggested attire includes hiking boots, hat, and long pants. Box lunches will be provided for \$5; be sure to RSVP 620- 273- 6034 to reserve your lunch. Also, you can bring your own lunch. Counts will conclude around 3 p.m. Transportation to counting locations will be by car- pooling in private vehicles.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is a public/private partnership with the National Park Service, The Nature Conservancy, and the Kansas Park Trust. Located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway), the preserve's historic ranch headquarters is open daily from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. For more information or to make group reservations, visit the preserve's website at www.nps.gov/tapr, e- mail tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, or call the preserve at (620) 273- 8494.

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