

# PRAIRIE PLAINS LINK



## Planting in the Missouri River Valley - Mike Bullerman (right) and Cale Jones at the Barger site in Burt County.

March was an intense planting time - one of the highest numbers of acres in a month to date. Four mesic/wetland sites in Burt county (two counties north of Omaha, near Tekamah) were



completed, for a total of 310 acres. All are Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) plantings. The WRP is a program of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts, offering them the opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection.

Typical conditions for planting a wetland restoration site in March. Snow (shown in a January *Link* planting photo) and mud are always challenges to getting the job done.



NEWSLETTER  
March, 2011

## No Sitting on the Fence



No question about it - over 1.5 miles of old fencing had to go, in preparation for new fencing at Griffith Prairie. Sarah Bailey (pictured) and Amy Jones are now an Olympic qualifying defencing team. In April, they advance into fencing finals.

All members of the Prairie Plains Board of Directors were present for the March meeting held at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center near Denton (southwest of Lincoln). From left: Steve Winter (president); Bill Saeger, Bill Snyder, Randy Ruppert, Kelly Kindscher, David Vetter, Mike Powell and Lindsay Vivian.



**She's done - and she's beautiful!** We're not holding back on how pleased and proud we are of this accomplishment! It was a challenging and fun task, accomplished by all staff members plus volunteers Mert Griffith and Scott Jones. All of the wood framing and siding came from salvaged lumber from the Sands Barn (in the process of becoming the Education Center) except for some leftover siding from the Whitney house (top part). The project was funded by a State Wildlife Grant administered by the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, along with matching funds from the local Hamilton Community foundation.

## **BADER PARK HIKE** **Saturday, April 30th** (Earlybird Tour)

The focus will be migrating and nesting birds. Join us at the park, three miles south of Chapman along the Platte River. The outing begins at **7:00 a.m.** Those wishing to car-pool to Bader Park should meet at the Prairie Plains office (13th & L ) in Aurora at 6:30 a.m.

Learn more about  
Bader Memorial Park  
at [baderpark.com](http://baderpark.com).

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RESOURCE INSTITUTE

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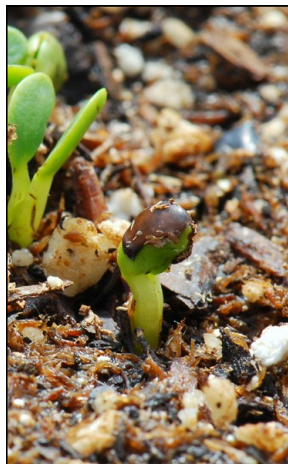
### **MISSION:**

**Maintaining and restoring  
Nebraska ecosystems -  
Creating opportunities for  
education, research,  
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community development.**

Link Editor & Layout  
Jan Whitney

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And here's what's going on inside: the miracle of plant birth times hundreds! Left, Sullivant's Milkweed (*Asclepias sullivantii*) and middle, Prairie Turnip (*Psoralea esculenta*) cotyledons emerging, escaping from their seed coats; and right, a Prairie Turnip developing its first true leaf. Photos by Sarah Bailey.

See more of Sarah's greenhouse photos on our Facebook page:  
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Prairie-Plains-Resource-Institute/62592289642>

## **Griffith Prairie** **5K/10K Fun Run/Walk** **Saturday, June 4th**

9:00 a.m.

(Check-in begins at 8:30)

Learn more and  
download an entry form  
from our website  
([prairieplains.org](http://prairieplains.org)).

Registration deadline is  
**May 25th.**

Proceeds will benefit  
**Prairie Plains  
Resource Institute.**

**THANK YOU** to our friends at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, our hosts for the March meeting of the Prairie Plains board of directors; AND - once again, to Mert Griffith and Scott Jones for all their help with the greenhouse construction.