

⌘ Prairie plains Link ⌘



The two youngest participants in the March 7 Bader Park hike enjoying the Platte environs. It's been a great season for waterfowl watching.

monthly newsletter
of



March, 2009

Barger WRP

The first big planting this spring was a 161-acre Missouri River sedge meadow restoration near Tekamah. The acreage is enrolled in the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). The WRP is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The NRCS provides

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Website Update

Although we always edit our website (prairieplains.org) to keep information current, we've recently stepped it up a notch with more information, more photos and easy access to join or renew membership.

Newly uploaded are the first two issues of *Prairie Plains Journal* (1980 & 81); *Microcosm of the Platte: a Guide to Bader Memorial Park Natural Area* (1987); and the "Education Center White Paper" (link is on the home page at the bottom of "Planning for the Future"). We've also added seven new scrapbook pages to show off the beauty of our seven Nebraska prairie preserves. Just click on the preserve of your choice to see photos of the land and its people.

Now every page has a "Become a Member" button to make it easier for newcomers to join and for existing members to renew. Please share our site with anyone who would appreciate the work we do. Prairie Plains also has a Facebook page, so if you're on the network, become a fan and invite your friends to do likewise!



One muddy job: Tyler Janke, Wetlands Restoration Specialist for The Nature Conservancy and the NRCS Wetland Assistance Team, worked with Prairie Plains's Mike Bullerman on the Barger WRP planting March 6-10.

technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts. Prairie Plains has, so far, planted 1,700 WRP acres in eight counties in central and eastern Nebraska, including the Barger site, which is the first large-scale planting of this particular type (Missouri River sedge meadow).



A NEW ADDITION: This long-awaited new trailer is a big improvement over our previous implement hauler. Mycogen Seeds donated a larger trailer in 2001, which we recently consigned at an auction, providing about half of the cost of this more versatile model. Hand winches were mounted on the side of the trailer to pull our Ezee Flow seed spreaders up on ATV ramps. Besides being an all-purpose hauler, the trailer will also serve as a stage for events at the Education Center.



Just a reminder that registration for SOAR has begun...and the weeks are filling quickly! Flyers including program details and registration form can be downloaded from our website, www.prairieplains.org.

May Festival Change

Because of the last two years' cancellations due to uncooperative weather in late May, we have opted for a September event instead...at least until the Education Center is completed. It will still be at Griffith Prairie & Farm; we'll keep you posted on just what and when it will be.

March Thank-yous:

To Tyler Janke for assistance with the Barger WRP planting, and Lynda Ochsner for *Link* mailing prep help.

PrairiePlainsLink
is a publication of



-An educational land trust incorporated in 1980 as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt membership organization based in Aurora, NE.

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