

PRAIRIE PLAINS LINK



East side view of the Charles L. Whitney Education Center. Excitement is building as we get closer to the finish line! The installation of the hickory flooring in the upper level was a big step toward the finished look. Anyone wishing to speed up the process can contribute here:

www.prairieplains.org/get-involved/donate.html



NEWSLETTER
May, 2019



Sarah's Art + Science in the Field (AS IF) Center Residency:

Prairie Plains Greenhouse Manager/Photographer/Educator Sarah Bailey explored the Appalachian Mountains in western North Carolina as a part of an art/science residency May 6-16. The residency was through the AS IF Center, which aims to “develop curiosity, creativity, and connection to the natural world through collaborative, participatory art + science.” Sarah worked on a film and digital photography project that captured both landscapes and finer details of the region, mostly plants and invertebrate life. Time spent hiking through rich cove forests, higher elevation spruce-fir forests and mountain bogs with cameras in hand sparked her creative →



A sad but necessary task was accomplished on Saturday morning, May 25, with the burning of the old Sherman Ranch house. Our thanks to the Marquette Volunteer Firefighters who used the opportunity for a training burn.



Elsewhere on the Sherman Ranch—out on the bluffs—Prairie Plains Director Bill Whitney broadcast an upland prairie seed mix on slopes where Land Steward Jeff Gustafson has been clearing cedar trees.

process as she learned about this diverse and beautiful region. She also devoted time to learning black and white darkroom printing processes in a local darkroom. Sarah is compiling two photo magazines from her work; one with black and white film photos and another that will serve as a field guide to the hiking trails at the AS IF Center and the broader Appalachian Mountain region in western North Carolina. This process will serve as a stepping stone to create self-published photo magazines and eventually a book that showcases Prairie Plains properties and restoration/management work. She is also excited to bring more arts-based programming to the Education Center as it nears completion. The residency was made possible by the Sherwood Foundation; Sarah has been participating in the Foundation's cohort of rural Nebraskans from across the state that tour various communities, observing and discussing community development with emphasis on art and design.

PRAIRIE PLAINS LINK
is a publication of



Preserving, restoring and maintaining Nebraska native prairies - Creating opportunities for education, research, stewardship and place-based community development.

Prairie Plains Resource Institute is an educational land trust incorporated in 1980 as a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt membership organization based in Aurora, Nebraska.

Board of Directors:

Carol Bodeen (Maxwell)
Brad Bangs (Aurora)
Kim Sosin (Omaha)
Wayne Mollhoff (Ashland)

Staff:

William S. Whitney, Exec. Director
Amy Jones, Admin. Director
Mike Bullerman, Restoration Director and GIS Specialist
Sarah Bailey, Greenhouse Manager, Youth Naturalist Program Director and Restoration Assistant
Jeff Gustafson, Land Steward and Restoration Assistant
Jan Whitney, Publications Editor and SOAR Coordinator

Learn more and become a member:
www.prairieplains.org
(and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!)

Contact:
402-694-5535
ppri@hamilton.net
1307 L St. Aurora NE 68818

NATIVE PLANT SALE!



Local ecotype plants available at \$3.00 per cone-tainer. Plants are available on a first-come first-served basis now through June 12, 2019 and can be picked up by request in Aurora or at our greenhouse at Gjerloff Prairie. For a list of available species and/or to order and pick up plants, contact Greenhouse Manager Sarah Bailey: sarahppri@hamilton.net or 402-694-5535.



May 1: Nebraska Christian High School students transplanted seedlings they had grown in their school's greenhouse into the 2013 restoration site at Gjerloff Prairie. These added natives will increase diversity and enhance the restoration site with more pollinator friendly plants. Over 600 seedlings were planted, including 30-40 different species.

In other planting news: Restoration Director Mike Bullerman reports planting 43 acres of high diversity, local ecotype seed mixes in four counties (for the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission, The Crane Trust and one individual) in May. In addition, 63 acres worth of seed was delivered to three counties (NGPC, Ducks Unlimited and one individual).



Not something one sees every day—a mother skunk transporting her kits, one by one, to a new nest site. Amy Jones witnessed just that at Gjerloff Prairie on May 16. She snapped this shot while watching the busy mom running three of her young to their new home.

APPROACHING EVENTS

Saturday, June 8: Annual Sioux County Ranch Trek

Meet for lunch at 12 noon MDT at the Longhorn in Harrison. Guided ranch tour after lunch. Evening meal at the Harrison House: RSVP janppri@hamilton.net.

Saturday, June 15
Bader Park Hike at 9:00 a.m.

June 17-21
Youth Naturalist Program

July 8-11 and July 15-18
SOAR Flight 28