



WE DID IT!

We achieved our fundraising goal of \$250,000 to match the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's commitment to "build a funding partnership with Prairie Plains to increase propagation and restoration of pollinator habitat located throughout important biologically unique landscapes in Nebraska."

THANK YOU to everyone who kicked off our fundraising with Go Big Give on May 1 and then continued giving. Construction will begin soon on our 30'x60' greenhouse, we've added to staff (meet Ethan, below) and we'll solidify our summer college intern program and update restoration equipment.

Strengthening restoration strengthens the entire organization, allowing us to reach more people and meet the growing demand for high-diversity, local-ecotype seed and seedling plugs. This is a big deal for the future of Prairie Plains, and we couldn't have done it without a strong group of supporters. YAAAY TEAM!!!

Our crew is growing!

After reviewing an impressive list of candidates for our restoration ecologist position, we're excited to announce that we've hired Ethan Freese to join the Prairie Plains staff.

Ethan brings considerable experience to the job, including conducting plant surveys (some in Prairie Plains restoration sites near Lincoln) as a research manager with the UNL School of Natural Resources.

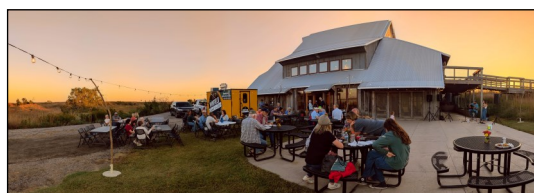
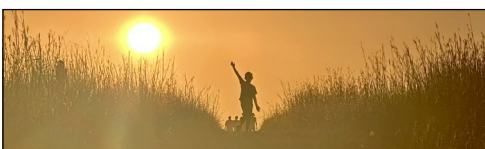
Most notably, he's created meaningful relationships with conservation partners and stakeholders across the state in his 10 years with Platte Basin Timelapse (PBT), first as a production intern, then a graduate assistant and most recently as a producer.

"For years I've greatly admired the work that Prairie Plains does to restore the prairie and help people develop a deeper connection to the land. I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work with and learn from such a great team," Ethan said.

In order to wrap up existing projects at PBT, he'll start work with us in January 2026. Ethan's passion for Nebraska's grasslands and his reputation as a thoughtful, creative and dedicated student of the prairie make him a great fit for our crew.



Our September 27 Party on the Prairie was epic! Beautiful weather, incredible prairie, fabulous food, music and auction items, and most of all...wonderful people! It was a perfect evening to relax and enjoy new friends and old. Thanks to everyone who joined us in person or in spirit to celebrate the importance of connecting people and prairies.



NEWSLETTER
September/October 2025



Local artist & Prairie Plains friend Cindy McClellan (pictured lower left) offered the Nature's Impressions Printmaking Workshop during August & September at the Education Center. With support from the NE Arts Council and the NE Cultural Endowment, 10 participants learned the basics of



monoprinting, gel plate printing and linoleum block printing while working together and celebrating shared learning. The group's works were displayed at the Party on the Prairie where guests enjoyed creating their own monoprint using a small printing press.

More ways we connected people & prairies : 1. Students from Wayne State College visited Pokorny Prairie and Gjerloff Prairie; 2. High school students in Omaha's Go Beyond program visited Gjerloff Prairie; 3. September Gjerloff hike; 4. Merrick County 4th Grade Outdoor Day at Bader Park; 5. Seedling installation with the City of Lincoln; 6. UNL's Wildlife Field Techniques course.



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Scenes from Seed Harvest - Fall brings combine season for major prairie grasses and more hand collection of large quantities of forbs for our prairie restoration work. The entire crew has been hard at it to bring in the seed quantities needed for Mike (and Ethan) to plant projects this winter.

