



The Prairie Dog

Newsletter of the Native Prairies Association of Texas
Winter 2007 Vol. 20 No. 1

Incredible Opportunity for Prairie Conservation and NPAT

Prairie conservation momentum is building in Texas, and NPAT has the opportunity to greatly increase prairie conservation efforts in the state! The NPAT board is asking for your help and generosity to make this exciting and important goal possible.

A generous donor has offered our organization a donation of \$500,000 to permanently protect high quality tallgrass prairie remnants, and the donor wants to see these funds matched to protect even more prairie.

With this momentum, we have the opportunity to achieve several of NPAT's strategic goals vitally important to Texas prairie conservation: (1) complete the ninety-four county survey for tallgrass prairie remnants, (2) hire staff to work full-time building cooperative relationships with prairie landowners and for prairie conservation and restoration, and (3) protect several beautiful and important tallgrass prairie remnants and the native plants, critically imperiled plant communities, grassland birds, and other wildlife that depend on the prairie as their home.

Tallgrass prairie conservation in Texas is now supported by two state action plans, the Texas Land and Water Conservation Plan and the State Wildlife Action Plan, which state that "protection and restoration of remnant prairies is a high priority." A large number of grassland birds, the most declining group of birds in North America, are listed as Species of Concern in the plan, as are many prairie mammals, reptiles, and invertebrates.

Texas Parks and Wildlife and NPAT are in discussions now regarding a matching grant to complete the survey for tallgrass prairie remnants within three years. The board is also discussing a matching grant with a major foundation to help NPAT greatly increase tallgrass prairie

conservation and restoration efforts in the state.

To make these efforts reality and receive the grant money, we need your help to raise the funds and in-kind donations to be matched by these grants. Your generous donation could be doubled or even tripled by matching grants, leading to even greater prairie conservation in the state.

The next grant application is due March 1st, so please

do not delay sending your donation. If you were considering a bequest to NPAT in your will, please consider some lifetime giving to help NPAT to take advantage of this incredible opportunity.

If you own a tallgrass prairie remnant and were considering donating a conservation easement or property to permanently protect your prairie for the future, now is a terrific time to do so because the the donation would be considered an in-kind donation in the grant and could be matched by the grants to protect even more prairie. Also, the increased tax benefits passed by Congress recently for donating conservation easements are currently available, but these additional tax benefits will expire at the end of 2007.

If you are considering the donation of a conservation easement or property to permanently protect your prairie for the future, or have any other questions, please contact NPAT board member Jason Spangler at 512-736-4199 or via email at jason_spangler@texasprairie.org.

The entire NPAT board thanks you for your generosity and for helping our organization take advantage of this incredible opportunity to greatly increase native prairie and grassland bird conservation efforts in Texas.

Please send your donations to: Native Prairies Association of Texas, 2002 - A Guadalupe St. PMB 290, Austin, TX 78705-5609.



Photo by Lisa Spangler

Who We Are And What We Do

We care about Texas prairies
 We teach prairie importance
 We encourage prairie conservation
 We manage & restore prairies
 We advocate protection of prairies
 We study and visit prairies
 We practice prairie restoration
 We supervise prairie easements
 We maintain prairie gene banks
 We protect Texas prairies directly

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This newsletter is published quarterly. Submit articles to:

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About this Newsletter

If you wish to submit articles, send to editor@texasprairie.org. We welcome reports, articles, literature reviews, and announcements related to native prairies.

Please submit photos via e-mail.

Deadlines for Submission:

Spring 2007: May 1st
Summer 2007: August 1st
Fall 2007: September 1st

Did You Know ?

A University of Minnesota research team led by Dr. David Tilman has just completed 10 years of study on the use of mixed stands of native prairie grasses and flowering plants as a new source of energy. This new study published in *Science* shows that highly diverse mixed stands of native prairie plants out produce monocultures or pure stands of corn, soybean and switchgrass by a whopping 238% more usable energy per acre and can reduce global warming by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

"Diverse prairie grasslands are 240 percent more productive than grasslands with a single prairie species," Tilman said. "That's a huge advantage. Biomass from diverse prairies can, for example, be used to make biofuels without the need for annual tilling, fertilizers and pesticides, which require energy and pollute the environment. Because they are perennials, you can plant a prairie once and mow it for biomass every fall, essentially forever," Tilman said.

The findings are published in the Dec. 8, 2006, issue of the journal Science.

Who's Who of Prairie Animals

Burrowing Owl

The burrowing owl is the only North American Owl that lives in underground burrows across the western plains of the U.S. It is a native of short grass prairies, brush lands and deserts and has suffered the same decline in populations as other prairie species. They are listed as Endangered in Canada, Threatened in Mexico and a Species of Concern by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Department. One of the largest populations of over wintering burrowing owls is in Texas but here also the species is in a gradual decline. The owls can exist in urban and rural settings if the habitat is suitable but according to a Canadian study the greatest numbers of nest sites were located in native prairies.

These owls do not dig their own burrows but rely on the burrows of other animals to provide their home. Burrowing owls prefer the burrows of black tailed prairie dogs but will use badger and less frequently marmot, skunk, fox, woodchuck, armadillo, and coyote burrows. Where mammal burrows are hard to find they may use rock crevices. Burrowing owls were observed near Granger Lake, Texas, using cavities in discarded chunks of concrete next to a road. Owls nesting in prairie dog sites have higher rates of nesting success than at other sites.

The food of burrowing owls is primarily small mammals and insects. Mammal prey includes prairie dogs, mice, voles, and ground squirrels. During the summer they feed heavily on insects like ground or dung beetles and grasshoppers. Occasionally they will eat scorpions, lizards,

snakes, birds, frogs, toads and even turtles. They are described as opportunistic feeders.

Some unusual physical and behavioral features of the burrowing owl that make it unique include its diurnal hunting habits. It primarily hunts during the day but it will also forage at night especially in bright moonlight. They are also very friendly owls and often



Taxonomy	Vital Stats
Class: Aves	Height: 8.5-11 in.
Order: Strigiformes	Wingspan: 20-24 in.
Family: Strigidae	Weight: 6-7.5 oz.
Genus: <i>Athene</i>	Offspring: lay 3-12 eggs
Species: <i>cunicularia</i>	Lifespan: ~ 9 years

peer at observers rather than flying away, thus the name "howdy owl".

Management techniques that may be beneficial to burrowing owls include mowing, grazing, burning, public education, conservation easements for suitable habitats, protection of nesting sites, development of large contiguous areas of grassland, use of artificial nests, avoidance of pesticides and regulation of poisoning prairie dog colonies. Increasing and restoring prairie dog colonies would be a major factor in protecting the burrowing owl.

Current efforts to protect burrowing owls include artificial nest site programs in Arizona, Washington and Texas. If you would like to observe live cam videos of burrowing owls visit this website http://wdfw.wa.gov/wildwatch/owl-cam/b_owl.html

Internet and other sources for this article included:

http://www.cerc.usgs.gov/Frs_Webs/Gulf_Coast/owls.htm

Use of Artificial Burrows by Burrowing Owls - U.S. Department of Energy Hanford site

Effects of Management Practices on Grassland Birds: Burrowing Owl (Northern Prairie Research Center- USGS North Dakota)

Johnsgard, Paul. 2006. The Howdy Owl and the Prairie Dog. Birding. January/February

“FROM THE PRIVATE LANDOWNER NETWORK”

The Private Landowner Network hosts a good website for comprehensive info from across America at <http://www.privatelandownernetwork.org/exchange/default.asp>. This is an on-line national database of conservation service providers and resources. It is designed to provide easy access to conservation information and resources for the nation's conservation community.

Start a conservation discussion on a national scale today! This conservation exchange on-line bulletin board is a place where you can get to know the conservation community, get in touch with and meet like minded people and swap experiences with them. These message boards are your way to become part of a national conservation community concerned with preserving private land and developing strategies to keep their land in the family. Stop by, start a discussion topic and get involved. Share what works and doesn't work, what funding or technical assistance programs are effective and what are not. This is a way for you to help guide and shape today's conservation marketplace in real-time!

The Private Landowner Network (<http://www.privatelandownernetwork.org>) is committed to providing the private landowner community with the information and resources needed to increase awareness of the economically viable options they have to preserve their land and conserve natural resources. The Private Landowner Network is a project of the Resources First Foundation <http://resourcesfirstfoundation.org> and Cooperative Conservation America <http://cooperativeconservationamerica.org>.

Information provided by Willard Dyche, Project Developer, Private Landowner Network 207.221.2753

Texas Black-tailed Prairie Dog Watch

By Marsha Reimer, TNT Coordinator

Black-tailed prairie dogs (*Cynomys ludovicianus*) are an icon of the grasslands. These animals were once common in short and mixed grass prairies throughout the western mid-west, including Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, North Dakota and Wyoming, as well as Canada and Mexico. Historically, millions of acres of Texas grassland were covered by Black-tailed prairie dog towns. Prairie dog towns in Texas now occupy less than 1% of their historic range.

Prairie dogs are an important part of the ecosystem. Their digging aerates and promotes soil formation, they clip back brush maintaining the short grass prairie and they are a keystone species providing food and shelter for as many as 170 different animals. A keystone species is a species that other species depend upon for survival.

Now, through participation in the Texas Black-tailed Prairie Dog Watch, you can help widen our understanding of black-tailed prairie dogs and what is contributing to their decline. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) needs your help to monitor prairie dog towns in your area by observing and collecting data. The data that is collected will help TPWD biologists to monitor population trends and develop more effective conservation and management methods.

For more information contact Marsha Reimer at marsha.reimer@tpwd.state.tx.us or visit our Web Site at: www.tpwd.state.tx.us/trackers

Download article at http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/learning/texas_nature_trackers/black_tailed_prairie_dog/

Prairie Conservation Easements & Land Holdings of NPAT

Maddin Prairie Preserve

This 1,114-acre property, located in Mitchell County near Colorado City, lies in the Rolling Plains region of Texas and was donated in 1996 by Alfred Maddin. A major prairie restoration project to mixed grass prairie is in progress on this property, and NPAT is seeking volunteers interested in participating in native prairie restoration.

Simpson Prairie

Located in McLennan County near Crawford, Simpson Prairie is a terrific 50 acre Grand Prairie remnant in the Lampasas Cut Plains portion of the Cross Timbers and Prairies. Owned and restored by Mike Williams, who purchased the property and sold a conservation easement to NPAT at a generous price.

Riesel Prairie

A beautiful five-acre tallgrass prairie remnant generously donated to the NPAT by Dr. Paul and Virginia Mezynski. This property, located in Falls County, lies in the heartland of the endangered Blackland Prairie.

Falls County Conservation Easements: Lehmann Prairie, Wieting Prairie, and Drews Prairie

NPAT holds conservation easements on three remnant Blackland Prairie sites totaling 32 acres in Falls County. These tallgrass prairie remnants were hayfields of German farmers that protected the native grasses and plants for their superior quality hay.

Peters Prairie

This four acre Blackland Prairie remnant in Collin County was purchased from Loueen Peters at a generous price.

Tanglewood Prairie

This excellent 31 acre Post Oak Savanna remnant in Lee County is a partnership between the Natural Area Preservation Association (NAPA) and NPAT. NAPA purchased the remnant with a grant from the Magnolia Charitable Trust, with a conservation easement held by NPAT.

Prairie Projects

Granger Lake Gene Bank/Prairie Restoration at Granger Lake in Williamson County, in partnership with the Army Corp of Engineers and the Native Plant Society of Texas
Brodie Wild: 4 acre savanna remnant/restoration in Austin/Travis County, in partnership with the City of Austin Water Utility - Wildland Conservation Division and the Austin chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas

NPAT NEEDS BOARD MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

NPAT needs members willing to serve on the Board of Directors, and also needs volunteers to help with prairie restoration and advocacy!

Please contact NPAT via email at info@texasprairie.org or via postal mail if you are interested.

Prairie Plant Highlight

Indian Blanket or Firewheel

Gaillardia pulchella

This is one of the most loved and recognized wildflowers in Texas with a statewide distribution. It is tolerant of drought, overgrazing and varying degrees of light. This annual forb is easy to grow from seeds in many types of soil without fertilization.

Though it is a familiar sight blooming from spring to fall, there are some little known facts that make this plant a subject of great interest. In a roadside study near Austin, Indian blanket was heavily sowed over areas infested with the non-native invasive bastard cabbage, *Rapistrum rugosum*. Results showed the Indian blanket successfully competed with this aggressive non native by reducing the invaders growth by 72%. It had no affect on other natives. Other experiments with *Gaillardia* show it to be highly resistant to root infesting nematodes that cause crop damage and when planted with these crops or in exudates used as soil amendments, the nematodes can be controlled. This lovely plant produces polymer compounds known as sesquiterpene lactones or SQL's which are being studied and used as anti-inflammatory agents for the treatment of arthritis or as cancer killing drugs. This same substance can cause skin dermatitis in some people. Indian blanket also contains methyl caffeate which is being studied as an antitumor substance.

From a wildlife standpoint this is a good plant to use in restoration of wildlife habitats and urban landscaping. Butterfly Enthusiasts of Southeast Texas rate it as a very good nectar plant and Central Texas gardeners report it is a good larvae host plant for the lacinia patch butterfly. Landscapers and scientists are discovering that it also attracts

many beneficial insects that help control problem insects. Numerous species of birds and mice feed on the seeds. On top of everything else if you live in Central Texas and deer are eating up your yard, Indian blanket is rated by Cornell University as a plant seldom damaged by deer.



Join the Native Prairies Association today and help protect species diversity and habitats that could one day provide new ways to live and new cures for diseases!

August 4, 2006 UPDATE - Congress has approved a tremendous expansion of the federal conservation tax incentive for conservation easement donations.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

Tax Incentives Fact Sheet

Section 1206 of the pensions bill (HR 4) recently passed by Congress will help family farmers, ranchers, and other moderate-income landowners get a significant tax benefit for making the extraordinarily valuable donation of a conservation easement, restricting future development of their land to protect a resource important to the public. Most such donations are made to local, community-based charities dedicated to keeping land in agriculture, conserving important wildlife habitats, and protecting important open space and historic resources. This proposal will:

- Raise the maximum deduction a donor can take for donating a conservation easement from 30% of their adjusted gross income (AGI) in any year to 50%;
- Allow qualifying farmers and ranchers to deduct up to 100% of their AGI; and
- Increase the number of years over which a donor can take deductions from 6 years to 16 years.

This provision would be effective for donations made from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007. After that, the law would revert back to previous provisions, unless Congress extends the provision prior to the deadline.

Conservation Incentive Combined with Solid Tax Reforms

Section 1219 of the bill sets higher standards for appraisers and appraisals of all donated property, and sets higher penalties for abusive appraisals. Conservationists support this to ensure the integrity of the charitable donation process. Section 1213 tightens restrictions on donations of easements to protect historic buildings.

NPAT Email Announcement List

A moderated, low traffic email list for announcements of NPAT field trips, conferences, meetings, and volunteer activities has been created. Opportunities to help protect prairies will also be emailed to this list.

To subscribe, send an email to NPAT-announce-subscribe@yahoogroups.com, go to the NPAT web page at <http://texasprairie.org/>, or include your email address on your next renewal form.

FAST FACT

According to a University of Minnesota study, native prairie plants could replace 13% of global gas transportation consumption, 19% global electrical consumption and reduce global carbon dioxide emissions by 15%.

Letter to the Editor:

Dear NPAT,

“Please send pamphlets, information ,etc. My intentional community, Rainbow Valley Ag-Coop recently donated a 78 acre conservation easement to Natural areas Preservation Assn. Some pristine Blackland Prairie is included.”

- Joseph Langley, Sanger, TX

Dear Mr. Langley,

Thank you for asking. At the present time, all of our printed matter relates to conservation easements or reconstructing prairies. There is a variety of information on our website www.texasprairie.org, so please check that for references, etc. For your immediate consideration, here is an outline of basics on the management of existing prairies:

- * Keep the prairie free of large growing woody plants, such as juniper, hackberry, oak, elm. Generally keep fence lines clear of woodies. Decide on how much sumac, plum, tickle tongue, wafer ash, etc. to tolerate and then restrict them over time to those designated locations.
- * Do not introduce any exotic species.
- * Remove exotic plant and animal species regularly and often, preferably using the least toxic methods available.
- * Do not introduce any native species that were not historically in the area (<100 miles north or south, somewhat farther for east or west).
- * Do use the prairie as safe harbor for local native species which are declining.
- * If used for native hay, don't cut more than once a year, preferably not more frequently than once every three years. Some plants are biennial, living only two years, and so they need a chance to flower and go to seed. Some species appear more prevalently some years and those years they also need the opportunity to thrive.
- * Do make a checklist of species appearing during the full growing season.
- * Never burn more than one-quarter of the prairie at a time or you may well wipe out your only populations of prairie-dependent invertebrates (certain kinds of butterflies, leaf hoppers, spiders), and only do so infrequently and for a specific purpose, such as encouraging more forbs or controlling small encroaching woody species.

I hope this is of use to your community. If specific questions come up, please write or call again. Thank you for caring about your local prairielands!

-Kunda Wicce

NOTE: Those wishing to add or comment are encouraged to write or email the Editor.

Come visit the...

NPAT STORE

Purchase items from the NPAT Store to help raise funds for the conservation and restoration of Texas Prairies!

- * Memberships
- * Clothing
- * Hats
- * Mugs
- * Totebags
- * Books

To purchase these items, please visit:
<http://www.texasprairie.org/resources/Store.html>

Prairie Dogs Reintroduced to Maddin Prairie Preserve

On a hot day at the end of May members of the Native Prairie Association of Texas traveled to Maddin Prairie Preserve (owned by the association) to participate in the reintroduction of black tailed prairie dogs saved from a development site in Abilene.

The initiator of this project was Jesse Wood, an NPAT member and a native of Abilene who was looking for a place to relocate the prairie dogs. Jesse has been moving and saving prairie dogs from destruction for many years. On the appointed day of arrival, the Prairie Dog Rescue Team, Bill and Deana Wagner of Amarillo, arrived with a truckload of prairie dogs in wire cages. Each cage of prairie dogs was set over an artificial burrow that had been prepared by Jesse prior to arrival of the dogs.

The restoration site sits on a flat-topped hill that overlooks the surrounding area. NPAT members, Jesse Wood, the Rescue Team and a local biology teacher Allison Hayes, all helped in the relocation. Board directors Jason Spangler, Marcia Herman, and members Coby Dinges, Lisa Spangler and Glenn Merkord set up a hot wire fence around the perimeter to help deter predators and others members secured hog fencing over the artificial burrows. A total of 89 prairie dogs would be released.

The fun began when the workers tried to get the prairie dogs to enter their new burrows. The dogs were highly suspicious of the black plastic pipe tunnels and it took quite a bit of coaxing to get them to venture into the ground. As members

tempted the dogs with carrots and bits of grass some prairie dogs managed to escape. This elicited lots of excitement and whooping as everyone raced around the site trying to capture the escapees. The whole crazy running mob of people following a zigzagging frantic prairie dog was intently watched by a standing crowd of prairie dogs still in the cages. All the caught prairie dogs were handled with gentle loving care as they were returned to their new home sites. After several hours most of the dogs had settled into their new burrows.

These artificial prairie dog holes were dug at a 45 degree angle about 5 feet deep with a half cut plastic barrel placed face down at the bottom to provide a nest. The tunnel to the nest is a black



Jason Spangler ready to release dogs

ribbed hose that is visible at the ground surface. The next morning everyone was eager to see if the prairie dogs were settling in. Early morning observers at the site reported the dogs were going in and out of the burrows and appeared to be making themselves at home. Reluctantly the next day the NPAT crew left and the local biology teacher Ms. Hayes began to monitor and send reports to board directors. The prairie dogs would have to dig new extensive burrows and move out of their artificial ones to have a safety network to protect themselves from predators. The chief predators of concern were badgers, coyotes and bobcats.

The following week, Allison Hayes, local monitor, reported that most of the prairie dogs had dug out of their enclosures and were building an entirely new dog town. The only sign of predators was one dead baby prairie dog and the sound of howling coyotes. Later in June, it was reported that badgers were digging into the burrows and had killed several of the dogs. In July a second batch of 62 more dogs were released to augment the original colony.

The colony continues to survive but the threat of predators has increased with each passing month. Predator control was initiated at the outset but has not been totally effective. NPAT does not use poison control and supports live trapping and removal if possible.

The survival of the prairie dogs at Maddin Prairie Preserve is a symbol of the survival of all species native to the once vast grasslands of North America. NPAT will continue in its efforts to restore this vital ecosystem and its inhabitants.

Contributed by Pat Merkord

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

Thank you to our donors who have supported NPAT since the last newsletter!

\$15,000 to \$20,000

Jason & Lisa Spangler

\$5000 - \$10,000

Anonymous

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Eric Harborne Foundation

\$100 - \$999

Native Plant Society of Texas -
Austin

Native Plant Society of Texas -
Williamson County

Travis Audobon Society
Sun City Nature Club

Up to \$100

Mickey & Bob Burleson

Katherine Long

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Daniel Thompson

Field Trips & Events

Contact Jason Spangler, jason_spangler@texasprairie.org or 512-736-4199, for more information and to sign up unless otherwise stated.

- April 14th and 15th (Sat-Sun): NPAT field trips to Northeast Texas Prairies (Clymer Meadow, Tridens Prairie, and more). NPAT board meeting on 14th.
- April 21st (Sat) / 10am: NPAT field trip to Quebe Prairie near Brenham (Washington County).
- April 21st (Sat) / 10am and 1pm: NPAT field trip to Parkhill Prairie (Collin Co.). Contact NTMN Jim Varnum: 214-543-2055, jevvarnum@aol.com.
- April 28th (Sat) / 10am: NPAT field trip to Falls County Prairies (Riesel Prairie, Lehmann Prairie, Wieting Prairie) near Marlin (Falls County).
- May 5th (Sat) / 9am: NPAT field to Maddin Prairie near Colorado City (Mitchell County). See Black-tailed Prairie Dog reintroduction, birds, and mixed grass prairie. Contact Kunda Lee Wicce: 512-535-4994, kunda_lee_wicce@texasprairie.org
- May 12th (Sat) / 10am: NPAT field trip to 80-acre Simpson Prairie near Crawford (McLennan County).
- July 14th-15th (Sat-Sun): NPAT field trip to Henrietta Range near Wichita Falls. NPAT board meeting on 14th.
- October 18th-21st (Thur-Sun): Joint NPSOT/NPAT 2007 Symposium: The Black land and Grand Prairies and Grasslands of the Edwards Plateau in Georgetown, TX. NPAT board meeting on Oct 18th.

Other Prairie Related Field Trips and Events:

- March 17th (Sat) / 9am - 1pm: Birding Field Trip to Clymer Meadow Preserve (Hunt Co.) and Parkhill Prairie (Collin Co.). Contact NTMN Jim Varnum: 214-543-2055, jevvarnum@aol.com
- April 14th and 15th (Sat-Sun) / 9am - 5pm: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Spring Gardening Festival and Plant Sale
- April 28 (Sat) / 10:00 am & 1:00 pm Cedar Ridge Preserve Wildflowers 101 Classes, near Dallas. Contact Jim Varnum, 214-543-2055, jevvarnum@aol.com
- May 5th (Sat) / 9am - 1pm: Field trip to Dinosaur Valley State Park (Somervell Co.). Reservations required. Contact : CTMN Jeff Quayle: 817-729-0283, s-quaylei@earthlink.net
- May 19th (Sat) / 9am - 2pm: Nature Conservancy's Wildflower Tour of Clymer Meadow and other nearby prairies, near Huntsville. Contact TNC Jim Edison (TNC) or NTMN Jim & Stephanie Varnum: 214-543-2055, jevvarnum@aol.com
- May 19th (Sat) / 9am - 1pm: Plant Walk at LBJ Grasslands (Wise Co.) . Reservations required. Contact CTMN Jeff Quayle: 817-729-0283, s-quaylei@earthlink.net

THANK YOU TO NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS FROM
THE LAST 4 MONTHS!

Allen's Native Ventures	John Pickett
Ann or Don Connell	Johnny Johnson
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Bill Hicks	Julia Garrett
Bill Hopkins	Katherine Long
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Back Issues of the Prairie Dog Available Online

Past issues of The Prairie Dog, the newsletter of the Native Prairies Association of Texas, are available online at: <http://texasprairie.org/newsletter/>

Some past newsletters may have articles removed if online distribution was not permitted by the author. A PDF reader such as Adobe Acrobat Reader is required to view the newsletters, and can be downloaded via a link on the newsletter web page.

For webpage information or problems e-mail:

Scott Lenharth, Webmaster

webmaster@texasprairie.org

Need Information on Prairie and Savanna Remnants and Restorations

NPAT is looking for prairie and savanna remnants and restorations throughout Texas, especially in the Blackland Prairie, Coastal Prairie, and Grand Prairie (of the Crosstimbers and Prairies) regions of Texas.

Knowledge of prairie remnants will greatly assist conservation planning, and help us identify land owners so we can inquire about their interest in protecting their prairie.

If you know of any existing remnants (even drive-by sightings or just rumors), own a prairie remnant, or are restoring prairie on your land, please contact NPAT via email at info@texasprairie.org or via postal mail.

Donate to NPAT to help protect Texas prairies. Many employers will match donations, so check with your employer to make your donation go farther!

Ad Price List

Full Page	\$100
Half Page	\$50
1/4 Page	\$25

Mail check to:
Native Prairies Association of Texas
2002 - A Guadalupe St. PMB 290
Austin, TX 78705-5609

E-mail Ad description to:
editor@texasprairie.org

Protect Your Prairie Forever!

Do you own a prairie or savanna remnant or restoration? Consider protecting it forever via a conservation easement with the Native Prairies Association of Texas!

NPAT is especially interested in tallgrass and similar prairie remnants in the Blackland Prairie, Coastal Prairie, and Grand Prairie (of the Crosstimbers and Prairies) regions of Texas.

The tallgrass prairie of Texas is almost gone, with less than 1% remaining. The Blackland Prairie is considered the most endangered large ecosystem in North America. Help us protect Texas' prairie heritage together by considering a conservation easement with NPAT.

For more information, please contact NPAT via email at info@texasprairie.org or via postal mail.

Bluestem Environmental Consultants

Quality Consulting for Environmental Projects

BEC specializes in habitat restoration, Wildlife management, endangered species, compliance, native plants and landscaping, water resources, and educational services.



See our website at www.bluestem-env.com/

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NATIVE PRAIRIES ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS (NPAT)

Membership and Information Form

Use this form to request information or to join NPAT. If you are joining, please mail a check to:

**The Native Prairies Association of Texas
2002 - A Guadalupe St. PMB 290
Austin, TX 78705-5609**

Membership Categories: \$350 Life, \$35 Group, \$30 Family, \$20 Individual, \$10 Student

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home/Office Phone: _____

I'm interested in prairies because: _____

Life Memberships benefit the NPAT Endowment Fund. Please consider adding an extra \$5 or \$10 to your membership dues. It really helps us out!

Please check here to decline listing in a future member's directory.

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<http://www.texasprairie.org>

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