



TPE Field Trips

Summer and Fall
2009

See also the TPE web site
www.ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org

Join us for informative tours of prairies, savannas, and open woodlands that range from high quality natural areas to newly begun restorations and plantings. Learn to identify the wildflowers and animals that inhabit these gems of nature, or come to simply enjoy the sites and sounds. These trips give you opportunities to see, first hand, the results of various management/restoration strategies & techniques, and a chance to share your interest in prairies by bringing a friend.

What to bring: Field trips generally proceed rain or shine (except for severe weather or unless otherwise noted), so bring appropriate clothing and apparel. A hat, long-pants, and sturdy footwear are recommended, along with sunscreen and insect/tick repellent. For long hikes, be sure to bring water, and, if it is an all-day event, something to eat.

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

July 12 (Sunday)

Weaver Dunes Preserve

Wabasha County, MN

Join Prairie Smoke Chapter member and The Nature Conservancy's SE MN Conservation Coordinator Rich Biske as we walk through some restorations, intact dunes, and to the back waters of the Mississippi River.

Time: 4:00 PM

Contact: Rich Biske at rbsike@TNC.ORG

Directions: Meet at the wind mill. Directions can be found at:

<http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/minnesota/preserves/art88.html>

July 18 (Saturday)

Prairie Walk at Prairiehill Farm

Green Lake County, WI

Walk the restored and reconstructed prairie, burr oak savanna, and wetlands with restoration ecologists Alan and Laurel Bennet. Prairiehill Farm is a 100 acre site that has undergone 25 years of restoration. As such, it has become a showcase for the successes and failures of various restoration and land management techniques. Bring sturdy shoes and water, binoculars, your curiosity, and prepare for an informative and beautiful experience.

Time: 1:00-4:00 PM

Directions: Located 1.4 miles west of highway 22 at W2797 Grouse Rd, approximately 9 miles south of Montello. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Alan or Laurel at Prairiehill@centurytel.net, or Karen Wollenburg at wolenbrg@palacenet.net

July 19 (Sunday)

TPE Annual Picnic and hikes

Hanover, IL

The Northwest Illinois Chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts will host the TPE Annual picnic and Meeting of the Membership this year at Hanley Savanna in rural Hanover, Illinois. Further Details posted on the TPE website.

Times:

10:00 AM - TPE Board meeting (All are welcome to join board meetings)

10:00 AM - Walking tour for early-birds not attending the board meeting

12:00 Noon - Pot-luck picnic.

1:00 PM - Meeting of the membership.

2:00 - ? PM - Site tour via haywagon.

Directions: Hanley Savanna is located in northwest Illinois, three miles west of the Village of Hanover, at the junction of Whitton and South Hanover Hill Roads. The address is 9417 Whitton Road, Hanover, IL 61041. The scenic route runs from Galena (10 miles to the north) and from there to Hanover via Blackjack Road (off US20). In Hanover, turn west at the Apple River bridge, which is Fulton Street. It will become Hanover Hill Road (stay left at the Y), which will take you to Hanley.

July 23 (Thursday) **Lewis Savanna** St. Croix County, WI
This is a newly discovered 8 ac. savanna remnant in the second year of restoration. It was an overlooked, rocky, sandy, moraine in the middle of cropland until 2005. The property has been in the same family since 1870's. In January 2008 most of the trees were removed, including 2000 red and white pines that had been planted in 1997 before the owners were aware the area was a remnant. In April 2008 it was burned for the first time in recent history. The plan is to burn annually, control exotic invasives and disperse seed collected on the site. After seeing the transformation that occurred during the first year it will be interesting to follow the changes over the coming years. About 50 native plants were identified the first season. Come and help find more. People could gather after the walk at the original farmhouse on the river. It's a short drive east on A. (1270 Cty. Rd A)
Time: 6:00 – 9:00 PM **Contact:** John McKay (612-2476107) tpctravel@yahoo.com
Walking difficulty: moderately difficult, hike through cropland, rough uneven ground with no trails
Directions: Saint Croix County, County Road A. Turn North off County Road A onto 80th St. (between towns of Burkhardt and Boardman) Turn East (right) on 126 Ave End of 126th turn north (left) to cul-de-sac for parking.
GPS coordinates: N45 02.920 W92 37.927

July 25 (Saturday) **Scuppernong Valley Prairie and Butterflies** Waukesha County, WI
Come explore over 1,000 acres of lowland prairie habitat in various stages of recovery. Located in Waukesha Co. this WI DNR owned land has the potential of becoming one of the largest and richest prairie areas in the state. The vegetation across this level landscape is a mosaic of high-quality remnant prairie, long-abandoned old-fields reverting back to prairie, and everything in between. Three state natural areas are currently designated within the area. The DNR's efforts in recent years of extensive clearing of trees and brush and reintroducing fire are resulting in the reclamation of large areas of prairie. Many prairie flowers and a variety of butterflies abound. Some late season grassland birds may also still be active in the area as well. This is a joint trip with Southern Wis. Butterfly Assoc. and Madison Audubon Society. Be prepared for much walking and some wet ground. Bring food and water, sun screen, hat, insect repellent, and binoculars (the closer they focus the better — we will have a few extra pairs).
Time: 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM **Leaders:** Scott Sauer (608-273-0904) Scott Weber, and Karl & Dorothy Legler
Directions: Meet at the Scuppernong Prairie State Natural Area parking lot on County N. From Eagle (in SW Waukesha Co.) take US 59 west for 1 mile to County N. Turn right (north) on to N and go for about 1.5 miles. Look for a Scuppernong Prairie sign on the right. The gravel parking lot is on the left.

July 25 (Saturday) **Perrot State Park Prairies** Trempealeau County, WI
Join the naturalist at Perrot State Park for a casual exploration of a beautiful remnant prairie. This remnant was hidden for years, and has been revitalized by prescribed burning. The hike is easy and level, and all abilities are encouraged to come. The hike is free, but vehicle admission stickers are required for all vehicles entering the park.
Time: 10:00 AM **Trip Leader:** Andrea Benco (608-534-6409)
Directions: Meet at the Nature Center at Perrot State Park just northwest of Trempealeau, WI.

July 27 (Monday evening) **Sugar River Oak Savanna** Dane County, WI
This diverse, 9-acre oak savanna is a new preserve of The Prairie Enthusiasts managed by the Empire-Sauk of TPE. Although it still shows some signs of past use as a pasture, 33 years of annual fire has fostered a remarkable recovery of native prairie and savanna. There are now 400 native plant species present. Prairie blazingstar (*Liatris pycnostachya*), rattlesnake master, giant false foxglove, and a great variety of prairie and savanna species should be in full flower, and many species of butterfly should be on the wing.
Time: 6:00 to 7:30 PM **Trip leader:** Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)
Directions: From the intersection of CTH M and PD (north of Verona and SW of Madison) take PD west 3.0 miles to Timber Lane, turn right (north) on to Timber Lane and then immediately turn left into a joint driveway. Proceed to the brick house (2845 Timber Lane). Park in mowed lawn (please do not block the neighbor's driveway).

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

August 1 (Saturday) **Koltes & Westport Drumlin Prairies** Dane County, WI
We will visit first Koltes prairie, a small private remnant under management agreement with the Empire-Sauk Chapter of TPE, and then proceed to Westport Drumlin, a nearby State Natural Area. Both sites have diverse, high quality prairie. Koltes ranges from dry to mesic, with a large stand of rattlesnake master. Westport Drumlin ranges from dry sand and gravel to dry-mesic soils on a beautiful drumlin ridge with NW and SE facing slopes. It has a large population of compass plant.
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM **Trip leader:** Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)
Directions: Take Hwy 113 north from Madison. From the stoplight with County M proceed on 113 for 1.8 miles to Bong Rd. (Caution: Bong Rd is on the right only, the road opposite it has a different name). Turn right (east) onto Bong and proceed 0.6 miles. Koltes Prairie is on the left (north) side.

August 2 (Sunday) **Green's Prairie Cemetery** Green County, WI
This is the last prairie cemetery in Green County, a one-acre remnant of the once 5,000 acre York Prairie, located in Town of York. The remaining vegetation is mesic in a deep soil setting, unlike the other dry, ridgeline prairies in our area. We hope to see in bloom compass plant, rosin weed, wild quinine, rattlesnake master, flowering spurge, sunflowers, tallgrasses and the early asters. The pioneer cemetery is the resting place of some of York's earliest settlers, with burials from 1846 through 1917.
Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM **Trip Leaders:** John Ochsner and Tom Mitchell (608-325-6228)
Directions: Cemetery is on Postville Road, between County A and County H, north of village of Postville, in far northwest Green County.

August 9 (Sunday) **La Crosse River State Trail's Rockland Prairie** La Crosse County, WI
Joe-pye weed, Rough Blazingstar, Flowering Spurge, Tall Sunflower, and Naked Sunflower are likely to be in bloom along the trail at this time. This will be a leisurely walk on level terrain.
Time: 1:30 PM **Trip Leader:** Bob Lee (608-486-2154)
Directions: Meet in Rockland, WI (near I-90 in eastern La Crosse Cty) at the railroad crossing on Commercial St. (CTH J).

August 9 (Sunday) **Smith Drumlin Prairies** Dane County, WI
Come see two, good quality, gravel and sand drumlin prairies nestled within 80 acres of grassland cover set in an open prairie landscape. Dwarf (cylindrical) blazingstar should be in bloom. This site has spectacular displays. The drumlin hills are interesting features formed by the passing of the last glacier. This is an opportunity to visit a private site not open to the public. The Empire-Sauk Chapter of TPE is currently working with the landowners on long-term management.
Time: 1:00 to 3:00 PM **Trip leader:** Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)
Directions: From the intersection of US Hwy 12 and Hwy 73 (2.5 miles west of Cambridge, WI), take 73 south 1.5 miles to County PQ. Turn left (east) onto PQ. Proceed 1.0 miles to Clearview Road. Take Clearview (right turn) south 0.6 miles/ park along the road, but off the shoulder. We will be hiking in a ½ mile from there.

August 13 (Thursday) **Sedge Walk at the Solimars** St. Croix County, WI
Time: 6:30 PM **Contact:** Keith Solimar (715-749-3606) ksolimar@dishup.us
Level of walking difficulty: Easy/moderate
Directions: Keith & Karen Solimar's home, I94 East from Hudson: Take exit 10 (Roberts). Turn left (North). Go about 1/8 mile & take left on 70th Ave. (across from Park & Ride and County Concrete). Turn right at 1144 70th Ave (about 1/2 mile)
Link: <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msa=3D0&ie=3DUTF8&msid=3D11765035026914888>

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

August 15 (Saturday)

Kalscheur Oak Savanna

Iowa County, WI

This 19-acre preserve was donated by Jim Kalscheur to The Prairie Enthusiasts in 1994. Originally managed by the SW Wisconsin Chapter of TPE, a few years ago management responsibilities were shifted to the Empire-Sauk Chapter. The site is topographically diverse with south and west facing slopes, covered by scattered oak trees and sunny openings. At the base of the slopes, spring-runs and ground-water seeps coming out of the hill side and flow into a stream-side wetland. Past grazing left the site in rough shape, but with tree/brush removal starting in 1996, periodic fire, and in the past couple years, inter-seeding with prairie and savanna plants, recovery of the site's original savanna and prairie vegetation is slowly taking place. So far, 187 native plant species have been identified on site, including healthy populations of prairie gentian and the State Threatened prairie (Hill's) thistle.

Time: 9:30 AM to Noon

Trip leader: Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)

Directions: From the Village of Hollandale in southeastern Iowa Co, take County Road K south from Hwy 39 for approximately 2 miles. Look for a small TPE sign on the left (northeast) side of the road. Parking is along the road, be sure to park at least 3 ft off pavement. We will be hiking in from there.

August 15 (Saturday)

Prairie Tour/Annual Prairie Smoke Picnic

Spring Grove, MN

Shooting Star Native Seeds and Farmers Elevator Tour/Annual Prairie Smoke Picnic.

At Shooting Star, we will tour the facility, hear about site preparation and controlling invasive plants, and look at some of their fields. Then, Mike Patterson from the Farmers Elevator will talk about the use of chemicals, soil content, safe spraying, etc.

Time: 10:00 AM

Directions to Shooting Star: Hwy 52 South from Roch approx 50 miles to Jct Hwy 44, continue on Hwy 44 approx 12 miles to Shooting Star at Jct Cty Rd 33 and Hwy 44. Address is: 20740 County Road 33, Spring Grove, MN 55974

Annual Prairie Smoke Picnic at Walt & Barb Nigon's cabin Tour their prairie, have some lunch, and meet with old and new friends from Prairie Smoke. Kids are welcome and can roast marshmallows over the fire and play in the creek that runs through the property.

Time: 1:00 PM

Prairie Smoke will provide the meat, drinks (lemonade, water), and plates, plasticware, and napkins. Please bring a dish to pass and your own chair. Also, if you want any "adult beverages", please bring your own.

Directions from Shooting Star to Walt and Barb's Cabin: Hwy 44 East to Cty Rd 4, 1 mile left or north Cty Rd 4 approx 3 miles, left, west on Cty Rd 19 approx 3 miles to #22664 on right

Directions to Walt and Barb's Cabin from Rochester: Hwy 52 S to JCT Hwy 44, continue on Hwy 44 to Mabel left on Hwy 43 North 5 miles, right on Cty Rd 18 changes to Cty Rd 19, continue 3 miles approx go by campground, #22664 on left.

Directions to Walt and Barb's Cabin from Rushford: Hwy 43 South from I90 to Rushford, Hwy 43 South from Rushford approx 17 miles to Cty Rd 18 East (Do not turn right onto Cty Rd 18 west on round corner), continue approx 6 miles on Cty Rd 18 to Cty Rd 19, go past campground, #22664 on left.

Contact: Please RSVP to Barb Nigon at wbnigon@kmwb.net if coming to one or both of these events, as we need an approximate headcount for both.

August 22 (Saturday)

Maiden Rock

Pierce County, WI

It's a steep hike that offers a view of the coulee into the Rush River with lots of dry prairie species. This land is managed by WDNR. After the walk we will meet for brunch in Maiden Rock at the Smiling Pelican a great pie and bread place.

Time: 8:00 to 10:00 AM

Contact: Harvey Halverson Harvey.Halvorsen@Wisconsin.gov

Difficulty: Difficult to moderate

Directions: Meet at Cnty A parking lot on Hwy 35 just west of Maiden Rock

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

August 29 (Saturday)

Shea Prairie

Iowa County, WI

This 62-acre tract, acquired by TPE in 2006, is part of the Mounds View Grassland/Prairie Complex, a landscape-scale project that supports a rich array of grassland birds, original prairie sod, rare prairie and savanna species, cold water streams, springs, seeps and wetlands. Shea Prairie is currently a diamond in the rough with great potential for prairie, wetland, and grassland bird habitat restoration. Major removal of trees and brush has occurred over the past year. You are not going to recognize the place. The site has two nice dry-mesic prairie remnants, a degraded perched spring seep fen (under restoration), a ground water fed natural pond, and a trout stream. All of which we will explore, while discussing the restoration plans for the site. The Shea Prairie is home to Blanding's turtles and pickerel frogs. One of the site's two remnants was burned this spring, so there should be a good display of flowers. Rough blazingstar should be in full bloom. .

Time: 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Contact: Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)

Directions: From US Highway 18/151, a mile and a half west of Blue Mounds, turn south on Mounds View Road. Proceed on Mounds View for 2.5 miles to where it joins briefly with Prairie Grove Rd. Stay with Mounds View and go another 0.7 miles. We will be parking on the left (east) side of the road. Pull into the tractor lane for parking.

August 30 (Sunday)

La Crosse River State Trail's Rockland Prairie

La Crosse County, WI

Grasses such as Switchgrass, Big Bluestem, and Cord Grass should dominate these railroad remnants at this time. Prairie sunflower and Great blue lobelia should also be in bloom. This will be a leisurely walk on level terrain.

Time: 1:30 PM

Trip Leader: Bob Lee (608-486-2154)

Directions: Meet in Rockland, WI (near I-90 in eastern La Crosse Cty) at the railroad crossing on Commercial St. (CTH J).

August 30 (Sunday)

Schurch-Thomson and Underwood Prairies

Iowa County, WI

Come hike into the secluded valley of the Schurch-Thomson and Underwood prairies for an afternoon of exploring dry and dry-mesic prairie remnants, progress being made to recover degraded and overgrown prairie sod, and efforts at inter-seeding prairie vegetation into smooth brome sod. Displays of late summer flowers, waving prairie grass, and butterflies should be in the offering. Schurch-Thomson Prairie is a 190-acre unit of TPE's 530-acre Mounds View Grassland preserve, and is adjacent to the privately owned Underwood Prairie. TPE has a management agreement to manage and restore prairie on approximately 20 acres of the Underwood family land. Bring binoculars, a hat, and be prepared for a long hike.

Time: 1:00 to 4:00 PM

Trip Leader: Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)

Directions: From the intersection of US Hwy 18-151 and County F (south of Blue Mounds in western Dane County), take F approximately 5 miles south. Turn right onto Reilly Road, and proceed to the end of the road. We will be meeting by the barn. (Note: A half mile down F from 18-151, pay close attention to the road signs, for F turns to the right & the straight ahead road becomes County Z. Stay on F.)

August 30 (Sunday)

King's Bluff Prairie

Winona County, MN

King's Bluff is a fine goat prairie with stunning view of the Mississippi river valley and view of Queen's Bluff. It is located in the Great River Bluffs State Park, SNA. Participants will need a MN State Park Sticker (yearly sticker is \$25 or daily sticker is \$5). Meet Prairie Smoke board member Andrea Mueller at in the State Park at the first parking lot after the park entrance station for a 1 mile hike to the scenic overlook and goat prairie.

Time: 4:00 PM

Contact: Andrea Mueller (507-867-9229)

Directions: Located from Rochester take Interstate 90 east to exit 266 (county 12). Follow signs for Great River Bluffs State Park. Or from Winona SE 20 miles on US Hwy 61, then S on Co Rd 3 4 miles to entrance of Great River Bluffs State Park. SNA located in park.

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

September 7 (Monday)

Pleasant Valley Conservancy SNA

Dane Co., WI

Pleasant Valley Conservancy State Natural Area No. 551 is a 140 acre Preserve in western Dane County. It consists of extensive restored oak savannas, dry, mesic, and wet prairies, wetlands, and oak woods. Scenic views and wildlife viewing are excellent, and a two-mile hiking trail provides ready access into the heart of the Preserve. Especially noteworthy at Pleasant Valley are the fine oak savannas, once common in the Midwest but now very rare. The Preserve has many large open-grown white and bur oaks, which can be viewed from Pleasant Valley Road, and seen close up from the trail. Red-headed woodpeckers, a characteristic bird of oak savannas, breed at the Preserve and can frequently be seen from the upper ridge trail. Over 300 species of flowering plants have been recorded. Pleasant Valley Conservancy is a site of The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE), an organization active in the upper Midwest. Part of the Conservancy is owned by TPE and the rest is permanently protected by a conservation easement donated to TPE by Kathie and Tom Brock.

Time: 1:00-4:00 PM

Trip Leaders: Kathie (kmbrock@charter.net) & Tom (tdbrock@charter.net) Brock. Telephone (608-238-5050)

Directions: The Conservancy is 5.5 miles southwest of the Village of Black Earth. Head south from the center of Black Earth on County Highway F/Wisconsin 78. Turn right at County F/County KP/Madison Street. Go about 1.1 miles on County F/KP and turn left on F. Go 3.7 miles to Pleasant Valley Road, which enters from the left. Turn left on Pleasant Valley Road. The preserve will be on both sides of Pleasant Valley Road. Proceed to Fire Number 4609 (cabin and barn). Park on the right (south) side of the road.

September 7 (Labor Day Monday)

Muralt Bluff Prairie

Green County, WI

Take a steep hike up the bluff at Muralt Prairie, a state natural area of 62 acres, to feel the breezes and see the blooming goldenrods and asters. Grooved yellow flax, plains muhly and stiff gentian are also possibilities. The tour will include a trip through adjacent Iltis Savanna, an unusual property that includes dry prairie, savanna, and woodland in less than 20 acres.

Time: 11 AM - 1 PM

Trip Leaders: John Ochsner and Tom Mitchell (608-325-6228)

Directions: The parking lot is off Green County F, two miles north and west of its junction with Highway 59, two miles west of Albany.

September 12 (Saturday)

Fall Color on the Prairie

St. Croix County, WI

Enjoy the fall colors and the spectacular vistas on the prairie remnants north of Bass Lake. Prescribed burning and over seeding have increased the diversity of these prairie grasslands. Asters, goldenrods, and grasses should be at their prime in the dry-mesic and mesic remnants and if we're lucky the gentian will be blooming in the wet prairie.

Difficulty: Moderate. 1-mile hike on mowed trails. Longer hike available for those who want to bushwhack the WPA. Wear long pants--we'll encounter some poison ivy.

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Contact info: Ginny Gaynor (715-246-2746) wayneandgin@frontiernet.net

Directions: 767 160th Avenue, New Richmond, WI (about 3 miles SE of Somerset). From Exit 4 on I-94, go north on County UU and then continue north on County A, following the signs to Willow River State Park. Stay on county A past the park and after the town of Burkhardt turn west on County I. Follow County I north to 160th Avenue. Go east on 160th just over 1 mile to 767 160th Avenue.

September 13 (Sunday)

La Crosse River State Trail's Rockland Prairie

La Crosse County, WI

Asters will dominate the scene at this time of year, with New England Aster, Bottle Gentian and Grey Goldenrod also likely in bloom. This will be a leisurely walk on level terrain.

Time: 1:30 PM

Trip Leader: Bob Lee (608-486-2154)

Directions: Meet in Rockland, WI (near I-90 in eastern La Crosse Cty) at the railroad crossing on Commercial St. (CTH J).

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

September 15 (Tuesday evening)

Sugar River Oak Savanna

Dane County, WI

This diverse 9-acre oak savanna is a new preserve of The Prairie Enthusiasts managed by the Empire-Sauk of TPE. Although it still shows some signs of past use as a pasture, 33 years of annual fire has fostered a remarkable recovery of native prairie and savanna vegetation. There are now 400 native plant species present. A wide variety of early fall wildflowers and grasses will be in bloom.

Time: 6:00 to 7:30 PM

Trip leader: Rich Henderson (608-845-7065)

Directions: From the intersection of CTH M and PD (north of Verona and SW of Madison) take PD west 3.0 miles to Timber Lane, turn right (north) on to Timber Lane and then immediately turn left into a joint driveway. Proceed to the brick house (2845 Timber Lane). Park in mowed lawn and drive (please do not block neighbor's driveway).

September 19 (Saturday)

Pleasure Valley Conservancy

Dane County, WI

This 226-acre conservancy includes wooded and open valley bottoms, streams, springs, wetlands, a manmade pond, rugged dolomite-capped hills underlain by sandstone with outcrops that provide scenic views of nearby Blue Mounds. Habitats include: dry oak savanna, oak woodlands, mixed hardwood forest, black-ash and black walnut bottomlands with forested seeps, sedge meadow, sedge fen, and floodplain forest. Formerly cultivated old fields have been planted mesic prairie. Restoration activities have been carried out for 15 years. The conservancy supports a wide diversity of native flora and fauna that characterized the area before European settlement. Over 450 native plants species are present. Rare plants include the Wisconsin State Endangered nodding rattlesnake-root (*Prenanthes crepidinea*), and the Wisconsin State Special Concern woodland boneset (*Eupatorium sessilifolium* L. var. *brittonianum* Porter), common skullcap (*Scutellaria ovata*) and adder's-tongue (*Opioglossum pusillum*). Sixty-one species of birds have been noted on site during the breeding season, including the Wisconsin State Special Concern Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-headed Woodpecker, and Louisiana Waterthrush, along with the Wisconsin State Threatened Kentucky Warbler. Nine species of reptiles and 26 mammal species have been found including the Wisconsin State Special Concern pickerel frog (*Rana palustris*). Most of the conservancy is protected with a conservation easement held by TPE and Dane County. Trip includes walking 2 to 4 miles, some on rugged terrain.

Time: 10:00 AM

Trip Leaders: Ken Wade and Pat Trochlell (608-767-3111)

Directions: Take USH 18/151 west from Madison to 5 miles west of Mt. Horeb. Turn right at Cave of the Mounds Rd. Go ¼ mile and turn right on CTH "ID" then immediately turn left on CTH "F" and continue past Cave of the Mounds. Turn right toward Brigham Co. Park and continue 2 miles on CTH "F" past the park. Turn left on Moyer Rd. Turn left after ¼ mile into paved private drive (10747 Moyer Rd.).

September 27 (Sunday)

La Crosse River State Trail's Rockland Prairie

La Crosse County, WI

This will be the last in the series of prairie walks along the railroad remnants for 2009, with local naturalist Bob Lee leading the search for the late bloomers such as Little Bluestem, Sweet Everlasting, Downy Gentian. This will be a leisurely walk on level terrain.

Time: 1:30 PM

Trip Leader: Bob Lee (608-486-2154)

Directions: Meet in Rockland, WI (near I-90 in eastern La Crosse Cty) at the railroad crossing on Commercial St. (CTH J).

October 18 (Sunday)

Vale, Oliver and Butenhoff Prairies

Green County, WI

Three dry prairie gems in Green County can be visited in a few hours to see the asters, goldenrods and gentians. We may carry paper sacks to collect seed at Vale and Butenhoff, owned and managed by the Prairie Bluff Chapter, and partially burned during the spring fire season. These are shortgrass prairies, with more little bluestem and sideoats grama than tallgrasses.

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 PM **Trip Leaders:** John Ochsner and Tom Mitchell (608-325-6228)

Directions: We'll meet along Schneeberger Road in Green County, a quarter-mile north of Purinton Road, between County Highways EE and F, in Mt. Pleasant Township. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Tom Mitchell via email or phone 608-325-6228.

Please call trip leaders to confirm that the trip is still on.

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NEXT FIELD TRIP FLIER

The next Field Trip Flier will cover dates April 10 – July 18, 2010. Deadline for collecting trip information will be March 8th.

If you have a field trip you would like to do, please submit your field trip ideas to your chapter's field trip coordinator. Thank you.

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS:

This Field Trip flier as well as our Prairie Promoter are posted on our website: www.ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org

If you would prefer to receive an email notification when this flyer is online, instead of receiving the hardcopy in the mail, please send your email address to TPE@ThePrairieEnthusiasts.org