



Prairie Smoke Equipment Loan Agreement

Prairie Smoke is a chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts

Prairie Smoke (Loaner) agrees to loan equipment to the Prairie Smoke member (Loanee), provided s/he agrees to the terms and conditions specified herein.

Please print clearly

Name of Person borrowing equipment (First, M.I. Last)	Home Telephone No. (include Area Code)
Address	Work Telephone No. (include Area Code)
City, State and Zip	Date (month, day, year)

Equipment borrowed (enter number of each item borrowed in the blank)

_____ Bladder bag	_____ Drip torch	_____ Pulaski	_____ Spray equipment	_____ Water wagon
_____ Brushsaw	_____ Hard hat/ Kevlar chaps	_____ Rake /Swatter	_____ Torch fuel can	_____ Weather kestrel
_____ Chainsaw	_____ Parsnip Predator	_____ Seed Collector	_____ Two-way radio	_____ Weed Wrench

Terms and Conditions

Intended Use: Use of equipment owned and maintained by Prairie Smoke is intended for preserving, enhancing and/or restoring prairie and oak savannas on public and private lands.

Limitations: Any equipment borrowed from Prairie Smoke (Loaner) may not be used for commercial purposes. Seed harvested with Prairie Smoke equipment may not be sold commercially. Burn equipment may not be used to burn garbage, leaves, woodpiles or for purposes not related to protecting, enhancing or restoring prairie, oak savanna or other fire-dependent habitat. Loan of this equipment is at the judgement of Prairie Smoke (Loaner). The Loaner may refuse to loan any equipment if the intended use is not in accordance with the Prairie Smoke mission.

I (Loanee) agree that it is my responsibility to know and understand the safe and proper use of any and all equipment being borrowed before operating such equipment. I (Loanee) also agree to inform any person(s) working with or around said borrowed equipment about the safe and proper use of that equipment before use takes place.

I (Loanee) agree that I am solely liable and responsible for loss or damage to said equipment; and I (Loanee) am responsible for routine maintenance as instructed to said equipment while in my possession. If equipment is damaged or lost while in my (Loanee's) possession, I (Loanee) agree to reimburse Prairie Smoke for the cost to repair or replace that piece of equipment.

I (Loanee) agree that I am responsible for any damage to real or personal property, bodily injuries, or deaths resulting from the handling and/or operation of borrowed equipment while it is in my possession. I (Loanee) agree to hold Prairie Smoke and The Prairie Enthusiasts, its agents and assigns, harmless from any and all claims arising from borrowing equipment.

I (Loanee) agree that I am aware of the dangers involved with the use of fire. I agree that I have basic knowledge of controlled burning and agree not to conduct a controlled burn if winds and humidity exceed safe levels. I (Loanee) am responsible for acquiring all permits and contacting the proper authority (ies) prior to conducting the burn.

I have read and understand the above agreement and explanations on the reverse side of this agreement between myself (Loanee) and Prairie Smoke (Loaner), and agree to the terms and conditions specified.

Signature of Loanee

The Prairie Smoke chapter was formed to be an educational and management resource to landowners and public land agencies to benefit prairie and savanna protection and restoration, and to increase awareness of the value and rarity of these ecosystems in southeastern Minnesota.

Prairie Smoke Equipment Loan Fee

There is no fee associated with the loan of this equipment. However, each item requires regular maintenance and periodic replacement of parts or total replacement. Donations from Loanees help offset these expenses and ensure equipment is available and in good working order for all members. *Please consider making a donation to Prairie Smoke. Thank you for your support.*

Suggested minimum donation per equipment item

Bladder bag	\$5	Drip torch	\$5	Radios	\$5	Spray equipment	\$5
Brushsaw	\$15	Parsnip Predator	\$5	Rake/Swatter	\$5	Water wagon	\$25
Chainsaw	\$15	Pulaski	\$5	Seed collector	\$25	Weather kestrel	\$5

All donations are tax deductible.

Prairie Smoke Equipment Loan Policy

In order to ensure equipment availability as well as the safe and appropriate use of Prairie Smoke equipment, we have established a procedure for borrowing equipment along with a set of criteria members must meet before equipment will be loaned.

1. Members should express an interest for equipment use at the spring or fall burn sign-up meeting or contact the Equipment Coordinator to get put on the list.
2. An Equipment Loan Agreement must be signed, dated and given to the Equipment Coordinator each year before equipment will be loaned.
3. A member must attend an equipment demo/training meeting or prescribed burn workshop at least once in a two-year time span in order to use Prairie Smoke equipment. This will ensure members know how to use equipment and can do general maintenance while the equipment is in his/her possession.
4. Member must sign out the equipment in the logbook (at location where equipment stored) when borrowed and sign item(s) back in when returned. The Equipment Coordinator will examine the equipment for damage other than normal wear and tear. If there are problems with the item(s) borrowed, the Borrower should inform the Equipment Coordinator so they can be fixed.
5. Burn equipment must be returned within 3 days of date borrowed and in at least the same condition it was loaned. Non-burn equipment must be returned within 2 weeks of date borrowed. Chainsaws and brushsaws should be sharpened or the blade/chain replaced.
6. Equipment using fuel must be returned with the same amount of fuel as when borrowed. All gas/oil mixtures should be mixed according to what is specified in the owner's manual or equipment fact sheet.

Prescribed burn equipment:

1. A member must have participated in a minimum of one prescribed burn before conducting his/her own burn. We are requiring this to help ensure the member is aware of the risks/dangers involved in conducting a prescribed burn and has at least experienced a burn prior to conducting his/her own burn.
2. The member must present a valid burn permit issued by the DNR or local burning authority. This is to ensure you have taken the necessary steps for conducting a burn prior to actually performing the burn.
3. A member is encouraged to develop a prescribed burn plan that includes all parcels to be burned. For burns larger than 2 acres, we recommend the burn plan include an aerial photo which are available from your local FSA office. A plan ensures that you have given consideration to safe weather conditions, fire breaks, any hazards your property might have including terrain and fuel types and evaluated the minimum number of people required to carry out your burn.
4. A member who is inexperienced with prescribed burning should ask a more experienced Prairie Smoke member(s) to volunteer on his/her burn. A list of volunteers is available from the Prairie Smoke President.

Spray and brush equipment

1. A member must have experience using a gas-powered brushsaw or chainsaw prior to borrowing this equipment. If not, the member must take a training class prior to borrowing the equipment.
2. Any person using the brushsaw or chainsaw equipment must wear personal protective equipment during use, which includes safety glasses, leather gloves, a hard hat with face shield, Kevlar chaps that reach the top of your boots, and leather boots that go above the ankle. Hard hats with face shields and chaps are available for loan with the equipment.
3. Any person(s) assisting with brush removal must wear a hard hat and safety glasses.
4. Any person(s) using spray equipment must follow label instructions for the application rate and target species for the specific chemical used.
5. All containers used for spraying must be triple rinsed after each use. The first rinse should include a small amount of soap, with clean water used for the second two rinses. This will prevent corrosion of the washers and seals on the equipment.

These requirements do not in any way make the Prairie Smoke Chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts, or its agents and assigns responsible for any damage to real or personal property, bodily injuries, or deaths resulting from handling and/or operation of loaned equipment or conducting a prescribed burn. These requirements are a precautionary measure to ensure the Loanees has given minimum consideration to the dangers/risks involved with conducting a prescribed burn and using the associated equipment.