The Prairie Pulse

A monthly newsletter for the Tallgrass Prairie Review

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Upcoming Workdays

Saturday, 4/18
Saturday, 4/25
Saturday, 5/9
Saturday, 5/16
Sunday, 5/17
Saturday, 5/23
Saturday, 5/30
Sunday, 5/31

For more information: PCPS website.

Caps Off to Our New Workday Leaders

The Poplar Creek Prairie Stewards have three new workday leaders: Ken Magnuson, Kathy Chlebowicz, and Tom Peters. Ken, Kathy, and Tom have been active in the PCPS community and participated in many events over the last two years. They participated in field training activities during our winter months, often some of the most challenging workdays of the year.

What does a workday leader (WDL) do? Among their duties are knowing PCPS protocols and procedures, being the point person for their workday, ensuring that all participants are safe and healthy, facilitating safety and reporting. They must coordinate workday plans with the Prairie Stewards, ensure that all participants are signed in and their hours are recorded, and, if necessary, They are asked to organize and lead safe and effective workdays, introducing new volunteers and supervising their work.

Caretakers carry out a variety of training experiences. They take Managing Invasives and Prairie Stewardship classes, and they attend workdays with the Prairie Stewards, Prairie Restoration and Chicago Botanic Garden training. An important part of the process is field training with experienced WDLs. Ken, Kathy, and Tom participated in the winter work days of WDLs in the Western Region (WR) of caretakers including seed collection and fire management. Ken, Kathy, and Tom have also been active in the Prairie Stewards program (each year) in order to allow them to learn their duties, with a lot of fun thrown in