

# What We Do

The Grassland Heritage Foundation (GHF) is a non-profit organization devoted to prairie preservation and education with a focus in northeast Kansas. Founded in 1975, GHF has been involved in several different projects promoting prairies in northeast Kansas, including native landscaping at Kansas City International Airport, management of Roulund-Wagner Prairie next to the Prairie Center in Olathe, and creating an educational traveling trunk for the Kansas State Historical Society. We continue to promote prairie awareness and preservation with several activities.

We are devoted to preserving prairies ...

## Through prairie acquisition and protection

We acquire at-risk prairie properties and accept donations from prairie enthusiasts who would like to directly support prairie land protection. GHF can also review protection options with landowners of prairie remnants. We own and maintain the Rachel Snyder Prairie, a 144-acre native and restored tallgrass prairie southeast of Mayetta, Kansas, donated by Rachel Snyder, an editor of Flower and Garden Magazine in Kansas City.

## Through prairie management

We take care of prairies! Our all-star volunteer team—the “Groundhogs”—maintains the Rachel Snyder Prairie. GHF’s staff, board members, and in-kind partners provide expertise in land management planning and techniques, exotic species control, and prairie restoration. Groundhog workdays, led by Preserve Manager Frank Norman, are on the third Saturday of every month except December. Frank organizes prairie management activities for all levels of skill and ability and works with the GHF board to establish multi-year management plans and to track our progress toward meeting prairie management and restoration goals. If you want to learn how to restore and manage prairie,



volunteering with the Groundhogs is a great way to do it!

And we are devoted to teaching about prairies ...

## We offer classroom presentations

GHF can come to your classroom, after-school program, or other group to give informative talks about prairie mammals like bison, prairie plants like milkweed, and prairie ecosystems and how they work—and about lots of other topics, too.

## We lead prairie walks and field trips, and we host special events

We can lead participants through an area prairie, point out native plants and animals, and talk about their role in the prairie ecosystem. This is a great opportunity to see native tallgrass prairie and view native plants and animals in their natural, wild setting. GHF also frequently hosts special events at

a prairie, including our annual Prairie Appreciation Day and our “Picturing the Prairie” photography event, which we presented with the organization Outside for a Better Inside.



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## We offer informative talks and workshops

GHF has sponsored presentations for adults on invasive weeds, prairie restoration and management, native medicinal plants, and ancestral arts, among other topics.

## We attend fairs and school festivals

GHF can bring hands-on activities for children and adults alike to area events, including plant and animal scavenger hunts and our Skins and Skulls trunks, as well as other activities.

## We have traveling trunks for classroom use

We're developing three trunks for classroom use and after-school programs, covering prairie plants, mammals, and animal signs and tracks. These trunks, which focus on activities for kindergarten through third grade, complement the Next Generation Science Standards.

## We award the Rachel Snyder Memorial Scholarship

GHF awards the \$1,000 Rachel Snyder Memorial Scholarship annually to graduate students who study prairies. The scholarship began in 2000 with funds donated in memory of Rachel Snyder. Since 2011, GHF has partnered with the Kansas Native Plant Society and began matching funds awarded through the society's Mary A. Bancroft Memorial Scholarship. Combined, the two scholarships have the potential to award \$2,000 annually.



## We host the Grassland Heritage Foundation Native Plant Sale

Are you interested in using native plants in your home or business landscape? Although native plants have become more popular for home landscaping, they are still difficult to find in garden centers and greenhouses. To help homeowners find high-quality native plants and to raise funds for the organization, we host a native plant sale every spring. GHF purchases native plants, which are often grown from seed collected locally, from a local wholesale nursery. All of the plants are native to tallgrass prairies, and they are appropriate for use in home and business landscapes.



## Grassland Heritage Foundation

[www.grasslandheritage.org](http://www.grasslandheritage.org)  
[grasslandheritage@gmail.com](mailto:grasslandheritage@gmail.com)

