



July 2018

Dear Friend,

When I talk about protecting the Katy Prairie, people often ask, "Where are we today?" It's an important question, and I want to take a minute to update you on our progress.

As of today, KPC owns nearly 13,500 acres on the Katy Prairie outright – an area larger than Hermann Park, Memorial Park and Cullen Park combined. This land, in our ownership, will be protected forever. In addition, we have secured over 4,000 acres of conservation agreements with landowners. These landowners place agreements on their land so that they can enjoy ranches or farms for decades to come, knowing it will be protected even when passed down within the family or sold. The combination of these lands, in addition to other lands surrounding the preserve that are protected public lands, has ensured that over 20,000 acres of the Katy Prairie are protected.

Here is our next step: We need to protect at least 30,000 acres in total. Why? Because scientists estimate that we need to conserve between 30,000 and 50,000 acres to achieve a "critical mass" for sustaining a prairie ecosystem. Our final goal is 50,000 acres, but reaching the intermediate stage of 30,000 acres is a critical near-term goal.

We have identified 5,000 acres we could save today if we raise the dollars to do so.

You can help us get to the finish line. Talk to private landowners you know about placing a conservation agreement on their land with KPC. Join us as a participant or volunteer at one of our events on the prairie or in the city. Donate [here](#) to help us protect these pieces forever.

Where are we today? Together we are well on our way to accomplishing something that will last for generation after generation - a Katy Prairie Preserve that is forever protected. We are so close to conserving at least 30,000 acres. Thank you for being part of the journey.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Piacentini
President and Chief Executive Officer
maryanne@katyprairie.org

This Month at KPC



July Volunteer Opportunities

You can make a difference! First time volunteers, fill out a volunteer application [here](#). We are working on a variety of different volunteer projects at Indiangrass Preserve and Shrike Prairie throughout the year. Join us during any of the times below.

Indiangrass Preserve

Tuesdays: 9 am - 3 pm

Fridays: 9 am - 1 pm

Saturdays: 9 am - 1 pm

First Fridays on the Prairie!

Our last two volunteer days were a great success! We successfully removed over 2,000 Chinese Tallow trees and along with a number of other invasive species.

Our next First Friday will feature putting plants in the ground and collecting native prairie seeds! This is a great opportunity to get your hands dirty and be involved in a prairie restoration project. This is also a wonderful opportunity learn about native prairie plants and a great way to meet like-minded people in the community!

Friday July 6, 2018

8:00 am - lasting as long as you can stand the heat

Indiangrass Preserve

31950 Hebert Road

Waller, TX 77484

Register [here](#)

KPC will provide shovels and gloves along with seed collecting bags, however please feel free to bring your own equipment if you prefer. We suggest wearing long pants, closed-toe shoes, sunscreen, and a hat since it will likely be hot and sunny.

On the Prairie

Upcoming Events

We have a number of exciting events planned for this fall, and we can't wait to share them with you. The full calendar is coming soon, but please check out a preview of a couple of the fun events we will be offering!

[Painting on the Prairie with Pinot's](#)

Palette

Saturday, September 29th

4 - 6 pm

Adults and Children 12 & Older

More info [here](#)

Putting Down Roots Volunteer

Prairie Planting

Saturday, November 10th

9 am - 1 pm

All Ages

More info [here](#)



Photo by Chuck Duplant


Waller County Backyard Basics

Please join your Waller County AgriLife Extension Agents & Master Gardeners for a **THREE** part educational series.
Topics to include:



Backyard Rabbits & Chickens - July 19th
Plants and Pollinators - July 26th
Fruit and Vegetable Canning - August 2nd

Held at the Waller County Extension Office
6pm-8pm. (Registration beginning at 5:30)
Must be present to win door prizes

To reserve a seat at all 3 programs the cost is \$35. For an individual program the cost is \$15.



Contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office to register. *By July 16th*
846 6th Street, Hempstead, TX
979-826-7651

Check This Out!

You Can Help Reduce Flooding

Harris County Flood Control Bond Election August 25, 2018 – Meetings continue to be held in the 23 watersheds in Harris County to inform residents of the upcoming bond election, to discuss possible projects for implementation, and to solicit ideas from residents for projects to reduce flooding in their watershed.

To date, 10 public meetings have been held and 13 are to be held by July 31, 2018. The meetings are an open house style event where attendees can go from table to table reviewing maps and talking with county officials. Generally, Judge Ed Emmett and a number of Commissioners also attend. Click on the [link](#) to see when the meeting is scheduled for your watershed. If you are interested in learning key points that the Katy Prairie Conservancy has developed for these meetings, please email info@katyprairie.org.

Waller County Transportation Plan – KPC has been serving on the steering committee for this plan and will review the final recommendations for an updated transportation plan. There have been numerous public meetings to solicit input on transportation issues in the county. There will be additional public meetings this summer to present the final draft plan so please click on the [link](#) to find out more about the plan and to learn when the meetings will be held. For more information, please email info@katyprairie.org.



Photo by Chuck Duplant

KPC is Hiring!

Katy Prairie Conservancy is looking for a new Ranch Manager. Please click [here](#) for the job description and more information.

Visit our Website

Donate Now

Katy Prairie Conservancy | katyprairie.org | 713-523-6135 | info@katyprairie.org

SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE PRAIRIE

