



Lincoln Creek Prairie and Trail

***Mission:** Maintaining and restoring
Nebraska Ecosystems - creating opportunities
for education, research, stewardship and
community development.*



Prairie Plains Resource Institute was founded in Aurora, Nebraska, in 1980 with the intent of preserving native Nebraska habitats for use as educational sites for science, history and land management.

A non-profit membership organization, Prairie Plains has seven properties that are actively managed to provide access to the Great Plains landscape to people of all ages.

Learn more and become a member at
www.prairieplains.org

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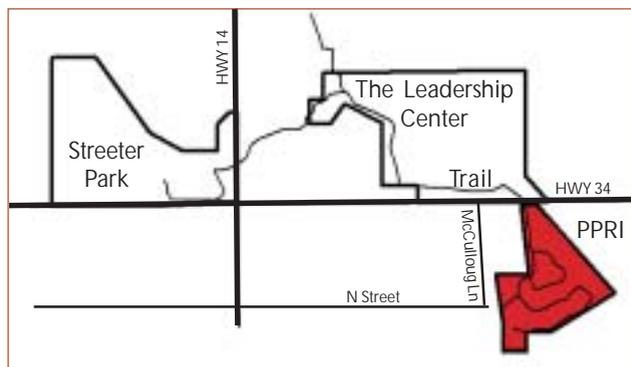


East side of Aurora, Nebraska, at "N" Street
and McCullough Lane

One of seven Nebraska Prairies made available by:



Welcome to the Lincoln Creek Prairie and Trail! Here, one can stroll along Aurora's first hike and bike trail, enjoy the plant variety and wildlife of the restored prairie or just find a quiet place to sit. PPRI's land is part of a community greeway connecting with The Leadership Center (Nebraska Vocational Agricultural Foundation), Streeter Park and residential areas.



History

In 1983 Wilma Aalborg donated PPRI's first property, a 6-acre triangle of creek land south of Highway 34. Following this gift PPRI was able to lease approximately 10 acres adjoining from the City of Aurora. This area became a nucleus for PPRI management and high diversity prairie restoration activities through the 1980s. In the 1990s additional prairie plantings were completed across the highway north on Leadership Center ground.

The trail began to take form in the 90s as well, and included a collaborative project to construct an experimental bridge across the Lincoln Creek on Leadership Center property. With completion of the bridge and additional trail work by the City, the trail now extends from the east edge of town westerly to Streeter Park and the north residential area of Parkview Estates.

Unique Features

Although relatively small in acreage (16 acres), the PPRI Lincoln Creek land is special for a number of reasons. It is very accessible to the community from a residential street and contains both wild prairie and wooded areas as well as maintained park-like areas. The trail makes walking, running or biking easy through the prairie. Also, with its creekbed and meadow terrain next to productive cropland at the town's edge, it offers visitors subtle, beautiful scenery through the four seasons.

This preserve is important to PPRI history because it is where the early attempts to plant high diversity prairies - 100+ species - from harvested seed took place. There are five different plantings on the PPRI land; also four plantings on Leadership Center land north of Highway 34.

Stewardship

Prescribed burning has continued on a regular basis since 1981, primarily to control brome grass and to encourage the growth of native grasses and wildflowers. Future plans for the area are to make the manicured west area into a pocket park and to develop a sculpture garden.

Rules

- * Access is free and open to the public.
- * Please stay on trails as much as possible in the prairie areas; other areas are accessible off-trail.
- * No motorized vehicles except for the handicapped.
- * Hunting is not allowed.
- * Campfires may be allowed in a fire ring with permission. Absolutely no other fires allowed.
- * No plants or wildlife may be removed from the property.
- * Visitors must exercise caution on and off trails due to hazards of uneven terrain, animal burrows, downed timber and water areas.