

# Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge - welcome back to the tallgrass prairie!

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior - Nature photographer Jim Brandenburg helps preserve his corner of Minnesota tallgrass prairie



Description: -

- Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge (Iowa) -- Recreational use. Wildlife conservation -- Iowa -- Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge.

Prairies -- Iowa -- Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge. Walnut Creek National Wildlife Refuge - welcome back to the tallgrass prairie!

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## Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie

This is the only remaining area in America with intact, extensive tallgrass prairie landscapes. Next stop is Yellow Medicine County and a cooperative pair of Western Kingbirds.

## Guide to Minnesota's 13 national wildlife refuges

The name for Easter in Latin and Greek is Pascha, and Hebrew Pasach, which originally referred to Passover. Rydell Nearly 2,200 acres of wetlands, hardwood forest, and tallgrass prairie and 7 miles of walking trail offer visitors a view of wildlife, including trumpeter swans.

## Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge

Upper Mississippi River Spanning 261 river miles in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois, the refuge was established in 1924 for fish, wildlife and plants and a breeding place for migratory birds. At almost 11,000 acres, this is a part of the Flint Hills where we experience the sweep of the prairie and the expanse of open skies.

## Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge (Iowa)

The refuge restoration process has already provided a diversity of life, including hundreds of plant species; over 200 bird species; nearly 100 species of mammals; scores of amphibians, reptiles, and fish; and countless thousands of insect species. The first national tallgrass prairie ever designated in the U. Other names for this spring beauty are Prairie Crocus, Easter Flower, Windflower, Cutleaf Anemone, and Prairie Smoke in reference to its long wispy seed plumes.

## Prairie

They can be seen around the visitor center and along the gravel roads. Regular Hours: Sunday-Saturday from 9am-4pm Winter hours: December 1-February 28 Monday-Saturday from 9am-4pm; closed Sunday.

## **Prairie**

The refuge is located 18 miles east of Des Moines, Iowa, on State Highway 163. Some insects and spiders prey on and parasitize plant-eating species, keeping their populations from devastating the plants.

## **Nature photographer Jim Brandenburg helps preserve his corner of Minnesota tallgrass prairie**

Look for them perched up above the shorter vegetation as they sing. Wild bison once roamed this quartzite ridge, grazing in big bluestem grass, rubbing against immense rock outcroppings and looking out at lower land in every direction. These large herds had a huge impact on the prairie ecosystem.

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