

# Resources for Urban and Residential Prairies

## Prairie Walks, Other Events to Learn More About Prairie

- Irvine Prairie wildflower walks, 1174 55th Street, Dysart, Iowa, fourth Monday of the month at 6 p.m., March–September, 2026 (two walks in June and July). March 23, April 27, May 25 (Memorial Day), June 8, June 22, July 8, July 27, August 24, September 28. \*\*\*Email this email address to ask to join the Tallgrass Prairie Center email list to be notified of walks and other events: [tallgrassprairiectr@uni.edu](mailto:tallgrassprairiectr@uni.edu)
- Iowa Prairie Network events: <https://www.iowaprairienetwork.org/events>
- Wild Ones chapter events. Find your local chapter by searching the map or entering your zip code under the map at: <https://wildones.org/chapters/>

## Planning, Designing, Implementing, and Maintaining

### Resources for planting; mostly focused on using small plants (plugs)

- Nemec, Kristine. (2024, July 11). Prepare a slice of your yard for a pollinator garden. *Modern Farmer*. <https://modernfarmer.com/2024/07/prepare-a-slice-of-your-yard-for-a-pollinator-garden/>
- Nemec, Kristine. (Fall 2024). Add balance to your blooms with grasses. *Wild Ones Journal*. <https://bit.ly/3OydAwA>
- Mowing to Monarchs Program, Dubuque County Conservation <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dubuque/mowing-monarchs>
- NRCS USDA Pollinator Gardens <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/PollinatorGardens.pdf>
- Wild Ones - Creating Your Own Native Garden, A Guide To Creating Beautiful Home Landscapes <https://nativegardendesigns.wildones.org/>
- Xerces Society Pollinator Conservation Resource Center <https://xerces.org/pollinator-resource-center>
- Homegrown National Park <https://homegrownnationalpark.org>

### Resources for planting using seed

- Tallgrass Prairie Center Prairie Reconstruction Resources (for larger seeded areas) <https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/resources/prairie-reconstruction>

## Purchasing Seeds and Small Plants (Plugs)

- Tallgrass Prairie Center's Seed and Service Providers List <https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/resources/prairie-reconstruction/seed-and-service-providers>
- Tallgrass Prairie Center's List of Midwest Native Plant Nurseries (2024) -> Download by going to the Seed and Service Providers list (see previous bullet) and clicking on Midwest Native Plant Nurseries under the maps

- Search for local native plant sales put on by conservation groups. For example, Hartman Nature Reserve's annual native plant sale in Black Hawk County, or Golden Hills RC&D annual native plant sale in Pottawattamie County.

## Funding

- Connect with your local Trees Forever Field Coordinator <https://treesforever.org/staff>

## Signage for Plantings

- <https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/resources/prairie-reconstruction/signage-prairie-plantings>

## Books and Manuals

- Nemec, Kristine, et al. (2025). *Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Manual*. University of Northern Iowa Tallgrass Prairie Center. <https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/integrated-roadside-vegetation-management-technical-manual>
- Vogt, Benjamin. (2023). *Prairie Up: An Introduction to Natural Garden Design*. 3 Fields Books.
- Diboll, Neil, and Hilary Cox. (2023). *The Gardener's Guide to Prairie Plants*. University of Chicago Press.
- Rainer, Thomas, and Claudia West. (2015). *Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes*. Timber Press.

## Educational Resources

Prairie Root Banners for Purchase

<https://uni.estore.flywire.com/products?storeCatalog=19116>

Prairie Education Resources (Plant identification resources, lesson plans, etc.)

<https://tallgrassprairiecenter.org/resources/education-and-appreciation>

## Information on Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Plans and Grants for Roadside Vegetation Management

Iowa DOT IRVM website

<https://iowadot.gov/consultants-contractors/design/lrtf/integrated-roadside-vegetation-mgmt>

Contact Tara Van Waus, Living Roadway Trust Fund coordinator, at [tara.vanwaus@iowadot.us](mailto:tara.vanwaus@iowadot.us) or 515-239-1768

## **Webinars on Starting a Roadside Vegetation Program in Your City or County**

Register for next live webinar: Roadside Vegetation Programs 101, Wednesday, May 6, 2026, 1 p.m.–2 p.m.

[https://uni.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_G76IRHBmRxOzbnESxbK9Aw](https://uni.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G76IRHBmRxOzbnESxbK9Aw)

Recorded webinars:

Roadside Plans for Iowa' Small Towns, recorded May 2025

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07csfFTz9po>

Roadside Vegetation Programs 101, recorded December 11, 2025

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=laVWZ-6NoCk>