

TO SEE AND DO

Wildlife

The Prairie Center provides diverse wildlife habitat and is home to a wide variety of species. The best times of day for wildlife viewing are usually just after dawn and just before dusk. A list of wildlife species that have been observed on the property can be obtained upon request from the Prairie Center manager. Birds, small mammals and reptiles are especially abundant and can be observed regularly. Larger species such as wild turkey and white-tailed deer also frequent the area. **All wildlife species are protected on the area.**

Fishing

Fishing is allowed at the 5-acre lake in the center of the east side of the property. Anglers may catch hybrid sunfish, bluegill, channel catfish, largemouth bass and a few other species. A valid Kansas fishing license is required, except for those exempt by law. Any special regulations on creel and length limits for the property are posted at the lake. Limited catch-and-release fishing in the intermittent stream is available when conditions allow. Fish from the lake can be kept within legal length and creel limits.

Trails

Several trails make up the approximately 3-mile system. Visitors hiking, walking or running on these trails are required to remain on the marked, established paths at all times. The trails at Prairie Center are foot-traffic only. These paths meander through different habitats, including prairie, woodlands and along the creek and offer a relaxing outdoor experience.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

- ▶ Open dawn to dusk, seven days a week.
- ▶ Fishing requires a state fishing license unless exempt by law.
- ▶ Trails are walking-only access.
- ▶ No horses, bicycles, or motorized vehicles.
- ▶ No Dogs
- ▶ Primitive camping is allowed by special permission only.
- ▶ Collecting any material, such as rocks, plants, or animals, is not allowed.
- ▶ Hunting, trapping, target practice, or dog training are not allowed.
- ▶ No swimming
- ▶ No alcoholic beverages
- ▶ No fireworks
- ▶ No fires allowed except in designated areas and with special permission.

To report any violations or concerns, call the Prairie Center contact number or Outdoor Alert at 1-800-228-4263.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 1020 S Kansas Ave., Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 08/18

Prairie Center



Prairie Center
26325 W 135th
Olathe, KS 66061

(913) 209-0207 (Alaine Hudlin, Area Manager)
(913) 422-1314 (Kansas City District Office)


Department of Wildlife, Parks
and Tourism

Department Website:
www.ksoutdoors.com

Archery Range

The public archery range is spread over 45 acres on the extreme southwest corner of the property. This facility has an ADA-accessible static range consisting of five targets and two walk-back ranges of 10 targets (north section) and nine targets (south section). It was developed to be a family-friendly area to provide shooting opportunities for youth and adults wanting to hone their archery skills. A separate brochure is available that gives more detailed information about the range and the specific rules in place there. **Only field points allowed NO broadheads.**

History

The Prairie Center consists of approximately 300 acres of richly-diverse biomes, including tallgrass prairie, riparian woodland and wetlands. The property was obtained in 1990 by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism to be maintained as a natural area and utilized for public education. Management includes the use of prescribed fire and mowing to keep grasslands viable and slow succession of woody vegetation encroachment.

Program Opportunities

The Prairie Center serves as a demonstration site to assist educators in exploring this unique and diverse ecological community. Educator workshops are held at various times throughout the year, with a schedule available from the area manager. School and scout groups are welcome, but reservation arrangements must be made in advance for large groups. Limited interpretive programming is also available, with topics and scheduling available by contacting the area manager.

