

You can help preserve prairie (published September 1, 2009, in Kansas City Star)

The Star's editorial "Our endangered tallgrass prairie" (8/23, Opinion) was a powerful call to action to conserve this majestic ecosystem. The Missouri Prairie Foundation is here to help and invites your readers to join us.

For 43 years, this nonprofit membership organization has advocated for prairie conservation by state agencies. We also own 2,400 acres of native grassland ourselves. We assist landowners with prairie restoration and encourage conservation-compatible economic development, such as prairie biomass energy.

We host tours and camping on our prairies — located mostly in southwestern Missouri — so that children and adults can experience the sights and sounds of original prairie for themselves.

Closer to home, we partner with Kansas City Parks and Recreation to establish hundreds of acres of city land to prairie plantings.

We invite your readers to learn more about us (www.moprairie.org) and to experience the beauty of this original American landscape firsthand.

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