

Palouse Prairie Flyer

Newsletter of the Palouse Prairie Foundation

Photo by Matthew Dolkas

Fall Equinox 2017

Respect your roots

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Steptoe Butte Reserve Field Trip

On October 5, 2016, 437 acres near the top of Steptoe Butte were purchased by two couples dedicated to the conservation of Palouse Prairie. It contains the largest known remnant of Palouse Prairie in Whitman County, and has populations of the federally endangered Spalding's Catchfly and a population of the Broad Fruit Mariposa Lily, which was once common but had not been observed in the county since 1910.

On July 8, botanist Dr. James Riser lead a contingent of Palouse Prairie Foundation members and Idaho Native Plant Society members on a field trip to the Steptoe Butte Reserve. They encountered a number of broad fruit mariposas, and many other forb species, in full bloom.



Upcoming Events & Notices

Election for six board members for 2018

Ballots will be sent out to current PPF members in November to elect board members to serve PPF for 2018.

Annual Meeting and Party in December

Please join us for our annual meeting and party in December. We will let people know when a date and time have been settled. We will have a short presentation and announce the slate of board members for 2018.

Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse

The Palouse Prairie Foundation expects to be one of the non-profits at the Alternative Giving Market again this year in December. About 30 local non-profits will be there for folks to visit with and learn what they do. One can select to whom to donate money in exchange for a card to give to family, friends, or anyone else in lieu of a physical gift for the holidays. Or simply use it as a means to give your donations all in one handy place, with no credit card charge overhead.



The Palouse Prairie Foundation promotes preservation and restoration of the Palouse Prairie ecosystem.

Palouse Prairie Foundation
P.O. Box 8952
Moscow, ID 83843

September 2017

John Crock Native Palouse Prairie Pollinator Garden

John Crock, former owner of Hyperspod Sports outdoor sports store in downtown Moscow, in 2009 started work to convert a strip of land along the Latah Trail back to Palouse Prairie native plants. He toiled to rid the plot of sod grasses, and got some forbs started. He asked the Palouse Prairie Foundation to carry on his work. We agreed to do so, and the Palouse Prairie Foundation will work with the community to restore native Palouse Prairie shrubs and forbs to a half acre adjacent to the trail to create an interpretive area and pollinator garden. It is just East of Moscow, between Carmichael Road and Lenville Road along the Troy highway. The Jeffrey Martin Memorial Shelter, a parking lot at Carmichael Road, and a restroom are nearby.

The nascent John Crock Native Palouse Prairie Pollinator Garden is adjacent to the Latah Trail on the eastern edge of Moscow. The Palouse Prairie Foundation continues to try to eradicate the sod there, and has had two planting sessions. The first, on May 14, introduced some snowberry bushes and kinnikinnick around the perimeter. Then on September 24, we planted about 100 camas bulbs in a low area. There is quite a lot of camas between the John Crock Garden and the Jeffrey Martin shelter. The garden is between Carmichael Road and Lenville Road along the Troy highway.

We anticipate planting native Palouse shrubs in the spring of 2018.



Members may participate in a number of new activities in the coming year. Here are a few:

- o Receive a members-only tour of the private prairie land and heritage apple orchards on Steptoe Butte
- o Help plant the John Crock Memorial Garden along the Latah Trail
- o Join the Second Annual Weeding Party at Whelan Cemetery
- o Participate in a Botany Blitz collecting specimens on Steptoe Butte in May and June

Membership dues are used for lobbying efforts to officially and legally recognize Palouse Prairie in Latah and Whitman County land use documents, to support the program of mini-grants awarded to schools and individuals, for the presentation of public programs and workshops, and generally to continue our mission to preserve, protect, and promote the Palouse Prairie.

Dues are:

Student	\$10.00	Regular	\$20.00	Family	\$35.00
Sustaining	\$50.00	Patron	\$100.00	Lifetime	\$250.00
Donation	\$ _____				

Renew your PPF membership



Palouse Prairie Foundation memberships are for the calendar year.

Please make your check payable to *Palouse Prairie Foundation*.

* Our primary means of communication about meetings, field trips, etc., is by e-mail.

The Palouse Prairie Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Standard \$20 Other \$ _____ Donation \$ _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
E-mail * _____

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