

# PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 20, 2014

## **Kansas Native Plant Society Announces Schedule For 2014 Annual Wildflower Weekend**

The Kansas Native Plant Society (KNPS) will host its 36th Annual Wildflower Weekend September 19–21, 2014, in Pratt, Kansas. Pratt is located in the High Plains physiographic area - sandwiched between the Arkansas River Lowlands and the Red Hills. "Comparison of Plants in the High Plains and Red Hills" is the theme of this year's meeting. The highlight of the weekend for participants is the variety of outings to see the spectacular fall wildflowers with other plant enthusiasts and knowledgeable experts.

The event begins Friday, Sept. 19, with an afternoon tour of the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Pollinator Garden & Education Center near Pratt and a field trip to the Ted Alexander Ranch in the Red Hills. The day ends with dinner at Buster's in Sun City.

The KNPS annual meeting Saturday morning, Sept. 20, at Pratt Community College will include awards, silent auction, and a photo contest. Two special presentations are planned. KNPS member, Craig Freeman will present an overview of his work on the beardtongues (Penstemon) of North America. Charter KNPS member, Iralee Barnard will discuss grasses and her new book "Common Grasses of Oklahoma, Kansas, and Nebraska." Afternoon field trips will explore two ranches in the Red Hills near Sun City.

Field trips on Sunday morning, Sept. 21, include visits to two High Plains prairies outside of Pratt.

A detailed itinerary, field trip locations, photo contest instructions, reservation form, and list of local motels appear on the KNPS web site, [www.ksnps.org](http://www.ksnps.org). There is a registration fee of \$10 for KNPS members and \$20 for non-members. Attendees may participate in some or all of the activities during the 3-day event.

The Kansas Native Plant Society, organized in 1978 and with more than 850 members, encourages awareness and appreciation of the native plants of Kansas by promoting education, stewardship, and scientific knowledge. Learn more at [www.ksnps.org](http://www.ksnps.org).

### Contact:

Phyllis Scherich, 2014 AWW Coordinator  
620.213.0751  
[lpsch@haviglandtelco.com](mailto:lpsch@haviglandtelco.com)