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Late Winter and Early Spring Prescribed Burning Workshops to be Held in Central and Eastern Kansas

Fire safety is a priority topic of the upcoming late winter and early spring Prescribed Burning Workshops scheduled to be held in central and eastern Kansas this spring.

Carol Blocksome, Grassland Water Quality Extension Staff at Kansas State University (KSU), Manhattan, said that these workshops are a continuation of workshops conducted in central and eastern Kansas last fall. It was evident from these workshops that producers needed and wanted more information and education on how to conduct a safe and successful prescribed burn.

"Safe burning requires proper planning, education, and training," she said.

"Producers may want to burn native and Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) grassland to improve vegetative quality, control weeds, manage for wildlife, or fulfill CRP contractual obligations," said Blocksome.

"I would encourage any producer who is thinking of burning grassland in central and eastern Kansas to attend one of these workshops," Blocksome said.

There is a registration charge to attend the workshops, which covers the cost of handouts and a notebook. Lunch will be served. RSVP deadline is a week prior to the workshop date. For more information, please contact your office listed below.

Prescribed Burning workshops are being held at several locations in central and eastern Kansas. The content of all the workshops is very similar, so producers can attend the most convenient location.

Agenda topics are:

- CRP Maintenance and Management Practices
- Burn Considerations: Why and When to Burn
- Burn Notification and Local Regulations
- Producer Panel
- Using a Burn Contractor
- Burn Terminology and Fire Behavior: Smoke Management, Eddy Currents, Fire Guards, Burning Techniques
- Planning and Conducting a Burn
- Burn Equipment

Presenters include representatives from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), Kansas Forest Service (KFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), KSU, as well as local fire and emergency management staff and local producers with burn experience. Presenters vary by workshop, but all will be presenting essentially the same information.

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Workshops are sponsored by local conservation districts, Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS), Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Environmental Protection Agency, Kansas Water Plan funds, Kansas Grazing Lands Coalition, Kansas Fire Council, local fire departments and emergency management personnel, KFS, KDWP, National Weather Service, KSU Extension, and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies in Kansas--FSA and NRCS. Sponsors vary for meal and burn workbook by workshop.

Workshop Date	Location	Phone Number for Reservations
March 2	Topeka	785-232-0062, Ext 4-Kansas State— LeRoy Russell
March 4	Independence	620-331-2690-Kansas State University —Scott Gordan
March 9	Burden	620-221-5450-Kansas State University— Jill Zimmerman
March 10	Madison	620-583-7455-Kansas State University— Jeff Davidson
March 11	Cuba	785-527-2718-Kansas Farm Bureau— Debbie Beems
March 17	Concordia	785-527-2718-Kansas Farm Bureau— Debbie Beems
March 24	Garnett	785-448-6323, Ext 101-Anderson County Conservation District—Debbie Davis,
March 25	Fredonia	620-378-2866-Wilson County Conservation District—Gina Thompson
March 31	Wichita	316-660-0100-Kansas State University— Greg Cramer

For more information about developing a prescribed burn plan for native grass or acres enrolled in the CRP, contact your local USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government or on the Internet at offices.usda.gov).

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