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## 14 Prescribed Burning Workshops to Be Held in Western Kansas

Fire safety is a priority topic of the 14 upcoming Prescribed Burning Workshops scheduled to be held in the western one-third of Kansas this fall.

Carol Blocksome, Grassland Water Quality Extension staff at Kansas State University (KSU), Manhattan, said that the idea for the workshops came about after she attended a meeting where CRP burning in western Kansas was discussed. It was evident from the discussion 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, or fulfill CRP contractual obligations.

“I would encourage any producer who is thinking of burning grassland in western Kansas to attend one of these workshops,” Blocksome said.

Prescribed burning workshops are being held at 14 locations in the western third of Kansas. The content of all the workshops is very similar, so producers can attend the most convenient location.

There is a \$10 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 local conservation district or KSU Extension office.

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; and Burn Equipment.

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14 Prescribed Burning Workshops...

Page 2

Presenters include representatives from Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Kansas Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kansas State University, 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.

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, and local businesses.

Workshop dates, locations, and phone numbers (phone numbers: conservation district or extension service) are as follows:

October 27-Bazine 785-798-3614 or 785-798-3921  
October 28-Colby 785-462-7671 or 785-460-4582  
October 31-Russell 785-483-5618 or 785-483-3157  
November 3-Hill City 785-421-2115 or 785-421-3411  
November 4-Scott City 620-872-3230 or 620-872-2930  
November 5-Sharon Springs 785-852-4213 or 785-852-4285  
November 6-Bird City 785-332-2183 or 785-332-3171  
November 12-Stockton 785-425-6302 or 785-425-6851  
November 17-Norton 785-877-5156 or 785-877-5755  
November 18-Tribune 620-376-4332 or 620-376-4284  
November 19-Garden City 620-275-0211 or 620-272-3670  
November 20-Oakley 785-672-4861 or 785-671-3245  
December 1-Elkhart 620-544-2261 or 620-697-2558  
December 3-Dodge City 620-227-3731 or 620-227-4542

This information is also available on the NRCS Web site at: [www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov).

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