

TRNHA Newsletter

MAY 2010

VISITOR INFORMATION

Theodore Roosevelt National Park South Unit
Visitor Center Hours
8:00-4:30 MDT

North Unit
Visitor Center Hours
9:00 am -5:30pm CDT

Painted Canyon
8:30 - 4:30 MDT

Drives through both units of the park are currently open.

Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site
8:00 am -4:30 pm MDT

Upper Souris NWR
8:00 am - 4:30 pm CDT
Monday-Friday

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15, 2010 -Knife River Indian Villages NHS 7th Annual Birdwalk.

May 15, 2010 - 3rd Annual Photography workshop at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

May 24 – June 18, 2010 Archeological dig at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

May 30, 2010 - Visitor Center hours will be extended at Theodore Roosevelt National Park to:

South Unit -8am -6pm MDT
Painted Canyon-8:30am -6pm MDT
North Unit -8am - 6pm CDT

June 6, 2010 - TRNHA's 56th Annual Birdwalk! For more info please contact us: info@trnha.org or 701-623-4884

Burning in the Badlands

If the weather cooperates, the National Park Service plans to implement prescribed fire projects in Theodore Roosevelt National Park's South, North and Elkhorn Ranch Units. The burn units vary in size and will be conducted between April 12 and May 24, 2010. Prescribed fires are those started by park managers under specific weather and fuel conditions for a specific purpose. Air temperature, humidity, ignition sequence, fuel load, wind speed and direction are some of the many factors considered in establishing the prescription. Fire, combined with grazing by large animals, is an important tool used to protect, preserve and maintain healthy prairie ecosystems within the park.

Three burn units of varying sizes are planned to be burned at the South Unit, one 5 acre unit at the Elkhorn Ranch site, and two units totaling 800 acres at the North Unit. The majority of the burns will be conducted on open prairie with the following objectives: reduction of high hazard fuel loads,

restoration of periodic fire to the landscape, to encourage native species establishment, and noxious weed control. Depending upon fire behavior and other conditions at the time, all or just a fraction of the units could be burned.

National Park Service policy stresses managing fire for resource benefit rather than just suppressing it. Research has shown that native grassland diversity and forage quality deteriorate when fire is excluded from fire dependent systems for extended periods. Fires of appropriate intensity transform dead plant material into soil nutrients and increase the amount of nitrogen fixing microorganisms, encouraging plant and animal diversity across the landscape. The wide variety of plants and animals people expect

to see in national parks is partially the result of past fire activity. Burns units contain study plots that, through pre- and post-burn monitoring, help park managers document and better understand the effects of fire on native and non-native vegetation.

No closures are expected to result from prescribed fire activity. Once favorable weather conditions occur, specific dates will be identified. On the day of a burn local fire departments and law enforcement agencies will be notified, and



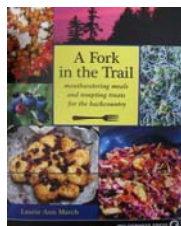
signs will be placed along the road and park visitor centers notifying the public of the burn. Assistance from federal land manage-

ment agencies and National Park Service units from North and South Dakota will be utilized to safely carry out the prescribed burns.



Check out these Items!

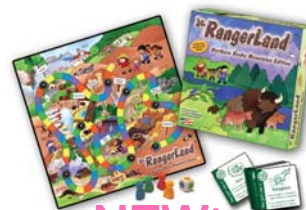
A Fork in the Trail
by: Laurie Ann March



Fun recipes for taking with you when you are travelling the trails or a great snack at home!

\$17.95

Junior Rangerland Northern Rocky Mountain Edition



NEW!

There is no better way to extend your National Park visit then by taking home this fun National Park game!

\$20.00

Wildflowers of the Northern Great Plains

by: F.R. Vance, J.R. Jowsey, J.S. McLean, & F.A. Switzer



Spring is in the air and flowers are blooming this book will help you identify them.

\$19.95

Ranger Recommends



Mary Beth poses with her recommendation!

June's featured Ranger is Mary Beth Brazell from Theodore Roosevelt National Park where she is working her third summer as an Interpretive Ranger. Park visitors and staff benefit greatly from Mary's vast knowledge and love of nature and history.

The book Mary Beth recommends is *Kids Guide to Theodore Roosevelt National Park*. Mary Beth says, "The Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association has a wonderful selection of children's books, educational materials, games, and activities. The book I recommend to all current and future

Junior Rangers of the park is *A Kids Guide to Theodore Roosevelt National Park* because it complements the park's Junior Ranger program nicely! This activity book is a fun way for your young visitors to continue to learn about the park after their visit has ended. These fun activities involve different park resource topics such as astronomy, geology, ecology, and history. These topics are explained in terms that are easy for children to understand. This book encourages children to want to learn more about Theodore Roosevelt National Park and visit other National Parks!"

If you are interested in purchasing this book or any other items in this newsletter, please visit one of our Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History bookstores or visit our online store at:

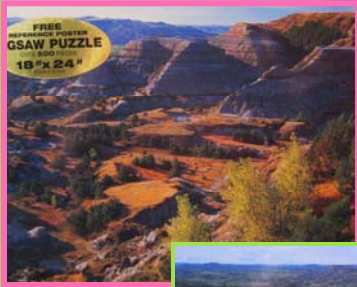
www.trnha.org/bookstorehome.htm

Kids Guide to Theodore Roosevelt National Park

**Regular Price: \$2.50
Members Price: \$2.13**

Member Only Special!

May's members only coupon is for our Theodore Roosevelt National Park Puzzle. Choose between 2 great puzzles! Puzzles available for purchase at Theodore Roosevelt National Park or by contacting us at 701-623-4884.



**MAY'S MEMBER ONLY
COUPON IS FOR...**

Theodore Roosevelt National Park Puzzles



SALE PRICE \$10.95
(Price listed is before 15% membership discount for a final price of \$9.31)



Must show coupon and membership card in TRNHA bookstore or contact TRNHA (701) 623-4884 to order by mail.

EXPIRES: May 31, 2010

Upper Souris NWS Special Event



Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge will be partnering up with the Roosevelt Park Zoo in Minot to hold an Endangered Species Day event on May 21 from 12 to 4 pm at the zoo. Booths will be spread out throughout the zoo where visitors can learn about various endangered animals. Those visiting the zoo that day will have an opportunity to learn about these animals and about how they can help protect them and their habitats. A special booth will be set up where participants can pick up bags filled with lots of goodies and infor-

mation about endangered species. Participants will receive a conservation passport that features ten endangered animals. As visitors explore the zoo and visit the animals they will learn fun facts including why the animal is endangered and are encouraged to get the passport stamped. "Honker" the blue goose will also be in attendance and roaming the zoo throughout the day! For more information please contact Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge or the Roosevelt Park Zoo.



Theodore Roosevelt National Park News & Events

56 & Counting... Birds that is!

The Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association welcomes your participation at the 56th Annual Bird Walk on June 6, 2010. Come rain or shine we will gather in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park and add to our life lists. TRNHA archives show not one bird walk over the past 56 years has been cancelled. Last year even the snow and rain didn't defeat those hardy birders. From humble beginnings to a fervent tradition, it has been proven we are not fair-weather adventurers. Join the celebration and bring a friend – the more the merrier. We will introduce new titles for the 2010 season and give away numerous prizes.



We will gather at 6:30 a.m. (Mountain Time) in the Cottonwood Campground in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Immediately following the bird walk, approximately 8:00 a.m. (Mountain Time), TRNHA will host *the 49th Annual Chuckwagon Breakfast* at the Cottonwood Campground picnic area. Genie's Kitchen Crew will serve up heaping helpings of country sausage, cowboy coffee, juice and the ever popular rhubarb syrup. We will ask for a free-will donation

to help defray costs of the event.

Reservations are preferred to accurately plan for the breakfast. Please call (701)623-4884 or (701)623-4466, ext. 3417 or send an e-mail to info@trnha.org by June 4, 2010. You may also confirm your attendance via [Facebook](#).

Summer Visitor Center Hours

May 30 Theodore Roosevelt National Park visitor centers will be returning to the following summer hours.:

South Unit 8:00am - 6:00 pm MDT
Painted Canyon 8:30am - 6:00 pm MDT
North Unit 8:00am - 6:00 pm CDT

Summer Interpretive Programs

On June 6th Theodore Roosevelt National Park will begin their full summer interpretive programs. Short Interpretive Talks, Hikes, and Evening Programs will be presented in both the South and North Unit of the park. Tours of Theodore Roosevelt's Maltese Cross cabin will be held every hour at the South Unit visitor center. Interpretive signs and displays are available for view in the South, North, and Elkhorn Ranch Units of the Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Junior Ranger Days Planned!

Throughout the summer various programs focusing on children will be presented in the park. Four special Junior Ranger Days are being planned so bring the kids out for a day of fun and exploration. Each



participant will receive a Junior Ranger badge and certificate to help them remember the day! For more information please contact Theodore Roosevelt National Park at (701)623-4466 or visit the parks webpage at www.nps.gov/thro

Teddy Bear Picnics

The Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association would like to invite you and your children to attend our Teddy Bear Picnics this summer! We will be hosting three picnics this summer each different with its own unique theme. Children of all ages are invited



to bring their teddy bear and take part in the fun. Each participant will receive a goodie bag with a small snack. Tentative picnic dates are June 9, July 10, and August 10. For more information you can visit our website at www.trnha.org, read about our event on facebook, contact us by e-mail at info@trnha.org, or give us a call at 701-623-4884.

Knife River Indian Villages News & Events

National Junior Ranger Day a Success!

Twenty five new Junior Rangers took the official oath on Saturday, April 24, 2010, at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. The children completed activities that focused on archeology. They participated in "Why the Past is Important?" and took a walk into history. Upon completion of the activities, they received a certificate, patch, and 2010 Junior Ranger badge. The Knife River Indian Heritage Foundation provided hot dogs, a drink, and a treat for the new Junior Rangers.

Seventh Annual Bird Walk Planned

The seventh annual bird walk sponsored by the Knife River Indian Heritage Foundation will take place on Saturday, May 15, 2010. Participants should meet at the Seven Trails building (just south



of the park) at 6:30 am MDT. The bird walk will be lead by Patrick Isakson from the North Dakota Game and Fish. After the bird walk, participants can return to Seven Trails for a hearty breakfast and a wrap up of the bird walk. There is no charge for the activity. For more information, you can call the park at 701-745-3300.

Spring In-The-Field Photography Workshop

The third annual spring in the field photography workshop will be held on Saturday, May 15, 2010. Participants should meet at the visitor center at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. The event will be from 10:00am to 2:00 pm MDT. Photographer, Joel Smith from Bismarck will be leading the workshop.

Participants can bring a sack lunch or purchase lunch at the local café. There is no charge for the event. For more information, you can call the park at 701-745-3300.



Archeological Dig at Knife River Indian Villages NHS

There will be an archeological dig conducted May 24 through June 18 at the park. Hours of the dig are from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm MDT, Monday through Friday. The public is welcome to come out and observe.

We are please to welcome back Patti, our Painted Canyon Clerk, for a second season! We are happy to have her back sharing her love of the park and North Dakota with those who pass through the Painted Canyon Visitor Center!

Also we would like to welcome all the new and returning seasonal employees to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Knife River Indian Villages, and Upper Soursi National Wildlife Refuge!



Check us out on facebook!

Join the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association or renew your membership today and get this tote bag for 1/2 price!



With Purchase of Membership \$9.95 Regular Price: \$19.95

I went on a trip to Theodore Roosevelt National Park and saw...

Name one item that starts with each letter of the alphabet that you may catch a glimpse of while visiting Theodore Roosevelt National Park!

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____
- E. _____
- F. _____
- G. _____
- H. _____
- I. _____
- J. _____
- K. _____
- L. _____
- M. _____
- N. _____
- O. _____
- P. _____
- Q. _____
- R. _____
- S. _____
- T. _____
- U. _____
- V. _____
- W. _____
- X. _____
- Y. _____
- Z. _____

We would love to read your list! Please share them with us by e-mailing them to: info@trnba.org

Become a Member of the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association and help us support North Dakota's National Parks, Historic Sites, and Wildlife Refuges!



Membership Donations are used to help fund:

- The publishing of free trail guides, informational brochures, plant and animal checklist, junior ranger activity books, and the park newspaper.
- Housing assistance for Volunteers and Student Conservation Resource Assistants.
- Acquiring publications for reference libraries at three park sites.
- Money for scientific research and oral history projects. TRNHA had recently helped fund an ongoing Mountain Lion study in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.
- Funding for interpretive training, materials, and supplies.
- Sponsoring special interpretive programs and events such as the Northern Plains Culture Fest and birding festivals.
- Provide Support Staff in the Visitor Centers.

Reasons to become a member of TRNHA

1. 15% Discount on sales items at our five bookstore locations: Painted Canyon, South Unit, & North Unit (All in Theodore Roosevelt National Park); Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, and Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge.
2. TRNHA membership is honored by most National Park Cooperating Associations with a reciprocal discount.
3. Monthly e-newsletters and association updates.
4. Receive newsletters and program announcements on the activities of the Association and the areas it serves.
5. Special member only offers. *(Please check our website for monthly specials www.trnha.org)*
6. All members are entitled to vote for TRNHA Board of Directors.
7. The pleasures of knowing that your membership contributes to the support of National park and refuge sites in North Dakota.

Print and mail in the form below to become a member today!

Yes! I would like to become a member of Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association!

New

Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Individual **\$20.00**

Family **\$30.00**

Contributing **\$75.00**

Supporting **\$250.00**

Please Mail and Make Checks Payable to:

Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRNHA)
PO Box 167 Medora, ND 58645