

Celebrating the 15th Annual Native Prairie Appreciation Week

Submitted by Natasha Wilkie, SK PCAP Manager

Plans are underway for the **15th Annual Native Prairie Appreciation Week (NPAW)**, a celebration dedicated to increasing awareness and appreciation of native prairie ecosystems and their importance to Saskatchewan's environmental and agricultural sectors. Provincially declared as the third week in June since 1999 by the Saskatchewan Ministries of Agriculture and Environment, NPAW was also declared for the first time municipally in 2011 by the Cities of Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Swift Current and Weyburn.

Saskatchewan Prairie Conservation Action Plan (SK PCAP) is encouraging all families to embrace an important part of Saskatchewan's heritage - our native prairie ecosystems – by taking part in one of the many activities during NPAW **June 16-22, 2013**.

Activities include:

- 1) **Poster Contest:** Children and youth are invited to celebrate native prairie through their artwork for a chance to win a cool prize! The winning poster will be used for NPAW communications.
- 2) **Passport Contest:** Saskatchewan offers many ways for citizens to see, explore and discover the native prairie attractions. Check items off our list throughout the summer and you can be a winner!
- 3) **SK PCAP/NPAW Booths:** Stop by and pick up the latest SK PCAP partner materials, native seed packets or visit about native prairie issues at our booth where we will be promoting NPAW and native prairie conservation.
- 4) **Partner Events/Workshops:** Including the annual Society for Range Management – Prairie Parkland Chapter tour which has joined forces with Saskatchewan Pasture School to offer a 2-day event on June 18-19 based out of the Weyburn and Big Muddy Badlands areas. This event is open to the public and a great way for people to learn about the importance of the native prairie ecosystem.

Additional details regarding the above activities can be found on the SK PCAP website (www.pcap-sk.org) under *Native Prairie Appreciation Week > 2013 Native Prairie Appreciation Week or 2013 Pasture School-SRM Tour* or feel free to contact the SK PCAP office at (306) 352-0472 or pcap@sasktel.net.

For a list of 2013-2014 SK PCAP funders, please visit our website at www.pcap-sk.org.