Current TPE Event COVID-19 Guidelines
Approved by the Executive Committee and effective September 30, 2020

These Current Guidelines cover all in-person public events sponsored and/or publicized by TPE, which include field trips, work parties, prescribed burns, workshops, lectures, courses, social events, meetings, and conferences. The purpose is to enable us to continue our important conservation and education work as much as possible while staying safe and protecting the public health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Current Guidelines are applicable throughout TPE’s service area in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Illinois, are reviewed monthly and are updated if necessary, as conditions change.

Cancellation and Postponement: All indoor TPE-sponsored events are cancelled or postponed until further notice. Outdoor events are permitted, unless prohibited by local orders.

Attendance and Registration: Attendance at TPE-sponsored events is limited to no more than twenty-five (25), including the leader(s) and all participants. Pre-registration for each event is recommended to help limit attendance, as is recording by the event leader of an onsite attendance list with at least the email address and/or phone number of each participant to aid in possible contact tracing. The website calendar and event registration are available to facilitate publicity for events and enable online registration.

Social Distancing Rules: Social distancing during events is the most critical element of holding TPE-sponsored events safely during the pandemic. TPE will require the following social distancing rules at events, which may be updated as conditions change:

- No one should attend who has a fever or other symptoms, or an active COVID-19 infection.
- All leaders and participants should always stay at least 6 feet apart (except for members of the same household).
- Wearing a face mask to protect others is required when safe distancing is difficult. This is especially critical on field trips, where there is a tendency for participants to be in close proximity.
- Everyone should cough or sneeze away from others and cover themselves appropriately.
- Avoid exchanging physical objects (e.g. pens and papers, tools, equipment, etc.). Where this is not possible, objects should be carefully sanitized before and after use.
- Sharing closed vehicles is not allowed during an event, except between members of the same households. Open vehicles may be used, but the number of passengers should be limited, and everyone must wear a mask.

Please contact Diane Hills, Outreach and Development Coordinator (outreach@theprairieenthusiasts.org, (608) 239-4699) for more information and assistance with setting up and publicizing your Event.