Today, less than 1% of Missouri’s pre-settlement Tallgrass Prairie remains. Clay County leases 674 areas of federal land around Smithville Lake and is in the process of revitalizing some of this lost prairie. This has the potential to be one of the largest restored prairies within a major metropolitan area. It will be an integral part of the trail system around Smithville Lake. The restored prairie will provide habitat for wildlife and significantly improve the water quality of Smithville Lake.

**Project Goals:**

- Maintain and encourage the genetic reservoir of flora and fauna
- Allow for educational research opportunities of the ecosystems
- Increase recreational opportunities
- Develop partnerships (government, non-profits, schools, businesses, private citizens)

Missouri Department of Conservation and Missouri Bird Conservation Initiative are helping to fund the purchase of seed and herbicide.

Revitalizing Tallgrass Prairie is a multi-step process which includes burning fields, spraying noxious weeds, removing noxious weeds, and planting.

For more information, contact Clay County Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites at: [http://www.claycogov.com/text/parks/](http://www.claycogov.com/text/parks/)

### Year three of native grasslands revitalized

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restoration activities include:</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total acres burned</strong></td>
<td>669.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total acres sprayed</strong></td>
<td>530 (10,600 gallons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total undesirable trees removed</strong></td>
<td>429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total acres planted to native warm season grasses and forb mixes</strong></td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total acres edge feathered</strong></td>
<td>.63+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total acres planted — wildlife food plots</strong></td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AREA OF DETAIL

Leavenworth County
Wyandotte County
Platte County
Clay County
Ray County
Jackson County
Johnson County
Miami County
Cass County

**SUCCESS STORIES**

Total acres burned 669.5
Total acres sprayed 530 (10,600 gallons)
Total undesirable trees removed 429
Total acres planted to native warm season grasses and forb mixes 265
Total acres edge feathered .63+
Total acres planted — wildlife food plots 3.5

November 2009