

The Importance of Prairie Landowners

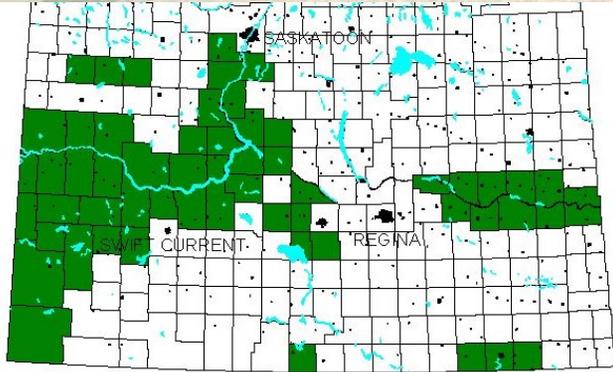


Rural landowners play a key role in conserving our prairie habitat and maintaining healthy grasslands. Their good stewardship arises because of close ties to the land from which they derive

their livelihood. We recognize that the health of the prairie ecosystem depends on the good stewardship shown by landowners across Saskatchewan.

If you are a southern Saskatchewan landowner or land manager with native prairie capable of supporting rare plant populations, you play an important role in their survival.

Map of RPR Target “Hot Spot” R.M.s



We Work Together To Help You!

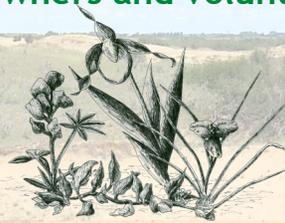
Education—Increase your knowledge of prairie conservation options and species at risk through informative materials and workshops.

Conservation Easements—Leave a conservation legacy! Nature Saskatchewan, working together with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, offers you the opportunity to **conserve the land you love!**

Thank you to our supporters!

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- Government of Saskatchewan—Fish and Wildlife Development Fund
- Mosaic
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- Nature Saskatchewan member donations

And a special thank you to all the RPR landowners and volunteers!



To learn more about Rare Plant Rescue please contact:

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Rare Plant Rescue

Habitat Conservation Through Stewardship



For more information call toll-free
1-800-667-4668

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Rare Plant Rescue

Habitat Conservation Through Stewardship

Nature Saskatchewan's **Rare Plant Rescue (RPR)**, launched in 2002, is a voluntary stewardship program that promotes the conservation of rare plant species and their prairie habitat.

We work with southern Saskatchewan landowners who voluntarily conserve native prairie - including active or semi-stabilized sand dunes and blow-outs, as well as native pastures - from destruction or cultivation. Our aim is to conserve rare plant habitat by building strong, respectful relationships with landowners and providing them with the information they need to make informed stewardship decisions.

What Does Rare Plant Rescue Do?

- Conserves prairie habitat for plant species at risk and other wildlife through voluntary landowner stewardship.
- Increases awareness of, and educates the public about plant species at risk and other prairie species.
- Conducts searches for, and monitors populations of plant species at risk to increase the knowledge about them.
- Promotes beneficial management practices, habitat enhancement and restoration activities that benefit both producers and prairie species.



Did you know?

Many rare plant species, such as Buffalograss, thrive with grazing.

Why Conserve Rare Plants?

Prairie plants are a part of Saskatchewan's natural heritage and contribute to overall ecosystem health. Other species rely both on the plants themselves as well as a functioning ecosystem for survival. Conservation of rare plant species ensures a healthy and diverse ecosystem for the future.

Southern Saskatchewan's rarest plants face a number of threats including loss or degradation of habitat through cultivation, invasion of noxious weeds (e.g., leafy spurge, downy brome), stabilization of dune habitats, invasion of woody species (e.g., tree and shrub encroachment), oil and gas activities, and absence of natural processes (e.g., grazing and fire). Conservation activities help mitigate these threats.



Did you know?

Sandy blow-outs and dunes provide valuable habitat for some of Saskatchewan's rarest plant species, such as Western Spiderwort.

Target Rare Plant Species for RPR

Beaked Annual Skeletonweed
Buffalograss
Bur Ragweed
Dwarf Woollyheads
Hairy Prairie-clover
Plains Grape-fern
Powell's Saltbush
Prickly Milk-vetch
Slender Mouse-ear-cress
Small-flowered Sand-verbena
Small Lupine
Small White Lady's-slipper
Smooth Goosefoot
Tiny Cryptantha
Upland Evening Primrose
Western Spiderwort

Photos of these species can be found on our website: www.naturesask.ca

Get Involved!

Landowners and land managers can participate in RPR and conserve prairie habitat while continuing to use the land as they always have.

Benefits to participating landowners include:

- Recognition through a personalized gate sign (if requested).
- Annual newsletter, calendar and a tool-kit of relevant information and conservation options.
- Non-binding 'handshake' agreement.
- Personal invitation to our Conservation Awareness Days — local, free-of-charge workshops with a meal.
- Helping maintain a healthy ecosystem with a diversity of species that benefit producers and future generations.

Other ways to participate:

- Report sightings of rare plant species by calling our toll-free number: **1-800-667-4668**.
- Volunteer with Nature Saskatchewan.
- Spread the word about Rare Plant Rescue and prairie conservation!



The Rare Plant Rescue crew at work!

Each summer, Rare Plant Rescue staff search for new occurrences of rare plants, and monitor known occurrences of rare plants to evaluate plant health and identify any threats.