

OUR MISSION

To promote greater understanding of the safe, legal, and responsible use of prescribed fire as a natural resource management tool.



ABOUT THE COUNCIL

Prescribed fire is used by variety of individuals, local, state, and federal agencies, and organizations throughout the state. To that end, the **Kansas Prescribed Fire Council** was established in 2008 in a statewide effort to encourage the exchange of information, techniques, and experience among practitioners; to provide for broad-based education and outreach on the benefits of prescribed fire, and to provide a platform to address prescribed fire advocacy across the state.

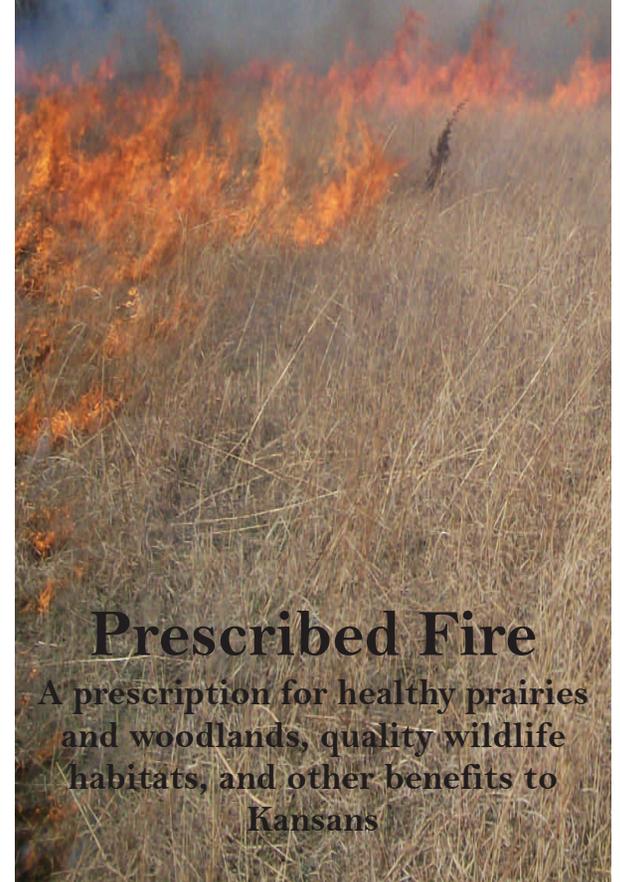
LEARN MORE

For more information on how to participate in the **Kansas Fire Council** or how to start a prescribed fire cooperative in your area, visit www.kglc.org or call (620) 241-3636.

KANSAS PARTNERS

Conservation Districts
Dillon Nature Center
Fort Hays State University
Hutchinson Community College
Kansas Biological Survey
Kansas Dept. of Agriculture
Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks
Kansas Farm Bureau
Kansas Forest Service
KS Grazing Lands Coalition, Inc. including
 Comanche Pool Foundation
 Tallgrass Legacy Alliance
Kansas Livestock Association
Kansas Native Plant Society
Kansas Rural Center including
 KS Graziers Association
Kansas State University—Extension
Kansas State Association of RC&D's
Kansas Water Office
Kansas Wildlife Federation
Landowners and Ranchers
Managers and Consultants
National Park Service
National Wild Turkey Federation
Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever
Playa Lakes Joint Venture
Quail Unlimited
Red Hills Prescribed Burning Association
The Nature Conservancy
The Wildlife Society
US Department of Defense, Army and
Army Corps of Engineers
USDA Forest Service
USDA Natural Resources Conservation
Service
US Fish & Wildlife Service

KANSAS PRESCRIBED FIRE COUNCIL



Prescribed Fire

A prescription for healthy prairies
and woodlands, quality wildlife
habitats, and other benefits to
Kansas

THE NATURAL ROLE OF FIRE

Grasslands constitute significant economic, biological, recreational, and aesthetic resources of statewide importance.

Frequent fires, set by lightning strikes and native Americans, have shaped Kansas' ecosystems for thousands of years.

The plants and animals of the prairie are accustomed to frequent fires and depend on these fires for their survival. Fire is as natural as sunshine, rain, and wind in natural communities where associated plants and animals are dependent upon frequent fire.

Fire also benefits many rare species in our state that are in decline. Some of these declines are caused almost exclusively by fire exclusion.

Frequent fires prevent the buildup of flammable fuels in the prairie that set the stage for destructive wildfires when ignition does occur.



WHAT IS PRESCRIBED FIRE?



A planned fire that burns under specified conditions where the fire is confined to a predetermined area and produces the fire behavior and fire characteristics required to attain planned fire treatment and resource management objectives.

Prescribed fire is a safe way to apply a natural process, ensure ecosystem health, and reduce wildfire risk. Prescribed burning is carried out by experienced, trained, and certified land managers on both public and private lands throughout Kansas.

These professionals assess grassland conditions, determine the type of fire needed, and then write a “prescription” for the application of fire using predicted weather conditions and safety measures.

A KS PFC Certified Burning Program serves to enhance the skills of land managers and acquaint burners with regulations and offer opportunities for more advanced training.

THE BENEFITS OF PRESCRIBED FIRE

- Maintains healthy prairies
- Controls certain invasive woody species and other invaders
- Maintains quality wildlife habitat of both game and nongame species
- Improves grass and forb stands and aesthetics
- Can help control diseases
- Effectively manages fuels in the wild land urban interface
- Perpetuates fire dependent ecosystems and associated species

EXCUSE OUR SMOKE

Smoke from prescribed fires is a sign that certain lands are being cared for properly. Careful planning is taken by prescribed fire managers to minimize any potential smoke impacts on public health and safety; as a result, prescribed fire activity is conducted when weather conditions are most favorable.

On the other hand, uncontrolled wildfires are usually coupled with extreme weather conditions that impact firefighter and public safety.

Well-timed prescribed fires reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires and the resulting smoke impacts to urban air quality. No other tool can so effectively remove the hazardous buildup of wild land fuels.