

Friends of Crane Meadows

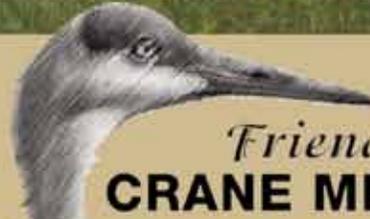
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



Goals

The Friends of Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge is a volunteer, community-based organization dedicated to supporting the Refuge by working toward a variety of goals, including:

- Preserving the Refuge's natural areas and encouraging conservation of water, land, and wildlife.
- Raising public awareness of the Refuge and value of this natural heritage at the community, region, state and federal levels.
- Expanding the Refuge to the approved acquisition boundary through willing sellers.
- Raising funds for Refuge projects and programs, such as an educational curriculum.
- Forming partnerships with community-based environmental & civic organizations with a common goal of getting nature back into kids and their families.



Friends of **CRANE MEADOWS**

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Please consider becoming a member!

19502 Iris Road
Little Falls, MN 56345
(320) 632-1575

Check out our website for upcoming events

www.friendsofcranemeadows.com





About the Refuge

Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1992 to

protect, preserve, and enhance the wetland and upland habitats, water quality, biodiversity, and fisheries of the Rice - Skunk wetland complex. An additional goal is the enhancement of wildlife - oriented recreation and education opportunities. The Refuge helps to protect an important breeding area for greater sandhill cranes, unique plant communities, archeological resources, and riverine habitat along the Platte River.

Our Mission

The Friends of Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge fosters community understanding and appreciation of natural resources while supporting the Refuge goals of preservation, restoration, and education.

Become a Friend of the Refuge

We invite you to join Friends of Crane Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. Membership is open to any individual, family, or organization interested in supporting the Refuge through donations of money and time. All dues are tax-deductible and are used to fund current and future projects.

Help us leave a part of our world and your children's world a better place.

Member Benefits

- Help protect one of the largest intact native sedge meadow wetland areas in Minnesota
- Work with and meet individuals who have similar environmental & educational interests
- An opportunity to help make a difference in protecting the environment
- Opportunity to help make a difference in a child's life
- Kept up to date on Refuge programs and events
- Members-only events

The Refuge Offers

Platte River Trail is 3.7 miles with two viewing platforms, information kiosk and a spotting scope. The Refuge offers year-round activities including hiking, birding, wildlife observation and photography along with seasonal activities such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

1800 Acres of Natural Habitat

- Native tallgrass prairie
- Waterfowl resting area
- Migratory birds
- Wetland
- Oak savanna
- Eagles

Annual Events

- Habitat day
- Platte River cleanup
- Wild flower walk
- Birding
- Photography

"Like winds and sunsets, wild things were taken for granted until progress began to do away with them. Now we face the question of whether a still "higher standard" of living is worth its cost in things natural, wild and free. For us in the minority, the opportunity to see geese is more important than television, and the chance to see a pasque flower is a right as inalienable as free speech." - Aldo Leopold

