

Prairie City, IA - Jasper County

5k

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge

Start/Finish: 9981 Pacific St, Prairie City, IA 50228

Long/Lat: 41.55889 93.267772

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515-994-3400 (Call for hours of operation)

Please use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match. For example, if you register using the OSB do not complete your event by using the PSB (nor sign the PSB log sheet). The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB.

Directions to start point: The refuge is 25 miles east of Des Moines on IA Hwy 163. Exit at Prairie City. Follow the signs 4.5 miles to the Learning Center. From I-80, take exit 155 (Colfax). Take IA Hwy 117 south 8 miles to Prairie City.

Restrooms: Modern restrooms in Learning Center, pit toilet on the trail.

Parking: Available at the Learning Center

1. When you leave the Prairie Learning Center (PLC) turn left on the first paved walkway, a concrete sidewalk.

2. At the first crosswalk intersection, keep left; do not turn right towards the amphitheater.

3. At the next crosswalk intersection turn left. You should now be on an asphalt or black top sidewalk titled "Tall Grass Prairie".

4. Follow this sidewalk for about 2 miles past the Prairie Flower Garden until it intersects with a concrete sidewalk. Turn left on the concrete sidewalk.

5. At the next intersection, turn left. You should be returning to the PLC. Keep left at the "T" intersection.

6. When you reach the sidewalk that goes to the PLC, turn left towards the parking lot. Proceed to the driveway and turn left. Do not enter the parking lot.

7. Walk into the parking lot to the savanna trail (a crushed rock trail). Turn to the right and follow the crushed rock trail.

8. Follow the Savanna trail always bearing right. Follow the trail as it circles back to the parking lot.

9. Return to the start point (PLC) to finish your 5K

Be sure to log back into the OSB system to "finish/complete" your online registration after doing the event. The OSB system does not deduct any event fee from a participant's event bank until they have submitted event completion info including the date of the event the distance, and selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in. (Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded PDF is deducted from the user's Event Bank when the PDF is downloaded. Later, any PDF fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when he/she submits completion info as a paying for credit participant. Note, however the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF will expire in 60 days). Also note that an event registration expires after 30 days, but if your registration lapses, you may reregister without cost.

These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.



In case of emergency: **Call 911**

POC: Peggy Doane, 515-240-5761

Prairie City, IA - Jasper County

10k

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge

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Restrooms: Modern restrooms in Learning Center, pit toilet on the trail.

Parking: Available at the Learning Center

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3. At the next crosswalk intersection turn left. You should now be on an asphalt or black top sidewalk titled "Tall Grass Prairie".
4. Follow this sidewalk for about 2 miles past the Prairie Flower Garden until it intersects with a concrete sidewalk. Turn left on the concrete sidewalk.
5. At the next intersection, turn left. You should be returning to the PLC. Keep left at the "T" intersection.
6. When you reach the sidewalk that goes to the PLC, turn left towards the parking lot. Proceed to the driveway and turn left. Do not enter the parking lot.
7. Follow the road in an easterly direction. Keep left and walk against the traffic. Walk past the first gravel road intersection on your right marked "auto tour".
8. At the Y in the road, you should see the 4K market to your right. Bear right at the Y in the road onto the gravel road.
9. Follow the gravel road a short distance to the "Savanna Study Area" entrance on your left. Turn left into the Savanna parking lot. Walk into the parking lot to the savanna trail (a crushed rock trail). Turn to the right and follow the crushed rock trail.
10. Follow the Savanna trail always bearing right. Follow the trail as it circles back to the parking lot.
11. Leave the parking lot the same way you entered. When you reach the gravel road, turn left. Follow the gravel road. Keep left facing traffic.
12. The road curves right, then left, then right - at the "T" intersection, follow 104th to the right. Follow the bend to the left (becomes 119th). Approximately 1/4 mile, turn into fire break (7K AVA marker) There is a fence line on your left running east and west. You are now on the firebreak trail. **Watch for trail signs.**
13. You will follow the firebreak as it meanders along the prairie. **Be Alert for Trail Signs.** You will be walking basically west, then turn right (north) at the north/south fence line. Following the fence line to the gravel road. You should be able to see the maintenance buildings and the PLC (start point) in the distance. **We do hope you enjoyed the walk.**

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POC: Peggy Doane 515-240-5761

Prairie City, IA - Jasper County

10k Alternate Route

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Restrooms: Modern restrooms in Learning Center, pit toilet on the trail.

Parking: Available at the Learning Center

(You do not walk on the tall grass prairie - only on asphalt and crushed rock trails; plus roads

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3. At the next crosswalk intersection turn left. You should now be on an asphalt or black top sidewalk titled "Tall Grass Prairie".
4. Follow this sidewalk for about 2 miles past the Prairie Flower Garden until it intersects with a concrete sidewalk. Turn left on the concrete sidewalk.
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6. When you reach the sidewalk that goes to the PLC, turn left towards the parking lot. Proceed to the driveway and turn left. Do not enter the parking lot.
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8. At the Y in the road, you should see the 4K market to your right. Bear right at the Y in the road onto the gravel road.
9. Follow the gravel road a short distance to the "Savanna Study Area" entrance on your left. Turn left into the Savanna parking lot.
10. Walk into the parking lot to the savanna trail (a crushed rock trail). Turn to the right and follow the crushed rock trail.
11. Follow the Savanna trail always bearing right. Follow the trail as it circles back to the parking lot.
12. Leave the parking lot the same way you entered. When you reach the gravel road; turn right and return to the PLC
13. Repeat the walk on the Tall Grass Prairie trail. (may go the opposite direction if you desire).
14. Return to start point (PLC)

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submitted event completion info including the date of the event the distance, and selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in. (Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded PDF is deducted from the user's Event Bank when the PDF is downloaded. Later, any PDF fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when he/she submits completion info as a paying for credit participant. Note, however the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF will expire in 60 days). Also note that an event registration expires after 30 days, but if your registration lapses, you may reregister without cost

We hope you enjoyed your walk.

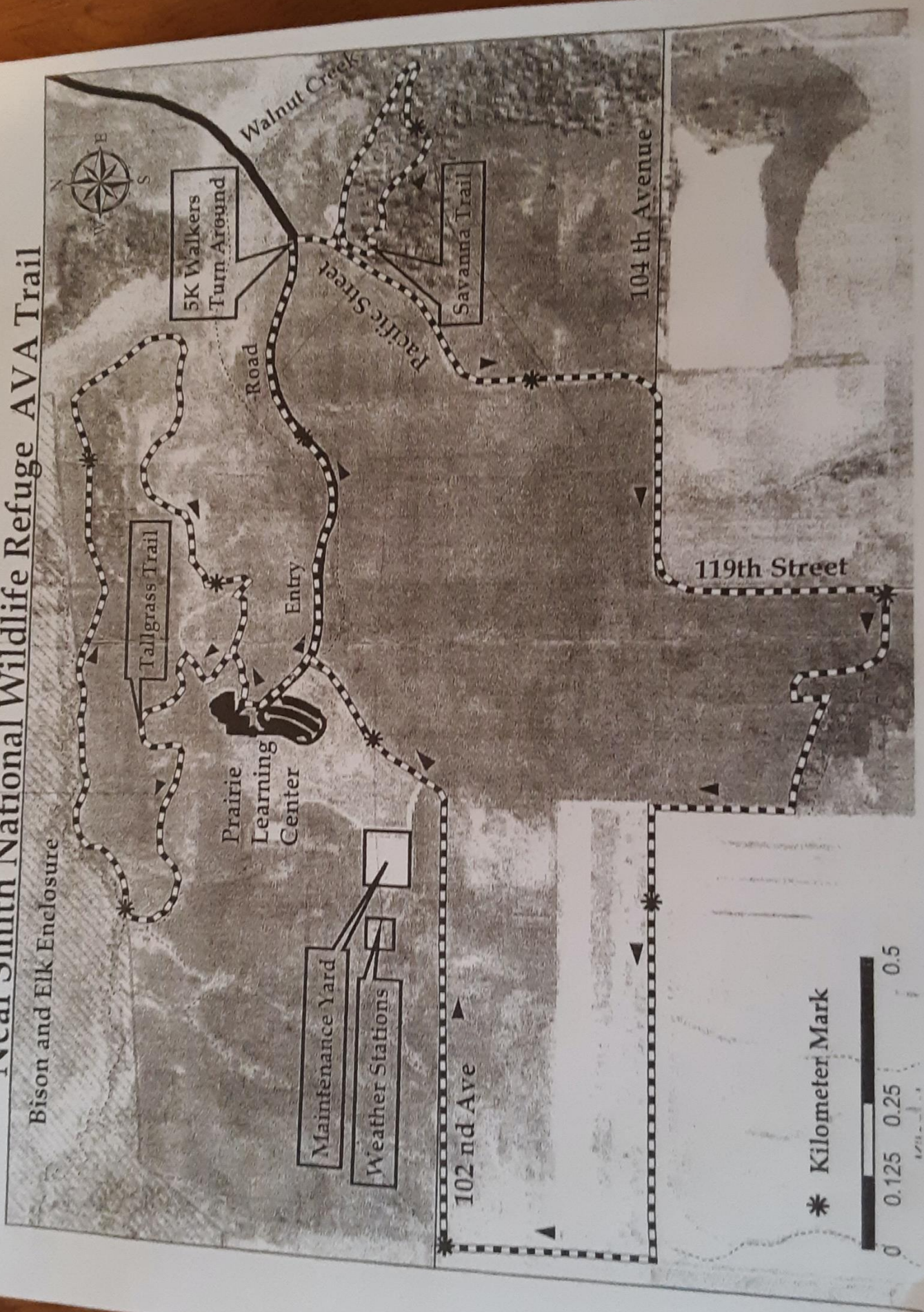
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POC: Peggy Doane, 515-270-5761

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge AVA Trail



Bison and Elk Enclosure

5K Walkers Turn Around

Savanna Trail

Tallgrass Trail

Entry

Prairie Learning Center

Maintenance Yard

Weather Stations

Walnut Creek

Road

Pacific Street

104th Avenue

119th Street

102nd Ave

* Kilometer Mark

