

## 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PRAIRIE APPRECIATION DAY A HUGE SUCCESS!



On May 7<sup>th</sup> more than 700 people came out for this year's Prairie Appreciation day at Thurston County's Glacial Heritage preserve, and group tours at Mima Mounds Natural Area Preserve. People of all ages come out to see the native flowers, birds and butterflies, and to learn more about the prairie – one of the rarest ecosystems in western Washington. The annual event was planned by Friends of Puget Prairies ([www.prairieappreciationday.org](http://www.prairieappreciationday.org)).

“We had so many great volunteers working hard to prepare for the event,” says Dennis Plank, the group's coordinator. “We pulled a ton of broom, and there were all kinds of booths, activities and materials to organize and get pulled together. It's a lot of work to get 700 people parked in a conservation area! It's wonderful to see so many people becoming interested in this amazing landscape. We're thrilled by the success of this event.”

The weather was blustery, but for the most part the rain held off and people were able to walk the 2 mile trail between display tables, and see the native Camas flowers in bloom, along with a number of butterflies and birds.



This year the Seattle Post-Intelligencer wrote a wonderful feature article on the event for the Entertainment section. Click on the link below to read the article:

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/getaways/270398\\_prairies18.html](http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/getaways/270398_prairies18.html)