

Jepson Prairie Preserve Docent Training Schedule 2015

Four evening class presentations by regional experts and three Saturday field trips will prepare docents to lead walks at this vernal pool and native bunchgrass prairie during weekend tours of Jepson Prairie Preserve near Dixon from March 14 to May 10.

Tuesday, Feb. 3: Introduction: Group Introductions, Expectations, Schedule; Jepson Prairie Docents: Mission and Organization—Kate Mawdsley; Hands-on aquatic invertebrates—CJ Addington

Saturday, Feb. 7: Docent dipping display—CJ Addington; Introduction to Jepson Prairie and tour mechanics--Group

Tuesday, Feb. 10: Introduction to vernal pools—Carol Witham; California tiger salamander research and life history—Dr. Gideon Bradburd.

Tuesday, Feb. 17: Fire and grazing effects in vernal pool grasslands—Dr. Jaymee Marty; Birds of Jepson Prairie—Mary Schiedt.

Saturday, Feb. 21: SLT, NRS and JPP: how do they work together?--Organization reps. Native American and other human history of Jepson Prairie—Dr. Michelle Stevens, Kate Mawdsley

Tuesday, Feb. 24: Solitary bees and pollination ecology of vernal pool flora—Dr. Robbin Thorp. Questions, discussion, and wrap up.

Saturday, Feb. 28: Hydrology, soils, landforms and flora—Dr. Bob Holland; Flower identification and pre-season reconnaissance—Carol Witham; Solitary bees in the field—Dr. Robbin Thorp.

Classes will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Headquarters, 45211 Chiles Road, Davis, 1.3 miles east of the Mace Blvd. exit from I-80. Field sessions begin at 10 a.m. at Jepson Prairie Preserve, located 11 miles south of Dixon on Cook Lane off Highway 113. New docents will receive a copy of the 2012 and 1998 Jepson Prairie Preserve Handbook, a Jepson Prairie tee-shirt or sweatshirt and additional materials in return for a \$25.00 donation to the Solano Land Trust for enhancement of Jepson Prairie Preserve.

For more information contact Natalie DuMont at the Solano Land Trust (707) 432-0150 ext 200 or volunteer@solanolandtrust.org.