

SaskEnergy to the Rescue!

At SaskEnergy/TransGas, we understand the importance of taking action – especially when it comes to the maintenance and restoration of Saskatchewan’s natural habitat. That’s why we have been proud to support the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) with sponsorship and volunteers for a variety of its initiatives over the past several years.

On July 27th, a team of about 20 SaskEnergy/TransGas and Concorde Group volunteers rolled up their sleeves at the NCC’s 240-acre Asquith North property in the Saskatoon Prairie Natural area. The property is a mix of native grasslands, woodlands and seasonal wetlands. Its gently rolling hills are home to many mammals and grassland birds, including the nationally and provincially listed “at risk” species of Sprague’s Pipit.

The purpose of the project was to remove 1-1/4 miles of old, dilapidated barbed wire fence to allow for the installation of a new fence this fall. The new fence will facilitate light grazing at the site – a critical way to manage grassland health and remove the dangers the dilapidated fence posed to wildlife, which could trip over or get tangled in the wire.



SaskEnergy Employee, Michael McMurray, rolls up rusty wire on the Asquith North property.

Working in teams, the volunteers removed staples and posts from along the fence line, rolling up the rusty wire as they went. All of the materials were then stacked and hauled away, with the wire destined for a metal recycler. The volunteers also cleaned up several piles of debris located on the site.

Though they were tired after plenty of heavy lifting, wire cutting, and walking over rough terrain, the team enjoyed a guided hike throughout the property to round out the day. It was a great

chance for them to appreciate the unique beauty of Saskatchewan's native prairie and take pride knowing that, through their efforts, others will now be able to do the same.



The group of volunteers, composed of SaskEnergy/TransGas and Concorde Group employees, take a break from working to pose for a photograph.

“NCC appreciates not only the financial support from SaskEnergy but also the sweat their staff have put in through NCC volunteer events,” says Renny Grilz, NCC Director of Stewardship.

The NCC can always use assistance, so if you are interested in making a donation or volunteering your time, please visit their website at www.conservationvolunteers.ca, or contact: Renny Grilz (renny.grilz@natureconservancy.ca or 306-242-4070).

