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****PHOTO OPPORTUNITY****

**WESTAR ENERGY'S GREEN TEAM WILL HELP RESTORE SMOKY HILLS
AUDUBON WILDLIFE SANCTUARY**

Volunteers needed for work day Feb. 2.

TOPEKA, Kan., January 24, 2013 —Westar Energy's Green Team will help restore Smoky Hills Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary to prairie habitat on Saturday, Feb. 2. This project involves tree and brush removal. Volunteers are needed to help cut, stump treat and remove brush to allow restoration of the sanctuary's unique natural prairie.

Volunteers are encouraged to join the Green Team anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eye protection, drinks and lunch will be provided. Volunteers are asked to bring their own gloves, hard hats, chainsaws, loppers and handsaws, if they have them. To ensure enough lunches are available, volunteers should please notify Barbara Cornelius at 785-575-8125 prior to the event.

Smoky Hills Sanctuary is a 68-acre preserve located just northwest of Salina, near the intersection of I-70 and I-135 on the north side of Stimmel Road, about a half mile east of Ell-Saline Elementary school. The sanctuary features a beautiful 20-acre pond and numerous trails through prairie and woodland habitat. The meeting location is best reached by coming east from Halstead Road, which has an interchange exit from I-70.

Smoky Hills Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary Work Day

When: Saturday, Feb. 2

Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. *Volunteers may come and go as needed*

Where: Meeting location directions: *I-70 from Salina Exit 249 South on Hedville Road about half mile to Stimmel Road (Ell-Saline Elementary on the southwest corner); go about half mile east on Stimmel to the Kiosk and entry to the Sanctuary on the north side of the road.*

Volunteers should bring: Personal safety equipment such as gloves and safety glasses (eye protection will be available to those who need it), chainsaws, loppers and handsaws.

The Westar Energy Green Team is a group of employees and retiree volunteers that take on environmental projects across Kansas. The group completes between 50 and 70 projects per year on weekends and evenings. The Green Team also collaborates with conservation groups, agencies and schools in enhancing and fostering an understanding of the Kansas environment.

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