

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

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For more information, contact Fort Ransom State Park, 701-973-4331

Fort Ransom Sodbusters Days, July 14-15

Fort Ransom State Park is celebrating the 29th anniversary of the Fort Ransom Sodbuster Days on Saturday and Sunday, July 14-15. Visitors to the park will take a step back in time and see how North Dakota's early settlers worked and played.

This year Fort Ransom Sodbuster Days features a Horse Powered Threshing Machine, but there is plenty of activity to keep the entire family busy during the two-day event. On both days visitors to Fort Ransom State Park's Sunne Farm will see: a wheelwright; horse-powered field work; engines – small, large and stationary; wire stretcher, rope making and barb wire display; tatting, spinning and Spencerian penmanship; pioneer handwork and homemaking skills; wood working; live old-time music in the Music Building. Kids events include games and crafts along with a watermelon seed spitting contest.

On Saturday, there is a pie auction at 4 p.m. and an old-fashioned roast beef dinner at 5:30 p.m. Cost for the dinner is \$8.50 for adults, \$4 for kids ages 6-12; and free for children 6 and under. Saturday from 8 to 10 p.m. there is a music jam session. At 7 p.m., a Catholic Mass will be officiated by Father Jerald Finnestad in the Music Building.

Sunday features are breakfast from 7 to 9:30 a.m.; an interdenominational church service at 9 a.m. with Pastor Dave Carlson officiating; Period Style Show; and a parade at 10:30 a.m.

Admission is \$5 per person while kids ages 12 and under are free. The Fort Ransom State Park daily vehicle fee is waived during Sodbuster Days. The event is sponsored by the Fort Ransom Sodbuster Association and the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department. There are shuttle rides available from the parking area to the Sunne Farm and there will be food and beverages available at the event.

Information on Fort Ransom Sodbuster Days can be found on the internet at <http://www.ransomcountynd.com> or by calling 701-973-4331. For more on Fort Ransom State Park go to <http://www.parkrec.nd.gov>.