



Courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division

Dust, Drought and Dreams Gone Dry

A national traveling exhibition and programs about the causes and aftermath of the historic Dust Bowl period will be on display from July 2 – Aug. 15 at
Central Resource Library
9875 W. 87th St., Overland Park, KS 66212

Monday, July 7 • 6:30-8 p.m.

A Century of Change

Dr. John Herron opens the exhibition of *Dust, Drought and Dreams Gone Dry* with an overview of the history of the Dust Bowl event in Johnson County and eastern Kansas. Dr. Herron will lead discussions on how life in Johnson County has changed from rural to suburban to urban; how food and environmental practices have changed since the 1930s; and how this historical event directly relates to the sustainability of our current lifestyle here in Johnson County.

Monday, July 14 • 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Picturing the Dust Bowl, a Slide Presentation

Dr. Kate Meyer, assistant curator at the Spencer Art Museum, University of Kansas, uses paintings, photographs and prints of the Dust Bowl as a way to explore early 20th century American attitudes toward nature and the environment.

Saturday, July 19 • 10-11:30 a.m.

Stories and Songs from the Dust Bowl Days

Storyteller Molly Postlewait will recite from Caroline Henderson's writings what it was like to face the challenges of being an Oklahoma homesteader during the Dust Bowl days. Storyteller Rolland Love will also share Depression era stories from the Ozark Mountains and songs from dust bowl era will be performed by Dave Sheldon and Harris Deutsch.

Tuesday, Aug. 12 and Wednesday, Aug. 13 • 6:30-9 p.m.

Screenings of *The Dust Bowl A Film by Ken Burns*

After the screenings of the *The Dust Bowl A Film by Ken Burns*, Dr. Jay Antle of Johnson County Community College will facilitate discussions of each episode including the relevance of the Dust Bowl story for modern life and agriculture on the Great Plains. The exhibition recalls a tragic period in our history — the drought and dust storms that wreaked havoc on the Great Plains in the 1930s — and explores its environmental and cultural consequences. It raises several thought-provoking questions: What caused fertile farms to turn to dust? How did people survive? What lessons can we learn?

The exhibition was organized by the American Library Association Public Programs Office, the Oklahoma State University Library and the Mount Holyoke College Library. It was made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor. Cosponsored by Johnson County Library and Johnson County Museum.



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Library programs are open to the public and free of charge.

*Interpretative services and other accommodations for those with special needs are available.
Please request from library staff one week or more in advance of scheduled event.*