

LOOKING BACK: Having given considerable attention to biotic community structure and function, we are now ready to focus on the physical environment of the biotic community. Already in lecture, we have been addressing **Global Climate Factors** (SA #8) and the **Microclimate** concept (SA #9). This assignment is intended to help you apply these concepts to this week's laboratory investigation.

PROCEDURE: Your only reading assignment is to become familiar with Lab #3 in your *Laboratory Manual*, "Environmental Measurements, Part I," and then to complete Project 1 before coming to class. Project 1 invites you to apply your previous learning to carefully designing an experiment to determine the effects of three different biotic communities on the surrounding microclimate. We will discuss this design in class.

Please come prepared to discuss and benefit from this introduction to this week's laboratory. We may also address additional questions and concepts related to the previous laboratory, our study of the prairie restoration community.