

Iowa's County Conservation System

# Newsletter

Volume LV

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Issue XXII

## IMPORTANT DATES:

- \* April 15 – IACCB Mtg. – Story County
- \* April 16 – District 1 Mtg. – Jasper CCB
- \* April 16 – District 3 Mtg. – Plymouth CCB
- \* April 23 – CCPOA Exec. Comm. Mtg. - Ames
- \* May 15 – REAP C.E.P. Grant deadline
- \* May 27 – REAP 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Capitol
- \* June 12 – District 5 Mtg. – Louisa CCB
- \* June 17 – District 6 Mtg. – Iowa CCB
- \* July 1 – District 1 Mtg. – Marshall CCB
- \* September 25-27, 2014 – IACCB Fall Conference in Sioux City / Woodbury Co.
- \* Sept. 29 – October 1 – CCPOA Fall Workshop

The IACCB Newsletter is produced on a periodic basis, and provided in digital format as a membership benefit to IACCB Members and stakeholders.



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Since 1959

## IACCB LEGISLATIVE BILL TRACKER

<http://www.ialobby.com/billtracker/bills.cfm?ClientID=18&NoHeader=0>

**PLEASE forward or make copies of this communication for your Board Members.**



## MISS A DAY – MISS A BUNCH!

Just ask any one of the 45+ participants from 23 counties that attended the **Annual Spring Workshop** this past weekend in Ames! Four excellent education sessions, great food and fantastic networking opportunities filled the jam-packed day! Thanks to those of your that were able to make this a priority for one of your springtime Saturdays! (at Reiman Gardens)

**WORKSHOP RESOURCES** – Three of the four PowerPoints presented at the workshop are now available in a couple of locations: 1) The “FILES” module of the IACCB Portal in the “Spring Workshops” file, and; 2) Via the following link to our satellite website location: <http://mycountyparks.weebly.com/spring-workshop.html>

**WORKSHOP PICTURE DESCRIPTIONS FROM ABOVE:** 1.) IACCB/INHF Lobbyists Craig Patterson & Amy Campbell; 2.) Aaron Steele, Goats on the GO!; 3.) Audience listens intently ©; 4.) 5 Attendees from the Iowa CCB – Director Mike Bode, and Board Members Shirley Messer, Jim Scandridge, Vic Rathje and Gordon Dietze. – fantastic participation!

## PORTAL BECOMES IACCB's ONLY EMAIL RESOURCE

As we have mentioned for the past 5-6 months – the “CONTACTS” portion of the “new” **IACCB Portal** would become our primary resource for current email addresses. IACCB has now made that shift. Therefore, if an individual's email address is not accurate (or even listed) in the CONTACTS – we will not have it on file with IACCB. **It is 100% the responsibility of each CCB** to maintain an accurate listing of contact information for all conservation board members, as well as staff. So, anyone you wish to be receiving email communications directly from IACCB – their emails need to be in the CONTACTS. As many of you do already – you are welcome to forward communications as you prefer – thanks!

# 2014 IACCB FALL CONFERENCE – Sioux City, IA

**September 25-27, 2014**

**LODGING** - Call **800-659-2220** and ask for the **IACCB Room Block!!**

This week's Conference tidbits will provide a bit of information about the Keynote Speaker and the special Post-Conference event opportunity. Chris Helzer, Ecologist and Program Director for The Nature Conservancy in eastern Nebraska will bring his incredible photography to life and meaning as he informs us how all the species and interactions make prairies unique, interesting and valuable. He is a prairie "junkie" and expert who will energize us to enjoy and conserve the prairies we have left. His photography has been featured in publications of The Nature Conservancy and NEBRASKAland magazine. He recently authored a book on prairies and writes a popular prairie blog.

Saturday's schedule ends in the evening with an optional post-conference event, **NATURE CALLS**. This annual event was started eleven years ago by a group of volunteers and the Woodbury County Conservation Foundation to raise funds for the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. If you've ever wanted to find out how one of these fun fund raising events operates, this is your chance to experience an incredibly fun evening. The event features microbrew tasting, food, nature art market, silent and live auction, and raffles. Persons registering for this extra event will receive free raffle tickets to use that evening. This will be well worth your stay on Saturday night!

*Coming next time: Description of Friday's Field Trips!*

**CONFERENCE WEB PAGE:** <http://mycountyparks.weebly.com/2014-fall-conference.html>



## 1960 IACCB FALL CONFERENCE TRIVIA ☺

As long as we are in the conference info. mode - the **First IACCB Annual Conference** was held at the Fisher Community Center in Marshalltown on May 14 & 15, 1960. The Tallcorn Hotel provided delegate lodging for \$6.25/single and \$9.50/twin for a night. At their April 10, 1960 meeting, the IACCB Board of Directors set the First Annual Conference registration fees as follows: FULL Registration at \$8.50; Spouse Registration at \$7.50; A la carte meals at \$2.00 for lunch, \$4.00 for the banquet and \$1.50 for breakfast. A registration with "no meals" was \$2.00 ☺

## IACCB.com TO CLOSE

With the **IACCB Portal** in full operation, and numerous other dominoes falling into place for our statewide digital networking and communications – the very first IACCB website has now run its course. While there is bit more harvesting of existing text to do – in a few short weeks, IACCB.com and our old email system from "fngi.com" will become part of our digital history. This website rolled out in 2008 – just about one year in advance of MyCountyParks.com. If any of you still have links to IACCB.com from your websites or in your browser favorites – please get them switched over to MyCountyParks.com. We have been slowly enhancing the IACCB link at the bottom of every page of MCP.com, and will continue to do so as essential features are identified. Let me know if you have any questions. ☺



## MAY 9<sup>th</sup> – IOWA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION @ IOWA ARBORETUM

The Iowa Arborist Association is hosting Dr. Ed Gilman from Florida on May 9th at the Iowa Arboretum. Dr. Gilman will be giving a presentation on advanced pruning techniques. Check-in begins at 8:00 AM, morning sessions commence at 8:30 AM. COSTS: \$85 for IAA members; \$100 for non-members; \$75 for students. **Link to registration form and additional information:** <http://www.iowaarboristassociation.org/>

## PRIVATE LANDOWNERS BURNING CRP/WRP

(From Christine Paulson, IDNR) There are no specific air quality rules, at this time, for prescribed natural resource burns. Currently, they are covered under the exemption for “landscape waste” in our open burning rules in 567 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 23 (rule 23.2). The rules are available on our open burning website at: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/AirQuality/OpenBurning.aspx>

There are very few restrictions for burning landscape waste in most areas of the state. If the burning includes “clearing,” which we would consider large stumps or trees, the burn does need to be located at least ¼ mile from any occupied building, other than buildings owned by the landowner of the property where the burn is being conducted. Additionally, if there are local ordinances that require permits or are more stringent than state rules, these must be followed. The only areas of the state that currently require a permit or special permission to conduct prescribed burns are the greater Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, and Council Bluffs areas.

If you are following NWCG guidelines for safety and smoke management, that is great! If you need any other guidelines for prescribed fire, you can find several on the DNR’s Forestry page for fire, at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/Forestry/FirePrevention/FirePrograms.aspx> (scroll down the page to Prescribed Fire Information). Many resources are listed, including some specifically for smoke management. If you need any other smoke management resources, please let me know. [christine.paulson@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:christine.paulson@dnr.iowa.gov)

## YOU ARE INVITED TO A BIO BLITZ at EDEN PARK – Louisa County

Eden Park is a 146-acre property that was given to Louisa County Conservation in November 2010. There are two creeks that cascade through the property, CRP/prairie, wetlands and woodlands. They would like to get a nice sampling of what all is there (biologically speaking) – to aid them in the future management of the site.

Please RSVP to Katie Hammond, Director at: [lccb@lccb.org](mailto:lccb@lccb.org) or (319) 523-8381. Eden Park is located at 17426 County Road X17, Columbus Junction, IA.

LOUISA COUNTY  
CONSERVATION



mycountyparks .com  PORTAL

CONTACTS

FILES

JOB

BEST PRACTICES

**BEST PRACTICES** – **WOW!** – sometimes there are two a day! **Recent postings** to the **Best Practices** module that you may wish to visit include: Cell Phone Tours, Controlled Burning on Private Lands, Exempt Status & Comp Time, Picnic Shelter and Shower House/Restroom Designs. While you are there – feel free to visit the other 25 subjects that are in the permanent archives! Your comments and attachments are welcomed at any time.

**NOTE #1:** Only user profiles at the County Administrator and Portal Administrator security level are currently able to view and participate in the Best Practices system. We are looking into expanding this to include those with a Portal User profile too – stay tuned.

**NOTE #2:** I have noticed that there are 35 CCB Directors that have Portal User profiles, and therefore have no ability to access the Best Practices, Contacts or Jobs modules at this security level. If you need assistance in creating an administrator profile – please let me know. (I also see that some of you have more than one profile – please ascertain your priority profile and eliminate any others – thanks!)

**NOTE #3** – I have had a couple of requests to add email addresses to the Best Practices notifications when they go out. This was initially set up to go out to our 99 county conservation Directors. I am O.K. with adding email addresses to this portion of the process as long as the request for these supplemental email address additions is provided to me from a CCB Director – thanks for your assistance in keeping this as streamlined as possible ☺

**CONTACTS** – As we are now scooping and using emails from the CONTACTS module of the IACCB Portal for our email communications from IACCB – this is a good point to remind you to visit your CCB’s portion of the CONTACTS section and clean up the accuracy of all the emails that you have listed. I am getting “bounce-backs” from about 40 addresses as messages are sent out. IACCB will not be chasing these down for corrections as we will assume that you all have provided the current or corrected ones through the CONTACTS section. On the plus side, only getting 40 returns on 640+ that go out isn’t all bad. Thanks for your participation and support of this changeover.

## **"Iowa By Trail" APP LAUNCH**

(From INHF) Just a little less than a month away from the launch of the Central Iowa version of **Iowa By Trail**! May 1st is the big day—not only are we launching the app, we're throwing a party to celebrate at the Riverwalk Hub downtown (D.M.). We want to spread the word as fast and wide-reaching as possible and we need your help.

We're going to be sending out a Facebook event for the launch soon, but for that to be most effective we need people to "Like" our page in huge numbers. Please post any of the following links/information that you can. When you do, include these links in the photo/post description: *(We'll have it on the MCP.com Facebook page soon!)*

- Link to the **Iowa By Trail Facebook** (make sure you tag the page in your post too!): <https://www.facebook.com/IowaByTrail>
- Link to the INHF site that explains the app/allows people to donate: <http://www.inhf.org/iowabytrail.cfm>
- The "preview" blog post we put out a couple of weeks ago that has photos/video/screenshots of the upcoming app: <http://inhfblog.org/2014/03/06/iowa-by-trail-preview/>

For additional information contact **Kerri Sorrell**, INHF Design & Communications Intern at (515) 288-1846



## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:**

<http://www.mycountyparks.com/Jobs/Default.aspx>

1. MAHASKA CCB – Conservation Technician
2. WAPELLO CCB – Maintenance Technician
3. BOONE – Seasonal Park Maintenance
4. CLINTON – Summer Naturalist Intern
5. BOONE – Seas. Maint./Golf Course Worker
6. POLK – Conservation Laborer I
7. DICKINSON – Naturalist Intern
8. WOODBURY – Park Security Guard
9. BUENA VISTA – Maintenance Technician
10. BUENA VISTA – Spray Truck Driver
11. HARDIN – Interpretive/Nat. Res. Mgmt. Intern
12. MONROE – Seasonal Maintenance
13. SAC – Conservation Aide
14. CRAWFORD – Campground Host
15. CRAWFORD – Seasonal Park Attendant
16. DES MOINES – Naturalist Intern
17. DES MOINES – Conservation Intern
18. CHICKASAW – Conservation Aide
19. BLACK HAWK – Seasonal Park Maintenance
20. HAMILTON – Campground Hosts
21. OSCEOLA – Seas. Conservation Technician
22. SIOUX – Seasonal Park Technician
23. BUCHANAN – Naturalist Intern
24. POLK – Campground Aides
25. POLK – Stable Laborer
26. BUCHANAN – Seasonal Park Technician
27. BUENA VISTA – Campground Hosts
28. CONSERVATION CORPS Positions

 Full Time Employment

 Seasonal/Part-Time



Located at the bottom of each and every page of the **MyCountyParks.com** website.