

Iowa's County Conservation System

Newsletter

Volume LV

APRIL 25, 2014

Issue XXIII

IMPORTANT DATES:

- * May 14 – IACCB Board of Directors Mtg. – Ames
- * May 15 – REAP C.E.P. Grant deadline
- * May 15 – District 4 Mtg. – Audubon CCB
- * May 20 – IACCB Mtg. – Marshalltown
- * May 27 – REAP 25th Anniversary - Capitol
- * June 12 – District 5 Mtg. – Louisa CCB
- * June 17 – District 6 Mtg. – Iowa CCB
- * July 1 – District 1 Mtg. – Marshall CCB
- * August 1 – FY2015 IACCB Memberships Due
- * 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.



1775 Mackenzie Drive, Cedar Rapids, IA 52411

(515) 963-9582

IACCB@mycountyparks.com

mycountyparks.com

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.



LEGISLATIVE SESSION WINDING-DOWN

Depending on which source you are listening to, with no more per diem left (*amongst other reasons*) – legislators are anxious to bring the 2014 session to a close. The push for sustainable funding (IWILL) emerged out of committee but stalled this week leaving supporters and advocates to begin preparations for a stronger push in the 2015 session. Attention was also focused on REAP this week – not only to continue the fight for \$25 million, but to also protect any of the \$16 million from being diverted elsewhere. As of this writing, we still are not quite sure of the outcome – stay tuned.

We do know that summer, meetings are already being scheduled to plan strategies toward the 2015 session, and the REAP Alliance will be holding a May meeting to evaluate their role and areas of focus going forward. Look forward to various reports and wrap-ups from our legislative team in the days/weeks ahead as we become versed in all the end-results that come out of a legislative session – some even decided during the very final hours.

For those of you that chose to be active and participate in these processes this year – THANK YOU very much for your support and dedication to the future of Iowa's natural resources, water quality and outdoor recreation.....as well as the survival of our industry. As we begin to evaluate our 2014 efforts and strategically look ahead to 2015 – IT WILL COLLECTIVELY take a much broader effort on the part of ALL OF US to effect change in the right direction in the years to come. A significant portion of IACCB's resources (*both financial & "feet on the ground"*) are dedicated to these legislative and lobbying efforts – but it is going to take YOUR "off-session" interaction with your legislators to build the case for support in 2015. Your grass root, year-round efforts in all 99 counties is what will make the difference!! ☺



2014 IACCB FALL CONFERENCE – Sioux City, IA

September 25-27, 2014

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

The 55th Annual IACCB Conference will once again feature two outstanding field trips traveling by comfortable motor coach. You will have the opportunity to explore completely new sights and facilities in Plymouth and Woodbury Counties.

One tour will cover primarily Plymouth County. The highlights of this trip will take you to the new Dennis Sohl Center for Outdoor Learning at Hillview Park. This park features a live elk display and is the headquarters for the Plymouth County Conservation Board. From this area, the coaches will take you a few more miles west into the heart of the northern loess hills to The Nature Conservancy's Broken Kettle Grasslands – the largest contiguous tract of remnant prairie left in Iowa. Broken Kettle also is home to a sizable herd of pure strain bison which you will get to view at fairly close range.

The other tour will cover Woodbury County taking you from the Missouri River bottoms into the loess hills. You will visit and view native prairie bluffs in conservation easement; a 1,300-acre wetland complex; two developed parks to inspect a recently completed tornado safe camper restroom/shower facility, luxury cabins, and effects of the 2011 Missouri River Flood; and two large public hunting areas, one which has been partially developed.

Both tours will visit the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center located in Stone State Park. This facility opened in 1995 and recently experienced complete revamping of the exhibit hall and addition of a raptor house, outdoor nature playscape and water feature. The nature center is the headquarters for the Woodbury County Conservation Board. Finally, both tours will arrive at Woodbury County's largest developed park, Little Sioux Park, for refreshments, great barbeque, entertainment and quality time with numerous exhibitors. You will have the opportunity to inspect the camping cabins and take a ride on the paved recreational trail connecting with the town of Correctionville to see and cross the bridge over the Little Sioux River. Enjoy entertainment by Mike and Jack Langley as they play "Golden Oldies" for your listening pleasure. Come experience some great fun and learning!

Coming next time: Information on Saturday's concurrent sessions!

Get your rooms reserved now!

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



INHF MEETS AT WICKIUP

The **Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation** staff and Board of Directors hosted a morning reception for regional INHF members and supporters this morning at the Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center in Linn County. Timely comments on current & future legislative issues, as well as the importance of partnerships were included during a brief program by Joe McGovern, INHF President. A Board Meeting followed.

IACCB Board of Directors – Positions to Open

Openings on the IACCB state Board of Directors will be available this fall for representative Board Members from CCBs in Districts 5 and 6. We will also have an opening for a representative from IACCBE with a term starting at Winterfest 2015 (next January). If Board Members or Employees would like more information or an application for these positions, please let me know: IACCB@mycountyparks.com



FY2015 IACCB MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Over the next week, IACCB will be distributing your **FY2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** information and invoices. Some of you have already requested and received your materials – thank-you very much for your advanced planning. As you know, these are distributed each year in early May to allow those of you interested in utilizing funds from the existing fiscal year to do so, and many counties also find that a 50/50 split between two fiscal years fits well in their financial planning. As with the past couple of years, these will be distributed via email to each county conservation director. *(If you would like a hard-copy mailed to you, please let me know)*

The IACCB Board of Directors observes an **August 1st deadline** for renewal each year in order that we can also finalize our organizational planning and budgeting process for the new fiscal year. Accompanying the invoices will be a listing of IACCB member benefits and services, as well as a cover letter with additional information. Courtesy reminders will go out to CCBs that have yet to renew around the first of July, but we anticipate that this may have diminished to a relatively small number over the next two months. Notice was provided this past November to all county conservation boards as to which level of membership they would fall into for FY2015. Should any board feel that they have been placed in a wrong category, a simple process is in place for a review of membership placement. At the 2010 IACCB Annual Meeting, an 86% favorable vote of the membership determined that membership levels would be based on the local property tax support received in each individual county. Recognizing that this could change from year-to-year, the Board of Directors established the review process. As always, should there be any questions, or to inquire of the review process please contact the Board of Directors via email to: IACCB@mycountyparks.com We appreciate your timely attention to this renewal process – thank-you! ☺

FY2015 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INVOICE					
Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards 1775 Mackenzie Drive Cedar Rapids, IA 52411-9596 (515) 963-9582 IACCB@MyCountyParks.com				April 2014	
BILL TO: Jones County Conservation Brad Mormann 12515 Central Park Road Center Junction, IA 52212					
OFFICE	P.O. Number	Orig. Invoice Date	Ship Via	FOB	Terms
IACCB		April 17, 2014			August 1, 2014

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

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

1. SCOTT CCB – Park Ranger
2. POTTAWATTAMIE CCB – Environmental Educator
3. FLOYD CCB – Executive Director
4. MONONA CCB – Operations & Maint. / Asst. Officer
5. MAHASKA CCB – Conservation Technician
6. DES MOINES – P.T. Conservation Technician
7. POLK – Conservation Laborer I
8. DICKINSON – Naturalist Intern
9. WOODBURY – Park Security Guard
10. BUENA VISTA – Maintenance Technician
11. BUENA VISTA – Spray Truck Driver
12. BLACK HAWK – Seasonal Park Maintenance
13. HAMILTON – Campground Hosts
14. SIOUX – Seasonal Park Technician
15. BUCHANAN – Naturalist Intern
16. POLK – Campground Aides
17. POLK – Stable Laborer
18. BUCHANAN – Seasonal Park Technician
19. BUENA VISTA – Campground Hosts



Located at the bottom of each and every page of the [MyCountyParks.com](http://www.MyCountyParks.com) website.