

Newsletter

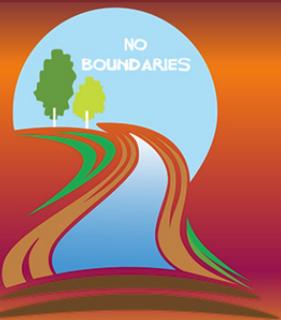
SAVE THE DATE:

- * Feb. 23 – REAP Alliance Meeting – Des Moines
- * Feb. 23 – WILL Day of Action Online (Virtual)
- * Feb. 25 – MCP.com Online Res. Mtg. – Des Moines CB
- * March 3 – Capitol Day for IWILL – Fund the Trust
- * March 8 – CCPOA Spring Workshop – Webster CCB
- * March 9 – County Day at the Capitol (ISAC)
- * Mar. 10-11 – ISAC Spring School of Instruction
- * Mar. 15 – IACCBE W'Fest Planning Mtg. – Marshall
- * Mar. 15 – Right of Way Workshop – Kirkwood C.C.
- * Mar. 16 – CCPOA Spring Workshop – Obrien CCB
- * Mar. 16 – CCPOA Spring Workshop – Muscatine Co.
- * March 22 – REAP Day at the Capitol (IEC)

See the new **IACCB Online Calendar** for agenda info. and mapping directions

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

IACCB 2016 Fall Conference



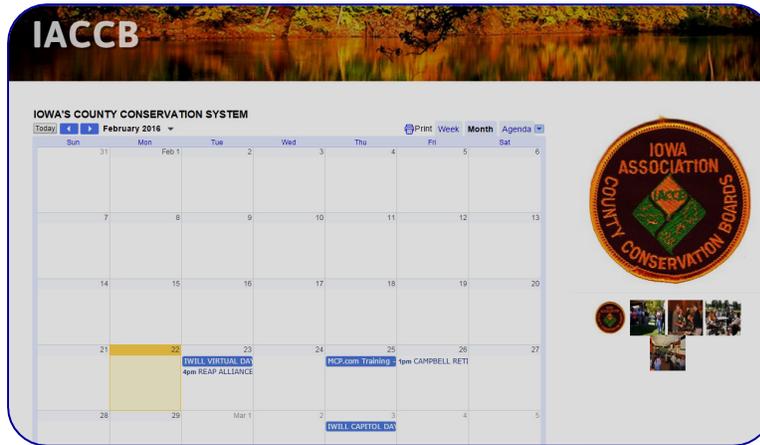
September 15-17



Volume 57, Issue No. 15
February 23, 2016

NEW IACCB ONLINE CALENDAR !!

The first meeting of **IACCB's 2016 Strategic Planning Committee** was just last Friday – but already we have some positive results! Long overdue is an online calendar dedicated to listing all county conservation administrative and significant events across



the state. This includes conferences, workshops, meetings and other events of interest to the broader county conservation system. This calendar will feature information from all six internal organizations (IACCB, IACCBE, CCDA, IAN, CCPOA & AFIRM), as well as our six regional District entities! Hopefully this will eliminate some of the accidental “stacking” of events that more folks may like to attend? The calendar is visible via the IACCB link on MyCountyParks and is the very first thing you see on that link. Initially, only items submitted by the aforementioned organizations will be listed, and we hope in the near future that administrative privileges can be extended to each organization to be able to add their own events as they become viable. Utilizing Google Calendar allows us to embed Google mapping for each event, as well as attach PDF agendas/information to calendar entries as available. Woo-Hoo! – this gets us well into the ‘90s!! ☺ For now – please submit your items for this calendar to IACCB@mycountyparks.com – Many thanks for all you do!

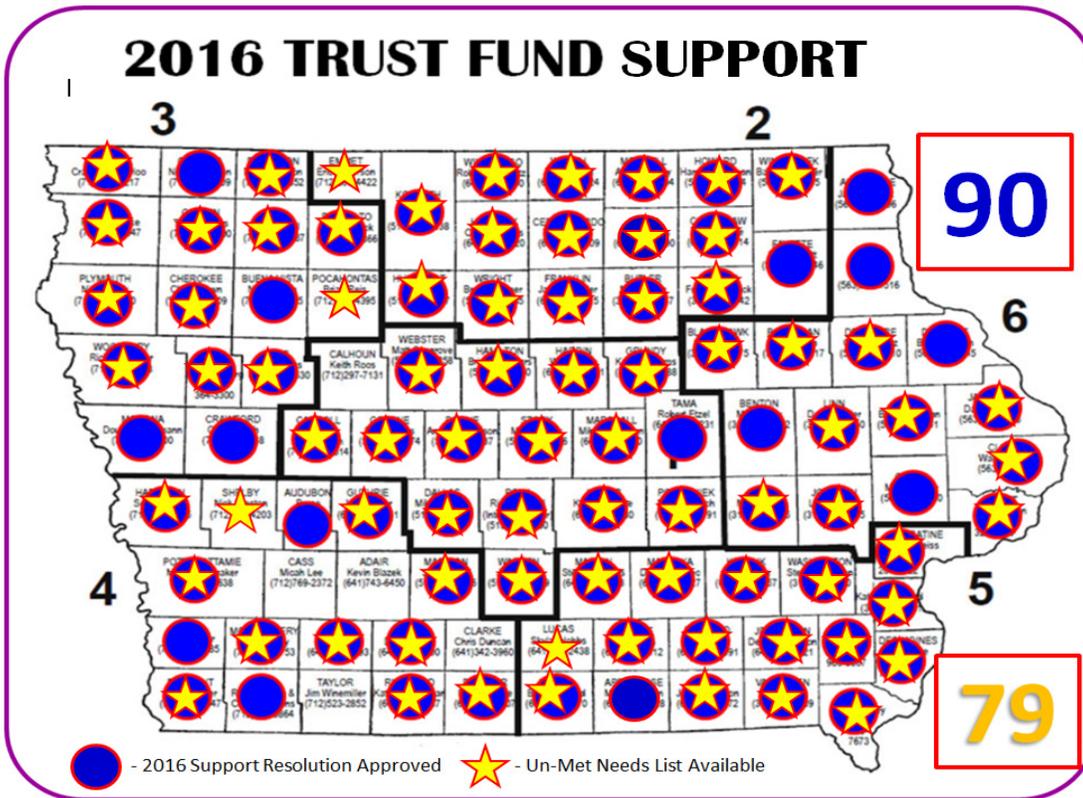
2016 IACCB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Your **IACCB Board of Directors** held their postponed winter quarterly meeting this past Friday in Ames. We were able to get a full-board group picture for the first time in a couple of years! ☺ Newly installed members to the 2016 Board include: **Bridget Chatfield**, a Board Member from Mitchell CCB – serving as the District 2 representative; and, **Mike Miner**, Director of the Butler CCB – representing the County Conservation Directors Assn. (CCDA)

The team picture with names, as well as the 2016 Board of Directors Roster (includes contact information) are available via the IACCB link on MyCountyParks.com. Your representatives invite your comments and input at any time. Collectively, we thank you for your service at the statewide level. FYI – we will be electing District 3 and 4 representatives this summer. *Interested?*



2016 Trust Fund Discussion Support Documents



NICE INCREASE!!

Over the past couple of weeks we have experienced the addition of new/updated **UN-MET Needs lists** from 20+ CCBs – **FANTASTIC!** This balloons our document to 36 pages of single-spaced listings of un-met needs across the state – very impressive. Starting with a **REAP Alliance** meeting this evening – as well as every discussion going forward on various legislative lobby days – **THIS LISTING** will be in the hands of everyone! Have you shared it with your legislators yet to demonstrate the incredible scope of the needs across Iowa?????



The Capitol Report
January 23, 2016

- [Click here for the IACCB Bill Tracker.](#)
- [Click here for the INHF Bill Tracker.](#)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – “The Capitol Report” – DIRECT TO YOU!

One more discussion topic at the bevy of District Meetings the past couple of weeks was deployment of the periodic legislative newsletter as provided by our lobbyists on an every-other-week basis. Consensus was to send it to all email addresses of record in the system – Directors, Staff, Board Members, CCB Alumni and other partners. This will be a function of IACCB to ensure delivery – which commenced with yesterday’s edition. The words “Legislative Newsletter” will appear in the subject line of your emails – if you choose not to receive these important communications, simply do not open the emails – thanks!



TWITTER of FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS???

Today (February 23rd) is a “**Virtual Day of Action**” for funding the **Iowa Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund!** Please Visit the Facebook page of **MyCountyParks.com** at the link below and share our post on your Facebook page(s)! Also, take a moment to post a message on your legislator’s Facebook Page, or send along a couple of Tweets today to raise the awareness level of your un-met local needs for funding! The MCP.com Facebook link is as follows:

<https://www.facebook.com/MyCountyParkscom-205042366199479/>

Thanks for your assistance today for getting the message out!

Newsletter: February 1, 2016

Day of Action
online
IOWA'S WATER & LAND LEGACY

@IWL_LA
 iowawaterandlandlegacy

Tuesday, February 23
 Message and Tweet your legislators about your favorite place in Iowa and why it needs the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust **funded!**

Don't forget to use the hashtags
#FundTheTrust and #ItsOurLegacy

WATERSHED IMPROVEMENT REVIEW BOARD – Funding Needs Your Support!!

It has been a couple of “dry” years for the Watershed Improvement Review Board – administered by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. No appropriations by the legislature yields no watershed improvement projects from this fund in your counties! **Larry Gullet**, Director for the Johnson CCB serves on the (WIRB) Board as the CCB representative, and provides the following.....”WIRB was established under the Vilsack Administration when Rich Leopold was Director of the IDNR. I also believe this was when Secretary Northey began his administration. WIRB was established specifically to “fill in the gap” where other water quality improvement funding programs fall short. Primarily providing funds for County Conservation Boards, Cities and to local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The WIRB is different from other state programs in that no State Department includes the program in their budgets, i.e., WIRB stands alone and is funded directly by the legislature - Board Members help with the program but the IDALS primarily administers it (although they do not include funding requests for the program).

Three years ago the legislature approved funding of a nominal amount (I can't remember the exact amount but it was somewhere between \$1-\$3 million), the Governor line item vetoed the funding. This was at the same time the Nutrient Reduction Strategy was released. For the last two years no more funding has been approved for the program. For 3 years no funding has been awarded to WIRB.

What has happened is that with the focus on agricultural related nutrient pollution, all the funding for other programs, primarily cities, CCB's and soil and water conservation districts for staff to implement water quality programs, has been diverted to the WQI (Water Quality Initiative).

Recently, three county conservation boards have been contacting officials from the IDNR to request information on funding programs needed to improve county managed lakes (Johnson, Jones and Jasper) Essentially, the only funding available to help CCB's is now the IDNR Lake Restoration Program. The IDNR Lake Restoration Fund does not have the necessary funds to help CCB's. I know that Monroe CCB can attest to the importance of WIRB as we helped with the restoration of Lake Miami. A normal grant awarded from WIRB averaged from \$100,000 to \$300,000 per project. THESE FUNDS WERE IMPERATIVE TO CCB'S LEVERAGING THEIR LOCAL FUNDS TO COMPLETE A PROJECT.

Those of us on the WIRB are saddened that the money used to help cities, CCB's and soil and water conservation districts has been eliminated and diverted to help fund the WQI. When you hear that the Governor is increasing the appropriation to address water quality concerns, be advised they are just cutting existing programs to fund new initiatives at the expense of CCB's and small communities implement urban conservation practices. These small community projects are very important in improving water quality by managing direct runoff into our rivers and streams.” **Therefore – as you have the opportunity to converse or contact your legislators – share your concerns and interests to pertaining to getting some funding routed to the Watershed Improvement Review Board so that they can continue their critically important work. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR County Conservation Board!!**

Please
Save the Date
for Iowa's Water & Land Legacy
Capitol Day 2016:
Thursday, March 3

Legislative Day of Action Events:
7:30am – Breakfast, Room 15
9am – Rotunda
Visit your legislators

All members, friends, and supporters are welcome

For more information, a Day of Action Toolkit, and to register your support for IWILL, see www.iowaswaterandlandlegacy.com
IWILL Coalition (515) 244-5044 brittany.gallagher@tnc.org

IOWA'S
**WATER
& LAND
LEGACY**

Let's get the Natural
Resources & Outdoor
Recreation Trust
funded!

#FundTheTrust
#ItsOurLegacy

IWILL CAPITOL DAY – March 3rd!

We hope that you are planning to join the effort to support Funding the Trust on **Thursday, March 3rd** – a bit over one week hence! NOW IS THE TIME to be contacting your legislators and making arrangements to meet with them when you are there on the 3rd.

There is a **legislative breakfast at 7:30 AM** for you early arrivals. (Please RSVP via the IWILL website link to the left) **From 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM we invite you to visit your legislators** personally – having made arrangements with them this week will help facilitate these meetings! Need a dose of **Advocacy Training** in advance?: Training will be provided for any IWILL supporter wanting to know what to expect and what to do at Lobby Day. **Conference calls will be held at 4:30pm on Tuesday, March 1 and at noon on Wednesday, March 2.** Please contact **Brittany Gallagher** (IWILL/TNC) to sign-up for this opportunity- brittany.gallagher@tnc.org / (515) 244-5044.

<http://www.iowaswaterandlandlegacy.org/lobby-day>

I realize that it seems redundant to keep mentioning that advocating for Funding of the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust ***will be the most important thing you will ever do in your career*** – but if you think about the long-term scope and impact that it will have.....it is just staggering! **\$150 to \$180 million** annually forever / Full funding for REAP – forever / grant programs and direct funding for county conservation – forever, and so on and so on. The \$65+ million that has come directly to county conservation via the REAP program in the past 26 years will pale in comparison to the future. For those of you with 20 to 30 years still in front of you in your conservation careers.....**THIS IS WHERE YOU PUNCH YOUR TICKET!** We need you all at the front of this charge – telling YOUR stories to legislators, stake holders, your local papers and media outlets – get onboard! ☺

IOWA'S LIVING LANDSCAPES: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE

THE 2016 RIGHTS-OF-WAY WORKSHOP



2016 RIGHTS-OF-WAY WORKSHOP

Tuesday, March 15th – Cedar Rapids

Ballantyne Auditorium, Kirkwood Community College

For registration information, agenda and driving directions, visit March 15th on the IACCB Calendar on MyCountyParks.com. You can download a workshop PDF via that calendar ☺ Registration is through **Linn County Conservation** at (319) 892-6458.

CCPOA SPRING WORKSHOP REMINDER – Registration Deadlines!

Quick reminder that registrations are due soon for the three regional CCPOA Spring Workshops:

- March 8th – Central Workshop, Webster County
- March 16th – Western Workshop, O'Brien County
- March 16th – Eastern Workshop, Muscatine County

Agendas/registration information are downloadable from the **IACCB Calendar** on MyCountyParks.com, or by visiting the CCPOA website at: <http://iowaccpoa.weebly.com/2016-spring-workshops.html>



ONLINE RESERVATIONS ORIENTATION – Des Moines CCB

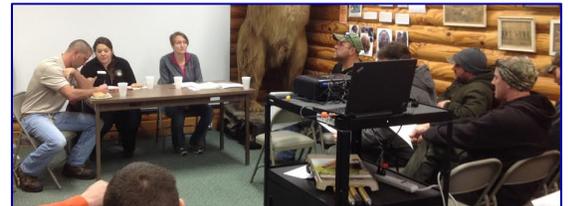
Thursday, February 25th – 10:00 AM to approx. 1:00 PM

This will most likely be the final opportunity this spring/summer to participate in this website orientation. We will be gathering at the **Starr's Cave Nature Center north of Burlington**. If your CCB is considering utilizing the online reservation features of the website for either event or facility reservations – there are a bunch of details you should be aware of in advance. This is specialized orientation and does not involve any “hands-on” participation by attendees. Several hand-outs will be available from the training – both hard-copy and in the Portal. It would be good to have a final count of participants - please RSVP to IACCB@mycountyparks.com No charge.



UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS

It has been interesting to observe the evolution of our **IACCB Newsletters** these past couple of decades – all the way from a snail-mailed weekly printed document to an electronically posted periodical. With the advent of our online job postings, the Portal and all of its features, and most recently our online calendar of meetings – the urgency of getting newsletters out on a regular basis or date has diminished. Obviously the use of new technologies available to us has improved our efficiencies immensely. We will continue to endeavor at producing a couple a month – but if it is more efficient to “tag-along” with a legislative update via a cover email – you may see more of that during a legislative session. It takes the better part of two days to assemble, draft and disseminate a newsletter - sometimes the workload and travel do not allow that time, or there may just not be enough material to generate one. Look forward to some “specialty” newsletters in the weeks ahead as we may focus on some features of who we are! ☺



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

1. WEBSTER Co. – Office Manager
2. CRAWFORD Co. – Park Technician
3. BLACK HAWK Co. – Conservation Ranger II
4. POWESHIEK Co. – Resource Mgr./Naturalist
5. TAMA Co. – Cons. Technician/Park Ranger
6. FLOYD Co. – Natural Resource Manager
7. WINNESHIEK Co. – Roadside Manager
8. TEMPORARY POSITIONS – 85+ opportunities listed on website



Full Time Employment

Seasonal/Part-Time – Listed on website

