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**Dec. 17 Iowa Outdoors**

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**Press Releases from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources**

Tue, Dec 17, 2013 at 11:37

&lt;DNR.Media@dnr.iowa.gov&gt;

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Reply-To: DNR.Media@dnr.iowa.gov

To: Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards &lt;IACCB@mycountyparks.com&gt;



# IOWA OUTDOORS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** DECEMBER 17, 2013[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov) | [facebook.com/iowadnr](https://www.facebook.com/iowadnr) | [twitter.com/iowadnr](https://twitter.com/iowadnr) | [pinterest.com/iowadnr](https://www.pinterest.com/iowadnr)

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**CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR BY HIKING IN A STATE PARK ON  
JANUARY 1**

DES MOINES - Begin the New Year rejuvenating and connecting with the outdoors by taking a healthy hike on Jan. 1, at a state park close to home. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is hosting free, guided hikes in three state parks and recreation areas on New Year's Day.

Hikes will be offered at Dolliver Memorial State Park (Webster County) at 1 p.m.; Mines of Spain State Recreation Area (Dubuque County) at 1 p.m.; and Waubonsie State Park (Fremont County) at 2 p.m. Visit [www.iowadnr.gov/StateParkEvents](http://www.iowadnr.gov/StateParkEvents) for detailed information regarding the hikes.

"This is a great way to cure cabin fever and start off the New Year with an invigorating walk or hike in one of our beautiful state parks," said Todd Coffelt, bureau chief of Iowa's state parks.

Hot cocoa and refreshments will be provided at some locations. All events are subject to change. The nationwide First Day Hikes program is sponsored by America's State Parks.

The first day hike qualifies for Healthy and Happy Outdoors (H2O), a campaign to connect Iowans with outdoor resources as a way to reduce stress and improve health.

Iowans can go online to [www.iowadnr.gov/h2o](http://www.iowadnr.gov/h2o) and find more than 30 types of outdoor activities at more than 1,600 state and county parks and recreation areas.

Participants who register for H2O and log activities will automatically be entered for prize drawings. The prize for activities logged in January is a \$100 gift card to Gander Mountain. The more activities logged, the more entries submitted.

**MEDIA CONTACT: Sherry Arntzen, Iowa Department of Natural Resources State Parks Bureau, 515-242-6233.**

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## WINTER TROUT STOCKING SCHEDULE

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will release trout in seven locations this winter in areas that would not support them during warmer months.

The popular program is supported by the sales of the trout fee. Anglers are required to have a valid fishing license and the trout fee to fish for or possess trout.

Jan. 10, Moorland Park Pond, Fort Dodge, Noon, 1,500 trout

Jan. 10, Big Lake West, Council Bluffs, 4 p.m., 1,000 trout

Jan. 18, Blue Pit, Mason City, 11 a.m., 2,000 trout

Jan. 18, Bacon Creek, Sioux City, 1 p.m., 1,500 trout

Jan. 25, Petoka, Bondurant, Noon, 1,500 trout

Jan. 25, Scharnberg Pond, Spencer, 1 p.m., 1,500 trout

Feb. 8, Ada Hayden Pond, Ames, Noon, 2,200 trout

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## LIBERTYVILLE MAN WINS ADVENTURE READY GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

Alex Love, from Libertyville, is this week's winner of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Adventure Ready Gift Card Giveaway. Love won a \$50 gift card generously donated by Bass Pro Shops.

Hunters and anglers who purchase one of four new licenses in 2013 will be automatically entered into a weekly drawing for a \$50 gift card.

To participate in the drawing, Iowans can simply purchase one of the four qualifying licenses at any license retailer or on the DNR's website at [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov). The four qualifying licenses are:

- **Bonus Line License** – resident and nonresident anglers can fish with one additional line (with the purchase of the annual fishing license, which allows two lines), for \$12.
- **Outdoor Combo License** – annual resident hunting/fishing/habitat combo license for \$47.
- **Angler's Special** – a three-year resident fishing license for \$53.
- **Hunter's Special** – a three-year resident hunting license with habitat included for \$86.

The DNR will draw every Monday at noon and announce the weekly winner on its website and through Twitter on Tuesday afternoon. The promotion will run through December 23, 2013.

Mills Fleet Farm is sponsoring the Dec. 23 gift card drawing. Weekly winner announcements, gift card sponsors and complete drawing details can be found at [www.iowadnr.gov/giveaway](http://www.iowadnr.gov/giveaway).

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## **NORTHWOOD MAN WINS HEALTHY AND HAPPY OUTDOORS NOVEMBER PRIZE DRAWING**

Bob Weselmann, from Northwood, won the Healthy and Happy Outdoors (H2O) November prize package of a \$50 gift card from Cabela's.

December's prize is a winter fun family package. All outdoor activities logged December 1-31 will be automatically entered for the prize drawing.

Healthy and Happy Outdoors is an initiative geared to connect Iowans with outdoor resources as a way to reduce stress and improve health. Iowans can go online to [www.iowadnr.gov/h2o](http://www.iowadnr.gov/h2o) and find over 30 types of outdoor activities at more than 1,600 parks and recreation areas across the state.

Participants who register for H2O and log activities will automatically be entered for prize drawings. Each activity logged counts as an entry. Complete rules and promotional details are available on the H2O web page.

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## **DNR TO ANSWER YOUR IOWA WILDLIFE QUESTIONS LIVE ON FACEBOOK DEC. 19**

DES MOINES — Iowans with questions about the state's wildlife – whether in their backyard or game species in the field – can have them answered live on Facebook Dec. 19.

Karen Kinkead, DNR wildlife diversity program coordinator, and Willie Suchy, DNR wildlife supervisor, will answer questions live from noon to 2:30 p.m. To ask a question, post it as a comment on the "Live Q&A" post that the DNR will post at noon that day. You can also post questions ahead of time on the DNR's Facebook Timeline at [www.facebook.com/iowadnr](http://www.facebook.com/iowadnr). Questions received after 2:30 will be answered, but at a later time.

To make sure you see the Live Q&A when it is posted, make sure you "like" the DNR's page on Facebook. Go to [www.facebook.com/iowadnr](http://www.facebook.com/iowadnr) and click on "like" and make sure "get notifications" and "show in news feed" are selected.

Commenters should also view the DNR's Facebook posting policy ahead of time at <https://www.facebook.com/iowadnr/info>.

**MEDIA CONTACT: Jessie Brown, DNR, at 515-281-5131 or [Jessie.Brown@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Jessie.Brown@dnr.iowa.gov)**

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## 2014 BALD EAGLE WATCH EVENTS

\*events with asterisk have a school day on Friday

### Clinton Bald Eagle Watch

**Jan. 4, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

- Outdoor viewing: Lock and Dam 13
- Live Bird and Nature Programs: Clinton Community College, 9:45 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Exhibits: Clinton Community College from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Free bus service from college to the outdoor viewing area.
- For more information call [815-259-3628](tel:815-259-3628)

### Mississippi River Visitor Center, Arsenal Island, Rock Island, Ill.

**Saturdays and Sundays, Jan. 11– Feb. 15, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Combination Eagle Watch and Historic Clock Tower Tours

- Reservations are recommended as group size is limited.
- For more information contact Visitor's Center Staff at [309-794-5338](tel:309-794-5338)

### \*Quad Cities Bald Eagle Days

**Jan. 11-12, 4 – 8 p.m., Friday (school day), 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday**

QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Avenue, Rock Island, Ill.

- Live Eagle and Bird of Prey Programs by The World Bird Sanctuary
- Special Attractions
- Wildlife Art Show and Sale and Environmental Fair
- For more information contact the Mississippi River Visitor Center [309-794-5338](tel:309-794-5338) or Arlynn Hartwig

[309-788-2543](tel:309-788-2543)

### **Ottumwa Bald Eagle Watch**

**Jan. 11, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

- Bridge View Center on the Des Moines River
- For more information contact [641- 684-4303](tel:641-684-4303)

### **\*Dubuque Bald Eagle Watch**

**Jan. 18**

- Outdoor viewing south of Lock and Dam 11, A.Y. McDonald Park 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Live Eagle and Bird of Prey Programs by The World Bird Sanctuary at 9:30 a.m., 12:30 and 3 p.m.
- Indoor Exhibits from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Grand River Center - Port of Dubuque
- Trolley rides from Grand River Center to outdoor viewing area
- For more information call [563-556-4372](tel:563-556-4372) or [563-582-0881](tel:563-582-0881)

### **\*Keokuk Bald Eagle Days**

**Jan. 17-19**

- Indoor programs and Environmental Fair at the River City Mall, Keokuk
- Live Eagle Programs Saturday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Outdoor viewing along the river front
- For more information call [1-800-383-1219](tel:1-800-383-1219)

### **Coralville Bald Eagle Watch**

**Feb. 8**

#### **Indoor Expo**

- Outdoor viewing at Tailwater West Picnic Shelter downstream from the dam at Coralville Lake
- Indoor programs 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at North Central Junior High, 180 Forevergreen Road, North Liberty
- For more information call [319-338-3543](tel:319-338-3543) ext. 6308

### **Grays Lake Des Moines Bald Eagle Watch**

**Feb. 14-15**

Des Moines Parks and Rec will be hosting a Valentine's Day Bald Eagle Watch at the eagle nest at Grays Lake on Fleur Drive in Des Moines on Feb. 14, and viewing with indoor live eagle at 6<sup>th</sup> St. on Feb. 15.

- Outdoor viewing and replica nest 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Grays Lake, Friday

- Outdoor viewing, replica nest, live eagle indoors 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. 6<sup>th</sup> bridge, Saturday
- For more information call [515-283-4294](tel:515-283-4294)

### **Effigy Mounds Bald Eagle Watch**

**Feb. 22**

- Outdoor viewing at Prairie DuChien Visitor's Center on the River
- For more information call 563-873-3491

### **Saylorville Bald Eagle Watch**

**Feb. 23, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

- Outdoor viewing at selected sites around reservoir, start at Visitor's Center
- For more information call 515-276-4656

### **O'Brien County Bald Eagle Watch**

**March 1, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

- Prairie Heritage Center, 4931 Yellow Ave., Peterson
- There will be spotting scopes and binoculars available.
- Ty Smedes will be presenting his book "The Return of Iowa's Bald Eagle" at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- For more information call Charlene Elyea 712-295-7200

### **Sioux Rapids**

**March 22**

American Legion Building, 200 Main Street, Sioux Rapids

- Registration from 8:30 to 10 a.m.
- Speakers from 10 a.m. to Noon
- Refreshments will be served in the morning. There will be a free will offering lunch at 12:15 p.m.
- Outdoor viewing at selected sites.
- Can pre-register by contacting Wonders of Nature
- For more information call: 712-296-4920 or 712-295-7200

**MICK KLEMESRUD** Information Specialist

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