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April 22 Iowa Outdoors

1 message

Press Releases from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

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To: Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards <IACCB@mycountyparks.com>



IOWA OUTDOORS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

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2014 DNR SALE SET FOR MAY 10

DES MOINES – The Iowa DNR will hold the 2014 spring auction on May 10, at Pioneer Livestock Pavilion on the Iowa State Fairgrounds, in Des Moines. Doors will open at 7 a.m., and the auction will begin

at 8 a.m.

The public may view the items for sale and pre-register for the auction from 4 to 6 p.m., on May 9.

There will not be any buyer's premium fee added to the sale.

Items up for auction only include about 700 firearms, bows and tree stands, traps and related gear. No other equipment will be sold. The items are sold "as is" with no guarantee or warranty.

Any person interested in purchasing a firearm at the auction must have either a valid Iowa permit to acquire pistols or revolvers, a federal firearms license, or a professional or non-professional permit to carry concealed weapons. The Iowa permit to acquire can be obtained from a sheriff's office. Allow two to three weeks to receive the permit.

Payment must be made on auction day. All sales are final. All items must be removed from the site within one half hour after the sale completion.

The Iowa DNR reserves the right to reject any bids and withdraw any item from the sale at any time.

A sale bill is available online at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting.aspx> and will be updated if inventory is added. The DNR will not be mailing any sale bills.

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MEDIA CONTACT: Lynette Seigley at **515-310-0376** or Lynette.Seigley@dnr.iowa.gov

PROJECT AWARE CELEBRATES TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY WITH BIG SIOUX RIVER CLEANUP

SIOUX FALLS – Volunteers will have an opportunity this summer to spend their vacations working as aquatic garbage collectors – cleaning up, learning about and exploring 90 miles of the Big Sioux River between Sioux Falls, S.D., and Westfield, Iowa, from July 12 to 19.

Project AWARE, which stands for A Watershed Awareness River Expedition, is the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) annual volunteer river cleanup event. In addition to muscling trash out of the river, participants learn about watersheds, water quality, recycling and other natural resource topics.

This year's expedition marks AWARE's 12th year. This year's event is unique in that the Iowa DNR and the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks will team up to focus efforts on the Big Sioux River, which borders both states.

"South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks is excited to partner with the Iowa DNR to provide resources and assist with cleanup along the Big Sioux River this coming July," says District Park Supervisor

Eric Vander Stouwe of South Dakota. "The objectives of this event complement our Department's mission statement to protect and enhance South Dakota's natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities. We look forward to our two states working side by side to clean up the section of the Big Sioux River from Gitche Manitou to Westfield, Iowa."

Volunteers participate by paddling down the river in canoes and cleaning up river trash along the way. Opportunities for land-based volunteers are also available. While the expedition lasts a week, volunteers may stay and help for as little or as long as they like.

Project AWARE is family-friendly and provides the opportunity to experience a different river each year. "This is a great opportunity for people around the state to see and experience the northwest corner of Iowa," said Mark Bohner, a Le Mars resident and nine-year veteran of Project AWARE. "I got involved when Project AWARE was on the Little Sioux River in 2005. I've been hooked ever since and look forward to it each year."

In addition to river cleanup, Project AWARE also offers a unique blend of educational programs and demonstrations, volunteer camaraderie, camping and other outdoor recreation opportunities that enrich the experience.

"The Sioux County Conservation Board is excited to have the opportunity to be part of Project AWARE. This event has a reputation of being an outstanding program and provides stewardship, awareness, and newfound friendships," said Sunday Ford, assistant director and naturalist for the Sioux County Conservation Board.

In the past 11 years, more than 2,800 AWARE volunteers from across the state have cleaned up more than 877 river miles, removing 277 tons of trash – 72 percent of which has been recycled – from rivers all across Iowa.

For more information on this event and to download the registration materials, visit www.iowaprojectaware.com.

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IOWA STUDENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL HONORS IN ART AND POETRY

DES MOINES – Four Iowa students have received national recognition for art and poetry they submitted to the 2014 River of Words Environmental Poetry and Art Contest.

The Grand Prize in Art (10th to 12th Grades) was awarded to 18-year-old Hannah Harms of Waverly for her artwork titled, "Genesis: A Drop of Life."

Three additional Iowa students were also selected from thousands of entries and recognized as national finalists:

- Emily Delleman, 15, of Davenport for her artwork titled, "Drought"
- Elizabeth Heidt, 17, of Davenport for her artwork titled, "Have Confidence in Your Reflection"
- Mitchell Oberfoell, 10, of West Des Moines, for his poem titled, "Spiderlings."

"Having Iowa students selected as a grand prize winner and as finalists really shows the talent of Iowa's youth and their appreciation for natural resources," said Jacklyn Gautsch, Iowa DNR River of Words coordinator. "Iowans should be proud of the accomplishments of these young people."

All national winners and finalists are posted on the River of Words website at: <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/center-for-environmental-literacy/river-of-words>.

Following the national competition, all Iowa entries are returned to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, which holds an annual statewide contest. For more information about Iowa River of Words, visit www.iowadnr.gov/riverofwords. The 2014 Iowa winners will be posted in May.

The annual River of Words contest is a program of the Center for Environmental Literacy at Saint Mary's College of California. The River of Words program inspires youth to translate their observations about their local watersheds and environment into creative expressions in poems and art.

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STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD MEETS APRIL 29

IOWA CITY – The State Preserves Advisory Board of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will meet at 1:30 p.m., April 29, in the Terry Trueblood Recreation Area lodge, 579 McCollister Boulevard, in Iowa City.

The preserves board will begin a field tour of Ryerson's Woods meeting at the entrance to the park at 10 a.m.

The field tour and meeting is open to the public.

Members of the State Preserves Advisory Board are Lynn Alex, Inger Lamb, Wayne Phipps, Thomas Putnam, Kirk Larsen and Leesa McNeil. The Deputy Director of the DNR is Bruce Trautman.

The following is the April 29 agenda.

- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes of January Meeting
- Ryerson's Woods – Decision on Dedicating the Area
- Gitchie Manitou State Preserve – Update on the Preserve and Blood Run State Park
- Wittrock Village – Wildlife Staff Help with Brush Control
- Proposal Selections for Fiscal Year 2015 – Discuss Various Proposals and Complete Final Scoring
- General Discussion
- Next Meeting

A more detailed agenda is available on the Iowa DNR's website <http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/BoardsCommissions/StatePreservesAdvisoryBoard.aspx>.

For more information, contact John Pearson at 515-281-3891.

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