

SAVE THE DATES:

The ICCS Calendar is also available online via

mycountyparks •

- * <u>Feb. 14</u> Dist. 5 Mtg. -Henry CCB
- * <u>Feb 20</u> Dist. 3 Mtg. Pocahontas CCB
- * Feb 21 Dist. 4 Mtg. Cass CCB
- * <u>Mar. 6 AFIRM Winter</u>
- Meeting Ames, IA
- * <u>Mar. 5 –</u> CCPOA West
- Wksp. Woodbury CCB
- * Mar. 6. CCPOA East
- Wksp. Clinton CCB
- * <u>Mar. 7 CCPOA Central</u> Wksp - Polk CCB
- * Mar. 13 County Day at
- the Capitol Des Moines
- * <u>Mar. 13-15</u> CCDA @
- Spring ISAC Des Moines
- * Mar. 21 REAP Day at the Capitol
- * <u>Apr. 4</u> Dist. 1 Mtg. Story CCB
- * <u>Apr. 17</u> Dist. 3 Mtg. Cherokee CCB
- * Apr. 22 99 Parks Kick Off Event at Linn CCB

2019 IACCB Annual Fall Conference September 17-19, 2019 Muscatine, IA



VINTERFEST 2019

- Pictorial Recap on Page 5

FEB. 11 - Des Moines Register by Dan Cohen, Buchanan CCB - "In 2010, Iowans voted overwhelmingly to amend the lowa Constitution by creating a Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. The ballot language stated the fund would be created for "purposes of protecting and enhancing water quality and natural areas in this state including parks, trails, and fish and wildlife habitat, and conserving agricultural soils in this state. Moneys in the fund shall be exclusively appropriated by law for these purposes."

Hence, the trust fund is protected by the Iowa Constitution for these purposes, and cannot be raided or redistributed. A promise was made to lowans: The state would invest in a legacy of stewardship of its natural resources and opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Iowa no longer would be ranked near or at the bottom nationally in making these needed investments.



As you may find yourself engaged in conversations about The Trust Fund in the weeks ahead, and/or that "the formula must be

changed" - keep the words above "top-of-mind". As the legislature continues to explore possibilities for mental health funding, property tax relief and school/education support – all from within the constraints of a tight state budget - alternative funding sources are being discussed, including a penny sales tax increase. Be sure to become THAT person who is well-schooled about the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund - your personal knowledge toolbox starts with materials already available in the IWILL 2019 FILE in the ICC Portal. This background information, interwoven with your local stories is the key to successful persuasive conversations - knowledge gained in advance is essential! 😥

ALLIANCE

CHANGE IN THE WIND?

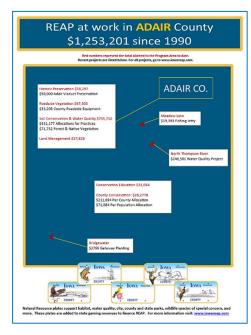
The **REAP Alliance** is celebrating it's 30th year in 2019, having been formed in conjunction with the creation of the REAP Program in 1989. The Alliance will be meeting next week to discuss current legislative activities surrounding REAP and the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. As you know, should The Trust become funded, REAP would automatically be funded in perpetuity with approx. \$23.4M each year. Also being discussed next week is the introduction of HF77 - a bill to remove all reference to the sunset of the law, which is currently June of 2021.

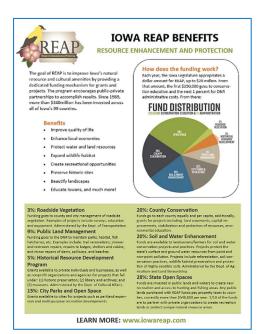
Another important function of the Alliance is to support the activities of DNR REAP Coordinator, Tammie Krausman -

As well as to assist in the coordination of the REAP Assemblies in odd-numbered years, followed by the REAP Congress. New in 2019 will be a major adjustment for the timing of the Assemblies and Congress - looking to possibly adjust the Assemblies to the summer and Congress to October/November. As many of you have hosted Assemblies in the past, stay tuned for more information about these changes and communications from Tammie!

(515) 963-9582

mycountyparks.com









REAP POSTERS ARRIVE! (3)

ICCS is pleased to provide access to the complete collection of the new two-sided REAP posters completed by DNR REAP Coordinator Tammie Krausman – now available in The Portal in the "County Posters" sub-file of the "REAP 2019" parent file under the FILES tab – got it? These are in downloadable PDF format, and should be a part of EVERYONE's education ensemble for your community and business leadership, legislators, and all elected officials. This is an essential tool for your story-telling toolbox, and a prefect leave-behind document! We have also included the link below to access the full printed listing of what REAP

Adair County 1989-2017

Adams County 1989-2017

Allamakee County 1989-2017

Appanoose County 1989-2017

Benton County 1989-2017

Black Hawk County 1989-2017

Boone County 1989-2017

Bremer County 1989-2017

has done in your county since 1990 – just in case you have yet to retrieve it from their website as a resource for your local discussions. We encourage you to download these 8.5"X11" posters and have a supply with you wherever you may have a conversation about REAP. **REAP DAY AT THE CAPITOL – Thursday, March 21**st! (3)

DNR ONLINE LISTING OF REAP PROJECTS: https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/REAP/Projects-by-County



Women in County Conservation?

All it took was for someone to ask the question, take hold of our FY2019 employee database.....and now we know! Our thanks to Olivia Tym of the Marshall CCB for crunching the numbers, and letting us know that we have 198 women employed in lowa's County Conservation System in 2019! This represents approximately 29% of our total full-time CCB workforce. We organized you all into the following classifications: 10 Directors, 17 Administrative Staff, 90 Naturalists, 51 Clerical, 7 Ranger/Operations Supervisors, 8 Field Technicians and 15 that fall into "Other" categories. This is quite the change from the 1970s when perhaps less than 5 to 6% of our staff across the state were females....what an awesome improvement!!

Somewhat along the lines of this topic – the **2019 Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshops** are on tap this April and May in a couple of locations in Central and Eastern Iowa. You can visit the link below on the DNR website for additional information about registration, scholarships and newsletters. Contact **Rachel Ladd** at 515-729-6037 for more information ©

 $\underline{\text{https://www.iowadnr.gov/Things-to-Do/Camps-Workshops/Becoming-an-Outdoors-Woman}}$







#THISISIOWA Iowa's County Conservation System

5. Share your pics using #THISISIOWA

SHOW OFF YOUR SELFIE SKILLS!

1. Set your phone on this ledge

4. Hurry to your spot and say

2. Open your camera app

and #MyCountyParks

3. Set your timer

"Cheese!"

View as you approach the View as you utilize the CCB Attraction IACCB @mycountyparks.org Selfie Station

99 PARKS

Available from I.C.C.S. for your Selfie Station project:

- 1. Aluminum signs for front and back of station
- 2. MCP.com-branded wooden cedar State of Iowa plaque
- 3. **\$50** available (upon request) per county to go towards cost of materials for construction of selfie stations.

Would these not be a GRRREAT Eagle Scout or other partnership project??

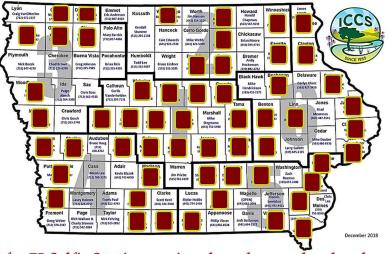
99 PARKS





Buttons from Winterfest

Prototype station from Webster CCB on display at Winterfest



The ICCS Board of Directors has approved funding for 75 Selfie Stations – signs have been ordered and the MCP.com branding iron is on its way! We still have room to add your county! Those of you that have already "signed-up" will be hearing from us soon (3) IACCB@MyCountyParks.org

"Doing something just because it is the way it has always been done isn't the correct approach to keeping people safe and furthering an organization. Being static is lazy, ignorant, and likely means you're digressing as a staff/organization/etc."

Winterfest 2019

A few "take-aways" from early evaluation surveys

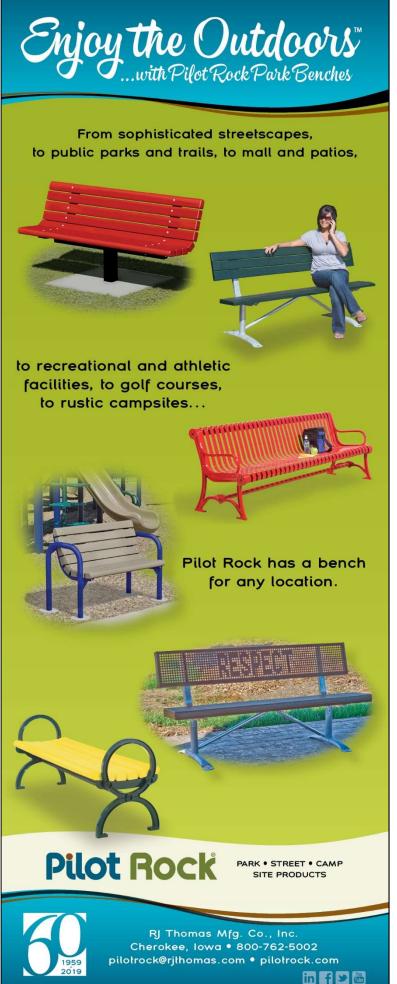
MyCountyParks update and Marketing Basics will help me in my county.

"The keynote speakers were incredible and their objective hit home. It will help us in our county with change and learn to never give up!"

"Marketing ideas, including free use websites for video making and photo editing- great program!

"If you're not willing to change the way you do things, it will catch up to you eventually."

"The students really appreciated the resume workshop, and enjoyed the sessions. I'm glad you have a collegiate day as I really enjoy bringing students to Winterfest!"



STUDY FINDS THAT RECREATION COUNTIES ATTRACT NEW RESIDENTS AND HIGHER INCOMES

(from Headwaters Economics, January 2019)

- People are more likely to move to Recreation counties than to Non-Recreation counties, particularly in Rural places.
- Households moving into Recreation counties have, on average, higher income than households moving into Non-Recreation counties.
- Recreation counties have, on average, lower earnings per job than Non-Recreation counties, but earnings per job in Rural Recreation counties are growing much faster than in Non-Recreation counties.
- Recreation appears to drive varied economic benefits, including short-term support for tourism-related businesses and longer-term support by recruiting new residents who may be business owners, entrepreneurs, or workers.

Many rural places have struggled since the recession with population loss, job loss and growing economic distress. This study finds that recreation may make the difference between gaining or losing population, particularly in rural counties. (Read the full report on this study via the link provided below)

https://headwaterseconomics.org/economicdevelopment/trends-performance/recreationcounties-attract/



2018 - 2023

STATE
CONSERVATION
AND OUTDOOR
RECREATION
PLAN
(S.C.O.R.P.)

The first public draft of the new State Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is now available for

review and comment if you wish. The full document is available as follows: https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Grants-Other-Funding/State-Conservation-and-Outdoor-Recreation-Plan

COMMENTS: Michelle.Wilson@dnr.iowa.gov

ioraville marriott ioraville marriott welcomes Winterfest

In The House!

329 CCB Staff, 79 College Registrations, 33 Vendor Reps & 30+ Presenters

RAFFLE RAISES











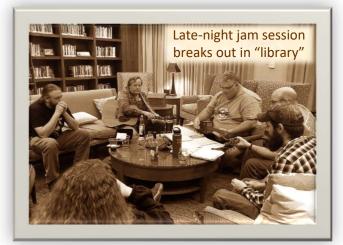




Alpha Selfie Station



Hazelton, Bieber & Lammers "Hey – the selfie station works!"





The Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund benefits



owans of all ages and abilities enjoy better health and well-being when being surrounded by nature. Whether it's living near lakes and streams, forests and greenways, or parks and trails, our connectedness to the outdoors is vital to lowa's public health.

Today, nearly 1 in every 5 lowa child is classified as obese. Chronic condition like Type 2 Diabetes, early on-set High Blood

The Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund benefits



Rural Revitalization

espite a recent study by US News & World Report ranking lowa #1 as the "Best State" in the nation when compared to others states in health care, education, economy, opportunity, infrastructure, crime, fiscal stability and quality of life, lowa's rural communities are fighting to survive.

"My top priority as governor is to build on our current success by bringing new resources and opportunities to every corner of our state. Every

The Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund benefits



Water Quality

owa relies on its water as a source for drinking, fishing and recreating. Each year, 30 million visits are made to lowa's lakes and rivers, bringing nearly \$2 billion of spending to our state. Yet, the lowa DNR has identified over 600 impaired waterbodies.

The majority of Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund dollars are designated for water quality improvement

The Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund benefits



Economic Development

he Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund and its formula provide quality of life components like trails, outdoor recreation and access to public land that lowans demand. These quality of life initiatives will ensure that lowa can attract and retain a qualified workforce while also guaranteeing that lowa and its communities reap the economic benefits and vibrancy that is generated by ecotourism.

In a recent survey by the lowa Economic Development Authority, when people were asked what they think about low as a place to live or have a business, they stated that "access to natural landscapes and outdoor

Funding Iowa's Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund



lowa's Water and Land Legacy (IWILL) brings lowans together in support of permanent, substantial, reliable funding to improve our water quality, protect our soil, enhance our wildlife habitat and increase outdoor recreation opportunities throughout lowa.

In 2010, 63% of lowans voted for a constitutional amendment to create the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund, a permanent and protected funding source. Nine years later, the Trust Fund sits empty because it requires a state sales tax increase of 3/8ths of a cent for funding.

We urge legislators and the governor to include a sales tax increase in any future tax reform efforts and maintain the Trust Fund formula that was in place when lowa voters passed the amendment.



WATER QUALITY

The majority of Trust Fund dollars can go toward water quality improvement projects, including lake restoration, soil and water protection, and enhanced flood protection efforts. Up to two-thirds of the revenue is available for voluntary conservation projects outlined in the Nutrient Reduction Strategy.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Investing in lowa's natural resources ensures that our communities benefit from ecotourism and lowe companies can recruit and retain a quality work-force. In lowa, outdoor recreation accounts for \$8.7 billion in consumer spending, 83,000 jobs and \$649 million in state and local tax revenue.



RURAL REVITALIZATION

Rural lowa will benefit from the economic capital growth, tourism sales and conservation benefits the Trust Fund will provide. Quality of life initiatives, including outdoor recreation opportunities, will encourage our educated young lowans to choose thirving rural communities to live, work and raise families.



PUBLIC HEALTH

The preservation and investments to protect lowa's green spaces, water and air quality can be keys to improving the health of current and future lowans. Children's risk for obesity can increase by as much as 60% if they don't have nearby parks, sidewalks and other green space or recreational amenities.



MESSAGING PIECES NEXT UP FOR YOUR IWILL TOOLBOXES

WATER & LAND

Though these are still under final review,

we wanted to alert you to their pending availability! The IWILL Coalition Communications Committee has been working steadily these past many weeks to pull these documents together that will address the four main categories of life in lowa that will benefit directly when The Trust is funded! Thanks to Matt Cosgrove (Webster) and Dan Cohen (Buchanan) for their diligent service on this committee and their progressive efforts on tasks at hand!

We will upload the PDF version of all FIVE of these one-page documents to the IWILL 2019 FILE in the Portal, and let you all know when they are available. Each of these will be excellent handouts/communications to provide you with not only talking points, but self-educational material for you, your CCB staff and Conservation Board Members. We anticipate being called to service as an industry to do what we do best – educate and advocate at the local level! NOW is the best time to prepare yourselves with these materials that are being made available to us. Please become familiar with these new resources as they are fully released – we have never had a better opportunity than what is looming ©











2019 CCPOA

SPRING WORKSHOPS

- March 5th Woodbury County
- March 6th Clinton County
- March 7th Polk County

AGENDAS and REGISTRATION are available within the ICCS Online Registration System via the following link: https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx







LAWCON GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 15TH

Roy Downing, IDNR reminds us that the annual deadline for the LWCF grant applications is 4:30 pm on Friday, March 15th.

QUESTIONS: david.downing@dnr.iowa.gov

INFO: https://www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Grants-Other-Funding/Land-Water-Conservation-Fund

LAKESIDE LAB INTERNSHIPS

Internships available for college level students with majors in biology, environmental science, education or related course of study.

https://iowalakesidelab.org/





IOWA HAS A FLOOD PROBLEM! MARCH IS FLOOD AWARENESS MONTH

Floods in Iowa are changing. We have entered a period of more widespread extreme rainfall, with storms projected to double in intensity by 2050. MORE INFO:

https://iowafloodcenter.org/

WILDLAND FIRE TRAINING IN IOWA

The following link is the "GO-TO" website for **Wildland Fire Training opportunities in lowa** - S130/190 Basic and others

https://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Fire-Management/Training



COMPLETE YOUR PARK WITH A HUFFCUTT

Huffcutt offers a diverse product line including standard and customized restrooms, vault toilets, utility buildings, and recreational products as well as shower buildings, secure storage and so much more.

715.723.7446 HUFFCUTT.COM



CYPERACEAE & JUNCACEA WORKSHOP

Chichagua Bottoms Greenbelt, Polk County

Dr. Tom Rosburg (Drake University) and Dr. Bill Norris (Western New Mexico University) are offering a three-day Cyperaceae Identification Workshop on the Carex genus and larger Cyperaceae (sedge, bulrush, spike-rush, nut sedge) and Juncaceae (rush) families. Students will engage in hands-on exercises to build understanding of descriptive botanical terminology and the ability to correctly use plant keys. Field work will address topics in Cyperaceae ecology, plant species habitats and distribution, plant adaptations and interactions, and plant collection and voucher preparation. Information & Registration is available via the Polk CCB Event Posting on MyCountyParks.com at the following link:

https://www.mycountyparks.com/County/Polk/Park/Chichaq ua-Bottoms-Greenbelt/Events/12431/Cyperaceae-Juncaceae-Workshop.aspx

EMPLOYMENTOPPORTUNITIES





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

- 1. CARROLL Co. Park Ranger
- 2. WORTH Co. Natural Resource Manager
- 3. PALO ALTO Co. Park Ranger
- 4. HAMILTON Co. Park Ranger
- 5. WASHINGTON Co. Ranger/Tech
- 6. STORY Co. Financial Data Manager
- 7. SEASONAL POSITIONS 112+ opportunities listed on website





