



99 PARKS

Newsletter

Volume 60, Issue No. 7

January 16, 2019

SAVE THE DATES:

The ICCS Calendar is also available online via

mycountyparks.org

- * Jan. 17 – CCDA/ISAC Legislative Mtg. – D.M.
- * Jan. 22 – MCP Division Advisory Comm – ZOOM
- * Jan. 24 – REAP Alliance Mtg. – Des Moines
- * Jan. 31 – ICCS Board of Directors – ZOOM
- * Feb. 5-7 – Winterfest '19 – Coralville Marriott
- * Feb. 12 – Natural Resources & Outdoor Recreation Fund Virtual Day at the Capitol
- * Feb. 13 – Dist. 2 Mtg. – Emmet CCB
- * Feb. 14 – Dist. 5 Mtg. – Henry CCB
- * Feb 20 – Dist. 3 Mtg. – Pocahontas CCB
- * Feb 21 – Dist. 4 Mtg. – Cass CCB
- * Mar. 4 – AFIRM Winter Meeting – Ames, IA
- * Mar. 13 – County Day at the Capitol – Des Moines
- * Mar. 13-15 – CCDA @ Spring ISAC – Des Moines

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



#REAPworks

SO, THIS IS HAPPENING

IN 2019! 😊

Following a couple of months of touting this promotion as a happening in 2019 – guess what, it's 2019 and it's happening! The Iowa Tourism Office is partnering with ICCS to bring you the "99 PARKS / 99 COUNTIES" promotion for the warm recreation season. A kick-off

event is being planned for Earth Day on Monday, April 22nd and the promotion will continue through the end of August. We are currently in the process of awaiting responses from 99 CCB Directors to a survey sent to them this past Friday from the Tourism Office. This is to ascertain which particular features being made available are of interest to each county – for them to support with time and effort! 😊 There are some 132 days and 19 weekends over the 4+ months of this promotion, and several counties will be selected for enhanced promos over these weekends! These will be strategically located around the state and may coincide with other significant regional events. There is a phenomenal amount of preparatory work going on behind the scenes this winter...and it won't be long until you will all be a part of this planning and implementation process. The **Iowa Tourism Office** has dedicated their team and financial resources towards making this a HUGELY successful celebration of

SHOW OFF YOUR SELFIE SKILLS!

1. Set your phone on this ledge
2. Open your camera app
3. Set your timer
4. Hurry to your spot and say "Cheese!"
5. Share your pics using #THISISIOWA

#THISISIOWA

mycountyparks.com



Iowa's County Conservation System

County Conservation System – it just doesn't get any better than this partnership! Daniele and I are tossing all of our spare energy into the mix, and hope that you will be "ALL-IN" on this great 2019 summer adventure with us!

To that end, the more that we can get accomplished before the 4/22 launch – the better! Thanks to the fine staff in Webster & Hamilton CCBs, we will soon have a prototype (or two) "Selfie Stations", along with some plans and a materials list! We are borrowing this concept from the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, who in the past two years has set out 50 of these popular stations at scenic locations throughout their state park system. Because – who doesn't like to take a great selfie??! 😊😊😊

SELFIE-UP WITH US!

Aside from the prototype referenced above, we are also looking into acquiring some custom signs and a branding iron with our website logo to emblazon the wooden planks that may be part of the construction. These Selfie Stations will certainly transcend the time span of this 2019 celebration of county parks – so let's make them good enough to last! We hope to provide the signs at no cost, as well as a grant program to assist with the material costs to construct. Wouldn't it be AWESOME to have at least one in every county?! Stay tuned....just gettin' revved up!

IACCB@mycountyparks.org

(515) 963-9582

99 PARKS

#THISISIOWA

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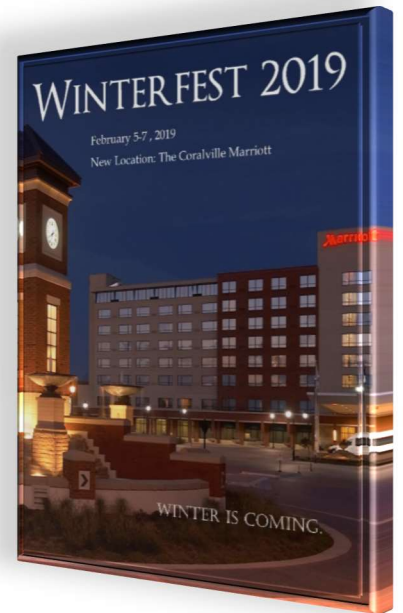
Iowa's County Conservation System



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WINTERFEST 2019



REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/5/WINTERFEST-2019.aspx>

A FEW FINAL DETAILS

The registration numbers so far are telling us that we will have nearly 427+ folks joining us in Coralville in a short three weeks - AWESOME! Breaking this number down yields approximately 321+ CCB Employees / 80+ College Students / 26+ Representatives from 18 Vendors.....and the registrations are still coming in!! ☺ **You can still register and avoid the late fee assessment thru January 18th** (extended from the original Jan. 5th date) Visit the link above for all the information and registration options! **Registration for Winterfest 2019 closes on Jan. 25th.**

If you have not done so already, you MAY wish to confirm your **lodging arrangements** with the Marriott as to the type of room that you have been assigned - no need to have surprises upon check-in! Contact the Marriott directly at **(319) 688-4000**. Additionally, please know that you will receive only **one parking pass** per room for the adjacent parking ramp, additional vehicles will need to pay the daily rate of \$1/hour or \$8/day.

RAFFLE ITEMS are still needed! Bring along your leftover promotional items, T-shirts / sweatshirts, art work or crafts from your creative staff – ALL WELCOME! This annual fund-raising event assists our IACCB Division in supporting aspects of Winterfest that registration fees do not have to – thus, helping us keep the registration costs as low as possible. So – don't forget to bring along some extra dollars to scoop up those raffle tickets too! Thanks in advance for supporting your employee Division!



WE NEED JUST A FEW MORE RESUME REVIEWERS

Collegiate Day Resume Review Session is in need of a few more critiquing folks! ☺ You will be needed for approx. ½ hour starting around 11:40 AM on Wednesday, February 6th – just prior to the luncheon. THANKS to those of you that have volunteered: Brianne Blom (Clay), Nathan Unsworth (Lee), Barb Schroeder (Winneshiek), Chris Anderson (Iowa), Brad Freidhof (Johnson), Katie Hammond (Louisa) and Dan Cohen (Buchanan) If you have had some experience in this arena – please step up! Contact Tom Hazelton at IACCB@mycountyparks.org – more information will be forthcoming!

The **Upper Iowa University Alumni Office** is excited to attend Winterfest the morning of the Collegiate Day on Wednesday, February 6. Upper Iowa University (UIU) is hoping to connect with its alumni who are either currently working in Iowa County Conservation or attending Winterfest as a guest or presenter! Please stop by the UIU alumni table between 7:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to reconnect with UIU. The first 50 alumni to stop by will receive a UIU lapel pin. Upper Iowa University Alumni are also encouraged to join some of the current field science faculty for a photo opportunity at 10:45 a.m. outside of salon D and reconnect with the faculty and meet current UIU students throughout the day. *UIU looks forward to seeing you!*



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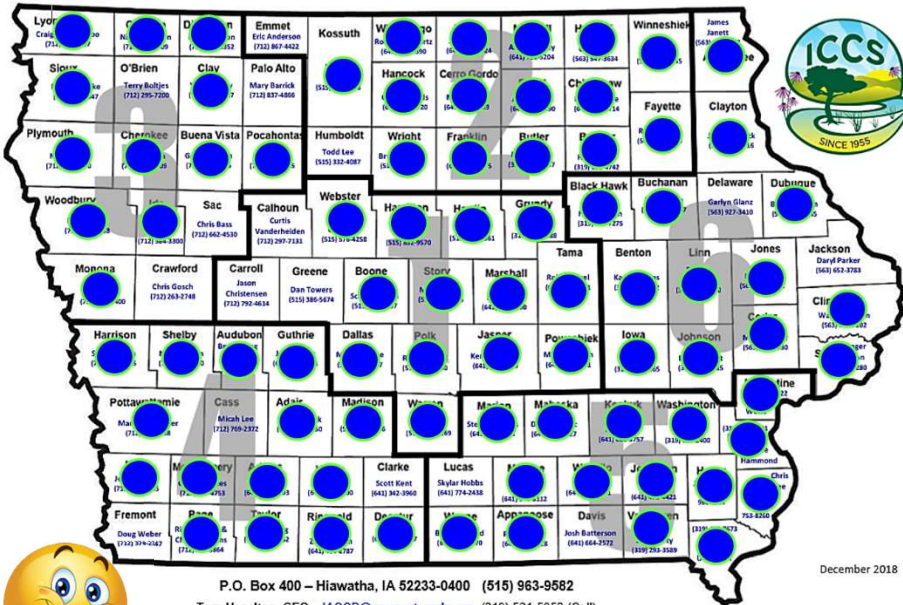
IACCB POLLS STILL OPEN!

If you have yet to cast your ballot for IACCB Vice President – the electronic poll will remain open until the start of the Annual Meeting on February 6th! Utilize the link to the right to access the 2019 Voting!.....

LINK TO ONLINE VOTING:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QPBS3G6>

Iowa's County Conservation System
DISTRICTS, DIRECTORS & OFFICE PHONE



P.O. Box 400 - Hiawatha, IA 52233-0400 (515) 963-9582
Tom Hazelton, CEO - IACCB@mycountyparks.org (319) 521-5952 (Cell)
Daniele Dorsey, Administrative Assistant - INFO@mycountyparks.org

mycountyparks.com

NOT A MAP OF SHAME.....

.....but of Winterfest 2019 SHAZAM!

Nearing that altitude of rarified air, an almost unprecedented **83 CCBs** have already registered for Winterfest! Not in recent memory has there been this number of counties represented at ANY statewide event – amazing! Looks like the change of venue to Coralville may be one reason for the turnout, or is it the incredible agenda, or the willingness of employees to expand their horizons and network beyond their counties and Districts??? For whatever the reasons be – it surely is very satisfying for the **Winterfest Planning Committee** and our IACCBE Division for you all to respond with such fantastic support! ☺☺☺

BTW – Registration is still open!



\$985,680,558 – 42.7 years @ \$23M

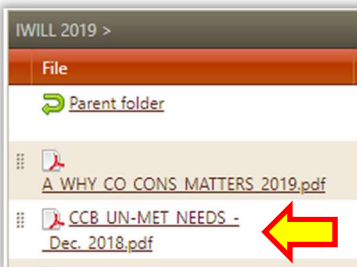
Iowa's County Conservation System NATURAL RESOURCE & OUTDOOR RECREATION TRUST FUND

THE UNMET NEEDS OF COUNTY

95 CCBs in Listing

CONSERVATION

78 CCBs w/\$ Reported



YES WE ARE THAT CLOSE TO \$1 BILLION

The most recent and up-to-date version of **The Unmet Needs of County Conservation** is in the "IWILL 2019" file in the Portal. Not sure of the status of your CCB's information? – have a visit and take a look! ☺ We are still 4 counties short of a full boat, and could certainly receive some dollar estimates from those counties that currently have none listed? We are beginning to hear this number being utilized in non-CCB discussion arenas as well being referenced in print – keep up the good work!

COUNTY REAP HAND-OUTS NEAR!

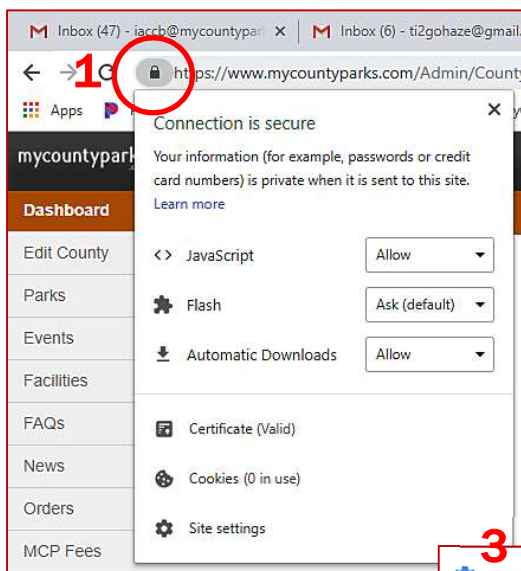
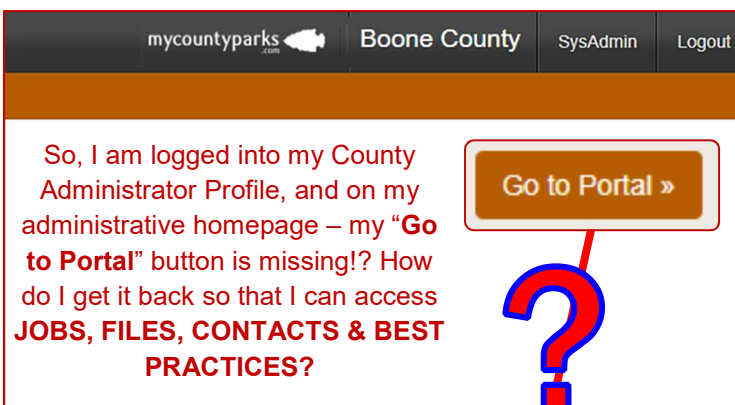
We have been in touch with Tammie Krausman (DNR), and she has been working feverishly to get these products available to us within the next week or so. With the 2019 Legislative Session now underway, she has many areas of focus to deal with – BUT, these were near-to-done this past week! We know that you will find these to be a great tool in your discussions about the full-funding of REAP, and being able to immediately **demonstrate what the REAP Program has done for your county from its inception some 30 years ago!** Stay tuned, they are just around the corner....we appreciate your patience! ☺



NEW ERA = NEW DIVISION!

On January 22nd, eight of your peers will assemble via a ZOOM meeting to commence with charting a course for the future of our award-winning MyCountyParks.com website. The **MCP.com Advisory Committee** will formally convene for the first time – volunteer members coming together with a common mission to ensure that the websites, ICCS Portal & Event Registration System will continue to provide all that is best for Iowa's County Conservation System and its online presence.

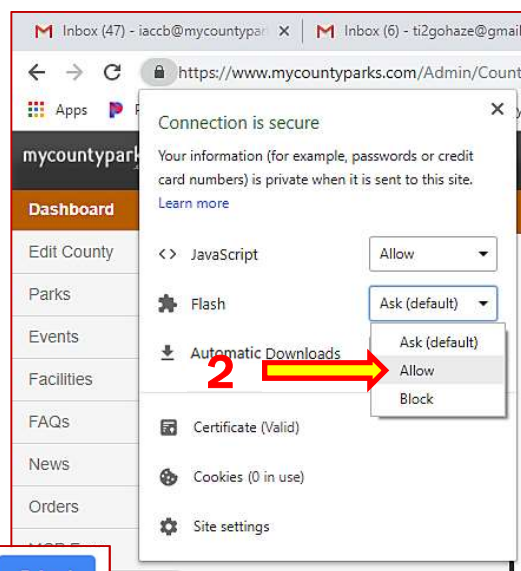
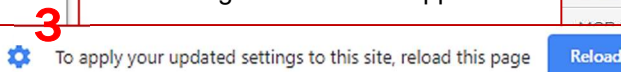
This multi-million dollar operation has grown into a major 24/7 operation that needs constant touch and monitoring – the scope being far beyond anything that we could have even imagined at conception in 2006. Just keeping ahead of technology changes has proven to be very challenging, and as we are launching our 30th CCB this month into online reservations – well, it is time to give the respect to this behemoth that it deserves. We have finally been able to put together a realistic financial structure to support this operation – something that has been a struggle since Day #1. The sky is truly the limit as to where MyCountyParks.com can take us – looking forward to climbing on board with this new team to continue this great ride! ONWARD to cyberspace!! ☺



STEP 1. Locate the padlock icon that is generally located to the left of your browser window. Left-click on this icon and a dropdown menu appears.

STEP 2. Locate the “Flash” line and its selection box. One click open the dropdown menu in this box, and select “Allow”. Click anywhere outside of the dropdown boxes and they will disappear.

STEP 3. A new “Reload” selection button will appear near your browser window that will allow you to reload your browser. Click on this button, and your “Go to Portal” button and other navigation should reappear.





Fire pit plaza area is open to the public whenever the park is open at Jester Park Nature Center



Polk CCB Deputy Director Doug Romig reviews the development concepts of the exhibit areas

DISTRICT 1 MEETING IN POLK COUNTY

Jester Park Nature Center
Granger, IA – January 10th



Another overflow crowd at a District Meeting as CCBs from District 1 were hosted by the staff of the Polk CCB at their recently opened Jester Park Nature Center. Many thanks to **Deputy Director Doug Romig** and his staff for an excellent meeting with marvey vittles! 😊

In addition to the District 1 Business Meeting, participants were treated to a tour of the Center, adjacent Outdoor Recreation and Wellness Center, On-Site artwork and Cabins. Classroom educational sessions included: Water Quality Monitoring, What's New with Polk CCB (and there was much!); Challenges, Opportunities and Community Partnerships in the Fourmile Creek Greenbelt; Urban Landscape Development & Maintenance (bio swells and rain gardens) – and awesome networking!

KUDOS to the Polk CCB Staff for hosting this District Meeting as well as the EXCELLENT job they did in hosting the **59th Annual ICCS Fall Conference** this past September! Lots of great things happening with Polk County Conservation – the enthusiasm shared by their staff was certainly obvious in their work!

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2019 URBAN YOUTH CORPS PROGRAMS – IOWA D.O.T.



The Iowa Department of Transportation is seeking private, nonprofit, and public organizations/agencies to submit applications to participate in the 2019 Urban Youth Corps (UYC) program. The program's objectives are to provide transportation-related work projects and training opportunities to youth between the ages of 16 and 25 and to accomplish meaningful and productive improvements to transportation facilities. A total of \$80,000 is available for the 2019 UYC program. Each sponsoring agency is required to provide 20 percent of the total project cost as a local match. **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS MARCH 1st.**

LINK: https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/urban-youth-corps



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
We have done these before – both on a grand scale where we have descended en masse on the statehouse, and a less intense but equally as important effort in a “Virtual Day at the Capitol”. The IWILL Coalition appears to be targeting the latter for 2019. By February 12th – we may have an idea as to targeted legislative districts to focus our email and social media efforts on - stay tuned for enlightenment and guidelines/directions on that front!

The CCDA Legislative Committee is working with ICCS, ISAC and the County Departments of Health to kind of re-tool our messaging as we await some solid direction from the Legislature as to tax reform, mental health funding and the possibilities of a sales tax increase. Much work continues behind the scenes as legislative leadership takes up the reins for 2019! ☺



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

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2. HARDIN Co. – Natural Resource Manager
3. DUBUQUE Co. – Natural Resource Technician
4. TAMA Co. – Director
5. WASHINGTON Co. – Ranger/Tech
6. BUTLER Co. – Park Technician
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