

**PARKS
ARE OPEN!**



SAVE THE DATES:

The ICCS Calendar is also available online via

mycountyparks.org

- * April 15 – District 3 Meeting – Dickinson CCB
- * April 23 – District 1 Meeting – Boone CCB
- * May 19 – ICCS Board of Directors Meeting
- * May 28 – Dist. 4 Meeting – Harrison CCB
- * June 17 – Dist. 6 Mtg. – Linn CCB
- * Sept. 16-18 – ICCS Fall Conference – Ames*
- * Oct. 5-7 – CCPOA 35th Annual Fall Workshop

District Meetings are Tentatively Scheduled

(*Online Registration currently available)



2020 ICCS

65th Anniversary

Fall Conference

September 16-18, 2020

Ames, IA



#REAPworks

Newsletter

Volume 61
Issue No. 12
March 27, 2020

..... AND THEN WE CAME TO A STOP (temporarily.....)

From dashing to the Governor's Town Hall Meetings and the Iowa Tourism Conference in early March, and turning the tide towards funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Fund – we now have new words in our daily vocabularies.....COVID-19, social-distancing, self-quarantining and “Closed”.

I wish to commend you all once again for your effective communications, response and networking over the past three weeks – we have collectively benefitted from all the resources and information you have been sharing. I encourage you to continue with these efforts until such time as we emerge to the downslide of this crisis in the weeks ahead. As we are experiencing, things are very fluid and priorities of 3 weeks ago may be spending some time on the back burners. **YOU** are an awesome team to work with, **WE** will get through this!! ☺

COVID-19-UPDATES

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/Info/COVID-19-UPDATES.aspx>

2020 COVID-19 VIRUS - SPECIFIC COUNTY INFORMATION

In response to the community spread of COVID-19, each of Iowa's County Conservation Boards is taking measures to protect employees, the public and facilities. CCBs are coordinating with their local County Health Departments and following CDC Guidelines where applicable. We will do our best to keep an updated statewide listing of each county's status - [LOCATED HERE](#). (3.26.2020)



(NOTE: Generally speaking most shower and modern restroom facilities will remain closed, and use of public playgrounds & playscapes is discouraged)

STATEWIDE CCB UPDATES

mycountyparks.com

IOWA'S COUNTY CONSERVATION SYSTEM COVID-19 STATUS OF STATEWIDE OPERATIONS								
COUNTY	OFFICE	NATURE CENTER	PARKS	CAMPING	RESTROOMS	CABINS	PHONE	MORE INFORMATION
Adair							641-743-6450	
Adams							641-322-4793	
Allamakee	APPT. ONLY	CLOSED	OPEN	N/A		N/A	563-538-0402	https://www.allamakeecountyconservation.org/

A. COVID-19 INFORMATION >	
File	
Parent folder	
ALLAMAKEE-COVID-19.pdf	
AUDUBON - COVID-19 PROCEDURES.pdf	
BLACK HAWK - COVID-19 OPERATIONS.pdf	
BUCHANAN - COVID-19 PROCEDURES.pdf	
CERRO GORDO CLOSURES.pdf	
CHICKASAW - COVID-19 NEW RELEASE.pdf	
CLAYTON - OFFICES CLOSED.pdf	
HENRY CCB - COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN.pdf	
IDA - RESOURCES.pdf	

No need for a lengthy review of ICCS's response to getting your information online and available to our partners and the public. This has been accomplished with the new “**COVID-19 UPDATES**” link at the bottom of all pages on our MyCountyParks.com website. This link has had **62,951 views** since being established on March 17th. The main feature of this link is access to our database report on the current status of various operational aspects of our 99-county conservation system. **THANKS to the 72 CCBs** that are currently participating with this important informational outreach effort – couldn't be happening without your input & updates!! As noted above, we encourage the other 27 counties to get involved, and for all to keep us updated w/changes.

In tandem with our public outreach efforts, we have also established the **COVID-19 INFORMATION FOLDER in the ICCS Portal**. There are currently nearly 30 documents of resources from across our system, and I welcome any others that you may be creating, using or have come across that you feel may benefit our statewide system. We also started on March 16th with pretty much daily emails on current COVID-19 information to all CCB Directors – additional great resources for everyone. *Stick with us here – we are collectively doing what we do best!*

IACCB@mycountyparks.org

(515) 963-9582

mycountyparks.com



ICCS 2020 ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

September 16-18, 2020

QUALITY INN & SUITES CONVENTION CENTER

AMES, IA

Hosted by

Story County Conservation & Iowa's County Conservation System

REGISTER HERE:

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/29/2020-ICCS-ANNUAL-FALL-CONFERENCE.aspx>



2020 ICCS 65th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN!!

The links are active and the **REGISTRATION PACKET** is now available via the link above (and below) on MyCountyParks.com. Please take the time to completely review all the options in the registration packet prior to registering online - time is on your side!

(at this point :-). The deadline for registrations will be in early/mid-August. Kudos to **Mike Cox, Director** as well as the **Board Members and Staff of the Story CCB** who have been working tirelessly over the past couple of years to craft together this awesome networking and educational opportunity - quite evident as you navigate the registration packet!

Look forward to additional information in upcoming newsletters and email communications about various facets of this conference, and **HEY YOU CCB ALUMNI** - join us as county conservation comes of age for Medicare too! :-). **Steve Lekwa** (retired Story CCB Director) and **Hazelton** will be coming to you soon with a special CCB Alumni Newsletter - looking forward to seeing many of you there this fall for one more hoo-rah! *Mark your calendars all!*



Look forward to more information on two **AWESOME raffle items** for this conference - including this beautiful 17' hand-made custom canoe - which was crafted to commemorate the 60th Anniv. of county conservation in 2015 - only been on the water once - bring yer \$\$\$ ☺



<https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/29/2020-ICCS-ANNUAL-FALL-CONFERENCE.aspx>



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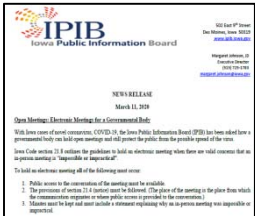
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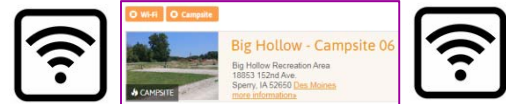
THE ZOOM MEETING OPTION

Several CCBs have successfully utilized our ICCS Zoom Meeting Room in the past week, and you are welcomed to schedule a time slot should you have a need for a Conservation Board Meeting, Staff Meeting, ICCS Division Leadership Meeting or other gathering. For a meeting that has Open Meetings Law implications, you will need to be cognizant of your notices and accessibility requirements. (We have a guide for this in the **COVID-19 Information** file in the Portal from the **Iowa Public Information Board**)

You will notice by the phone icons in the lower picture on the right that participants can also call-in to the meeting, and do not necessarily have to have to have video capacity on the device they are accessing the meeting with. Video is key, however should you be planning to share documents or other visuals during your meeting. Let us know if we can assist you in setting up a meeting, or if you have any questions – IACCB@mycountyparks.org (**NOTE: This option will also exist post-COVID-19 crisis as a mechanism for you to save valuable time, travel and \$\$ for future meetings too!**)

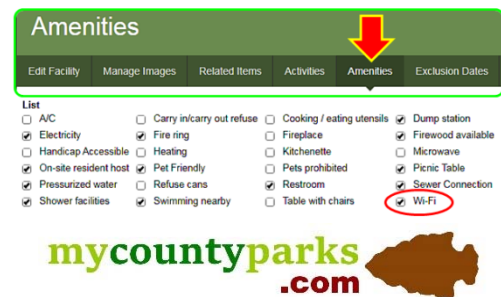


GOT WI-FI?



- ☐ Refuse cans
- ☐ Restroom
- ☐ Sewer Connection
- ☐ Shower facilities
- ☐ Swimming nearby
- ☐ Table with chairs
- ☒ Wi-Fi

A couple of you have taken advantage of adding the new Wi-Fi amenity icon to your facilities listed on MyCountyParks.com – and we encourage you all to do so! To the left is the public search option on the website, and to the right is the admin location on your facility's page – it's just that simple. As the public looks for options to get the family out of the house, but remain connected for either work or family – they can now search our website for this particular feature. Whether your facility is reservable online or not – if you provide Wi-Fi, let people know!



PARKS ARE THE OPTION!

As we have moved into essentially Week #3 of existing in this new way of life....new guidelines are emerging that do encourage folks to get outside for the purposes of mental health and general well-being. Utilizing your social media, newsletters, etc. are a way for you to support this effort – while providing suggestions and details of what to expect when folks visit you. The NRPA is one source for you to find ideas, and there are several others you can locate with a simple online search. The Des Moines Register had a good article this morning supporting both the parks and the Trust!



NRPA LINK: <https://www.nrpa.org/about-national-recreation-and-park-association/press-room/NRPA-statement-on-using-parks-and-open-space-while-maintaining-social-distancing/>

“You don't need to practice social distancing from Mother Nature: Enjoy Iowa's parks — and pass a tax to fund them” – Des Moines Register Article – 3.27.2020



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

1. MARION Co. – Park Ranger
2. POLK Co. – Stables Laborer I
3. POLK Co. – Conservation Ecologist – Land
4. DICKINSON Co. – IRVM East
5. WOODBURY Co. – Office Clerk (PPT)
6. SEASONAL POSITIONS – 80++ opportunities listed on website

03/27/2020

- Full Time
- Seasonal/Part-Time



The ICCS Iowa Tourism Conference Silent Auction basket. Kudos to Harrison & Woodbury CCBs for donating cabins to create a “Loess Hills Adventure” package for the auction ☺

