



Newsletter

Volume 64
Issue No. 3
September 19, 2022

SPECIAL EDITION – ICCS 2022 FALL CONFERENCE!

SAVE THE DATES:

The ICCS Calendar &
Zoom Meeting Room
Bookings
are available online via

mycountyparks.org

- * Sept. 21 – Dist. 2 Mtg. – Worth CCB
- * Oct. 3-5 – CCPOA Fall Workshop – Camp Dodge
- * Oct. 19 – Dist. 3 Mtg. – Clay CCB
- * Oct. 25 – ICCS New Emp. School – Webster City
- * Oct. 26 – E-Commerce Summit – Webster City
- * Nov. 2-4 – IAN Fall Workshop – Muscatine
- * Nov. 15 – ICCS Board of Directors – Des Moines
- * Nov. 17 – Dist. 4 Mtg. – Shelby CCB.
- * Dec. 14 – Dist. 3 Mtg. – Plymouth CCB
- * Dec. 21 – Dist. 6 Mtg. – Johnson CCB

Indicates Online
Registration Available

**2023 ICCS
Fall Conference**
September 19-21, 2023
Hosted by Pottawattamie
& Harrison CCBS
Council Bluffs, IA



2022 ICCS FALL CONFERENCE Sept. 13-15 EPILOGUE



The **2022 ICCS Fall Conference** will be packed away in the CCB history archives in the weeks ahead, and will be fondly remembered for several reasons: the awesome three days of great late-summer weather; the extensive educational programming provided on Day #2; two riverfront receptions; great field trips provided by the Dubuque CCB; and perhaps the most anticipated item was the introduction of **Adam Shirley** as the successor to outgoing ICCS CEO **Tom Hazelton**. (See subsequent article on Shirley later in this newsletter) We were also treated to the presence of several county conservation Alumni – including **Don Brazelton**, who preceded Hazelton in the ICCS leadership role. This allowed for perhaps a one-time photo-op with all three gents in the same place at the same time! ☺

The following pages of this special edition newsletter are primarily dedicated to a pictorial review of the 2022 Fall Conference, a celebration of award-winners from the conference, as well as other timely information of interest to county conservation professionals and conservation board members.

POST-CONFERENCE INFO: <https://www.mycountyparks.org/conferences.html>

THANKS TO OUR VENDORS!

We had an excellent group of **Vendors** that joined us in Dubuque for the conference last week – and these eleven also provided **sponsorship support** for the 2022 event. Collectively, between registration fees and sponsorships – our participating Vendors provided nearly \$20,000 in support. We cannot thank them enough for their continued historic engagement with Iowa's CCB System, and encourage you all to strongly consider their products and services when you have a need for such within your local operations. The **ICCS Preferred Vendor Program** is an associated opportunity for businesses to connect with and support the statewide CCB system – more information is here: <https://www.mycountyparks.org/preferred-vendors.html>

IACCB@mycountyparks.org

(515) 963-9582

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I.C.C.S. SELECTS **ADAM J. SHIRLEY** FOR NEW CEO!

Following a dedicated recruiting process which commenced on May 13th, ICCS is pleased to present **Adam Shirley**, Director for the Mitchell CCB as the **new CEO** for our state Association - replacing Tom Hazelton as of 1/1/2023. Adam comes to ICCS from ten years of service with the MCCB, and with an impressive educational background - a Professional Science Master's in Ecosystem Management from UNI, a BA in Environmental Science from Dordt College, and an AA from North Iowa Area Community College. Adam is a Past President & Vice President of the CCDA; served on the Iowa PF State Council from 2012 to present; and as a Naturalist Intern for the Sioux CCB in 2008 and 2009 Land Stewardship Intern for INHF. He has previously served as a Roadside Biologist for the Cerro Gordo CCB, a Roadside Technician for the Iowa Valley RC&D, and as a Graduate Assistant at UNI.

ICCS is currently working with Adam on administrative essentials for a smooth transition to "something new" in financial arenas, accounting, CCB communications and several other CCB "ways of doin' things"! Many of you know Adam as an active member of District 2, and a general presence at most statewide conferences and legislative initiatives. He plans to attend the regular quarterly meeting of the ICCS Board of Directors in November, and will begin a month of transitioning into the CEO position on December 1st. Adam & Tom will be meeting with numerous industry partners across the state – within the natural resources community, Iowa Tourism, legislative connections and others. He comes to ICCS with a wealth of institutional knowledge already, and will get it bolstered with historic perspectives and "satellite views" from Hazelton as the days and weeks progress towards the end of 2022.

Adam will assume full responsibilities for ICCS operations & networking the first week of January 2023, and we hope you will collectively welcome him into his new role. He will be working from his home office in Osage, IA – but the email address and phone number will not be changing at this time – IACCB@mycountyparks.org / (515) 963-9582 will be transferred to Adam at the end of the year. You WILL see some changes occurring through our transition processes – including: mailing address for the organization, a new email address for the MyCountyParks.com Division, and additional modifications from the way we have been conducting ICCS business since 2011. We will ask in advance for your understanding, support and patience as we navigate forward these next many weeks – some of the hurdles we may not even know yet!? 😊 *Onward, folks – there is much awaiting us in the future!*

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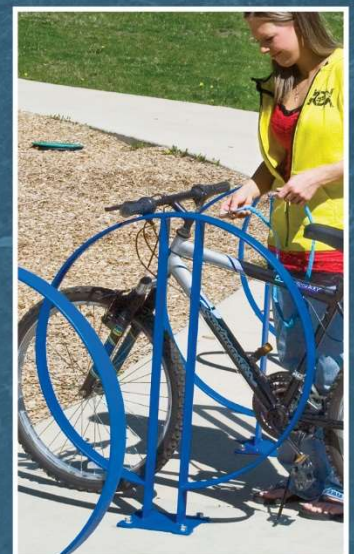
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2022 ICCS NEW EMPLOYEE SCHOOL
 Event: 10/25/2022 - 10/25/2022
 Registration From: 08/01/2022 - 10/17/2022
 ALL NEW EMPLOYEES, who have not attended from the past couple of years

mycountyparks.com PORTAL

mycountyparks.org

SUMMIT series 2022

2022 AWARD WINNER

2022 MCP.com E-COMMERCE SUMMIT
 Event: 10/26/2022 - 10/26/2022
 Registration From: 09/18/2022 - 10/17/2022
 Whether a veteran of MyCountyParks.com or someone interested in expanding your business

IOWA PERS
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Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

mycountyparks.org mycountyparks.com mycountyparks.com PORTAL

BOTH 2022 ICCS SCHOOLS ARE OPEN FOR YOUR REGISTRATIONS!

The **ICCS Board of Directors** and **MyCountyParks.com Advisory Committee** are pleased to present the **9th Annual New County Conservation Employee School** AND the **8th Annual MyCountyParks.com E-Commerce Summit!** Both opportunities are offered at **NO CHARGE** to all participants – funded by sponsorships from ICCS and MCP.com. These Events are scheduled for **Tuesday, October 25th & Wednesday, October 26th at the Briggs Woods Conference Center** at Briggs Woods County Park in Hamilton County. Program flyers for each event, as well as the online registration is available via the link provided below. **Registration Deadline is October 17th!**

We continually strive to enhance the leadership and professional qualities of all our employees – so getting a great start on the front end of your career, and keeping up-to-date with changes and technological advances are essential for you. We hope that you are able to join us in late October for these extraordinary opportunities! ☺ Questions? – IACCB@mycountyparks.org



REGISTRATION AVAILABLE: <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>

Over 20,000 Population Category...

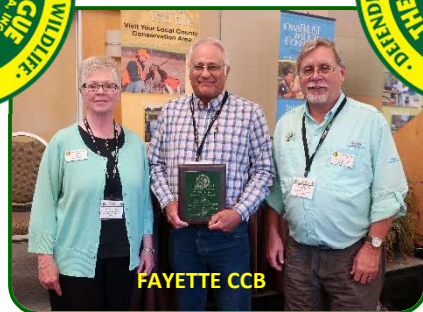
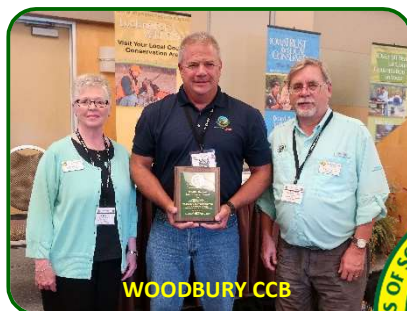
3rd Place – Linn CCB
 2nd Place – Johnson CCB
 1st Place – Woodbury CCB

Under 20,000 Population Category...

3rd Place – Butler CCB
 2nd Place – Fayette CCB
 1st Place – Mitchell CCB



48th ANNUAL IWLA HABITAT IMPROVEMENT AWARDS – National IWLA President **Vicki Arnold**, and **Dale Braun**, National Director – Iowa Chapter were both on hand in Dubuque last week to present the 48th annual edition of these awards to six CCBs across the state. Fifteen county conservation boards were nominated in one of the two categories – above or below the 20,000 county population threshold. The various winning criteria for each CCB can be located on the IWLA Information PDF on the Conference webpage on www.MyCountyParks.org – **Congratulations** to all of the 2022 Award Winners!





37th Annual CCPOA Fall Workshop – REGISTRATION AVAILABLE!

October 3-5, 2022 at **Camp Dodge**, with lodging at the **Stoney Creek Hotel in Johnston**. Online registration is available at the link below - **Registration Deadline is Friday, September 23rd**! The special workshop Newsletter can be viewed/downloaded from the CCPOA website at the following link:

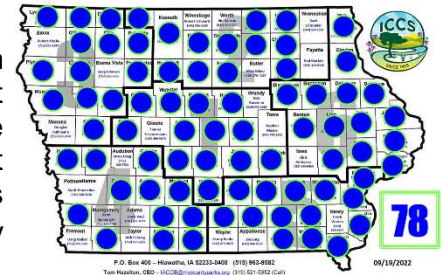
https://www.mycountyparks.org/uploads/1/0/6/7/106716567/ccpoa_newsletter_-_august_2022.pdf

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION: <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>

SALARY SURVEYS NEEDED FROM 21 CCBS!!!

ICCS is still looking for the **FY2023 Salary Survey** from 21 counties as noted on the adjacent map to the right. These were distributed via email to all CCBS on August 22nd, with a **Due Date of September 19th**. If you need to have the email and database re-sent, please let ICCS know ASAP. As you are aware – this is the #1 survey that you all request each year, and it really only works if with have ALL 99 sets of numbers included in the final database tabulations. ☺ Thanks in advance for your timely attention to getting these surveys returned.....

FY2023 Salary Survey Returns



Conference Raffle & Silent Auction Net ICCS \$5,300.00+

Some 32 Silent Auction entries, and the three awesome raffle prizes invited most conference participants to part with a few dollars last week – providing significant \$\$ for the various educational efforts put forth from ICCS! Special **KUDOS to the Dubuque CCB** for soliciting all the raffle items and nearly ½ of all the Silent Auction items – **awesome work!** Many thanks to the other CCBS, individuals and vendors that provided the remaining Silent Auction items! ICCS very much appreciates all of the participants who engaged with these annual fund-raising efforts – many thanks! ☺



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THANKS TO THE FAMILY



No matter what exists as your "Family", they are the support structure and mechanism that has allowed you to grow into the best version of yourself that you can be. They have been there to celebrate the great times, as well provide comfort during those that challenge us. In your early years, it may have been parents and siblings, then as life progressed – it may have become professional peers, then a spouse perhaps, and on to your own expanding family with kids, pets, etc. However it evolves – it's what makes you tick and defines you.

Almost from Day #1, my family was subjected to endless visits to any park we came across, chatting with park staff in other states, and being incorporated into marketing/promotion with posed pics. They were very accommodating – accepting it as "Dad being Dad", and when the ICCS CEO gig came along they even hopped in the car to trapse around the state to new destinations. Sometimes Dad would be gone for days on end to conferences and other travels – but it just kind of always managed to work into the crazy schedules of our lives.

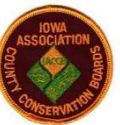
As yet another page begins to turn in this wonderful journey on an awesome career path – where I am today is because of the families that have spurred me along through the decades. None more so than my wonderful (*and understanding!*) wife, Lisa – and three amazing kids – Nicholas, Holly and Christopher and their families/friends.....always #1 in my heart...

Love, Dad





CCB Alumni in the House!



Roger Kean, Dan Heissel and **Al Griffiths**, former Director for Clinton CCB



Bob Walker (from Montana) formerly with the Iowa Conservation Commission/DNR in the 3-Person County Conservation Activities Office 1973 - 1993



Don Brazelton, former IACCB Executive Secretary '83 - 2011



Bob Walton, former Director for Dubuque CCB

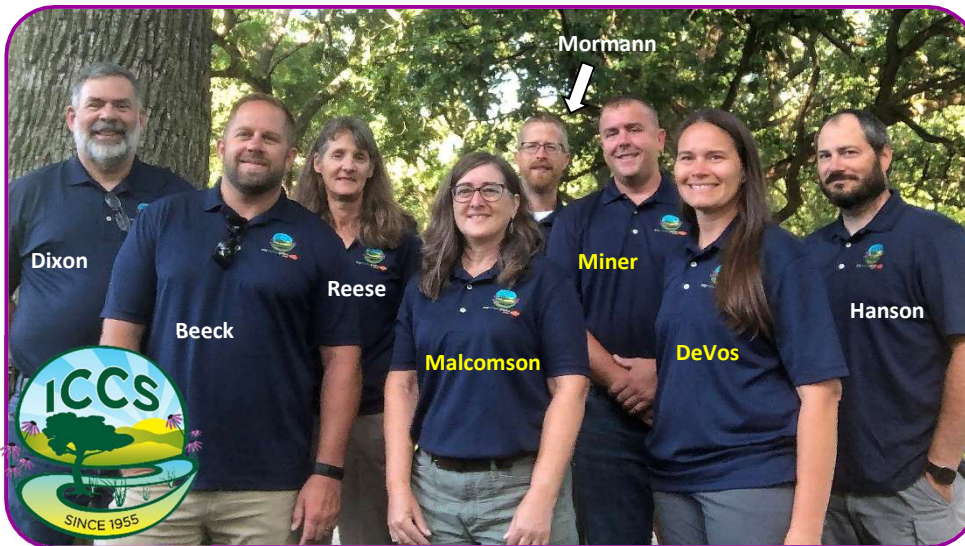
It was great to have many of our CCB Alumni "on campus" once again for the fall conference! Leaders from the past who mentored us and helped to nurture the CCB System from a fledgling into adulthood in the 1970s - '90s. A lot of great memories were re-lived, and the networking continued as if they had never left the system! Other Alums present but not pictured include: *Mark Wagner (Jasper)*, *Daryl Parker (Jackson)*, *Joyce Hornstein (Story/IACCB Board)*, and *Jerry Schnepf (INHF/KIB, etc.)* 😊



Ray Delmege, Co-Founder of the CCPOA with Hazelton, and Bob Walker



Marc Miller, former Deputy Director for Scott CCB



THANK-YOU! to Retiring ICCS State Board Members

As 2022 begins to wind down, we bid adieu to three members of our ICCS Board of Directors. They were recognized at the 2022 Annual Meeting with plaques for their years of service: current Board President **Mike Miner** (Butler) for his 7 years - representing CCDA; **Ginny Malcomson** (Polk) for 3 years representing the MyCountyParks.com Division; and, **Victoria DeVos** (Plymouth) for 3 years representing the Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN) Division.

We very much appreciate their terms of service and active engagement during one of the most challenging periods of CCB history in Iowa. All Our Best - Heartfelt THANKS to all!



Peggy Wright, long term Board Member of the Mahaska CCB was recognized for her 35 years on the MCCB, as well as her two 6-year terms on the IACCB Board of Directors. Many Thanks to Peggy for her dedicated years of service.



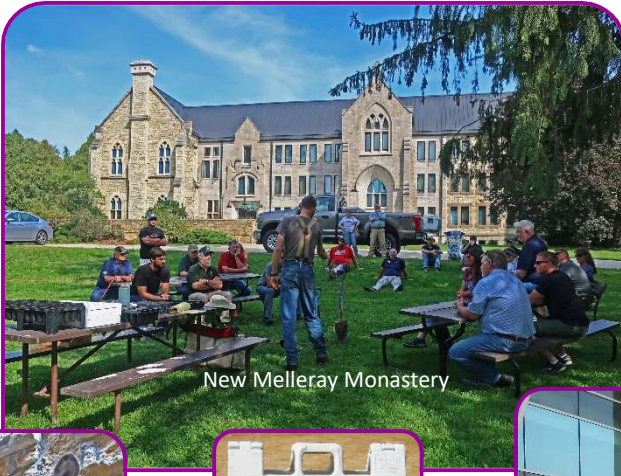
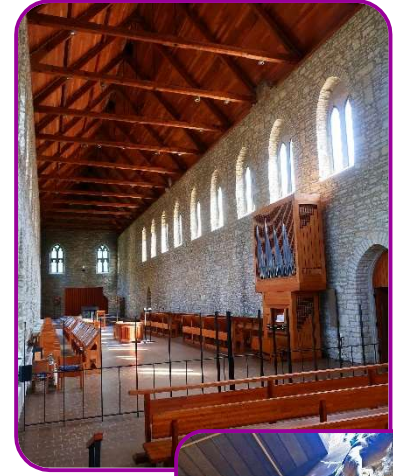
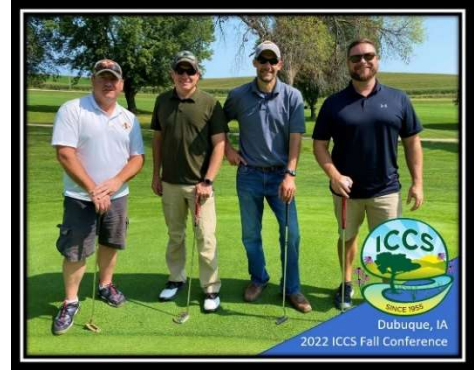
Pretty AMAZING to have **25 representatives of Harrison County** that made the cross-state trek to Dubuque for the 2022 ICCS Annual Conference. We traditionally have excellent attendance from this county, but this was extraordinary! We look forward to visiting Iowa's west coast for the 2023 Fall Conference - when THEY host! 😊😊😊😊





PRE-CONFERENCE!

- 33 Tour of DBQ**
- 29 Canoe Float**
- 20 Golfing**
- 10 Bike Riders**



E.B. Lyons
Interpretive Center



Grand River Center



Vendor Exhibits



Big Timber Maple Syrup



Dubuque Star Brewery



Living with Loess

September 19-21, 2023

Add to Calendar



Location: The Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, IA
Lodging: Country Inn & Suites \$99/night · Main Lodging
Springhill Suites \$96/night · Overflow Lodging

Third Night Option: Extend your stay to a third night and attend
Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation's 20th annual
fundraiser Go Wild for Conservation

Hosted By:



Front Photo: Hitchcock Nature Center

Inside Photo: Rendering of Harrison County's new Willow Lake Nature Center



ICCS 2023 Fall Conference

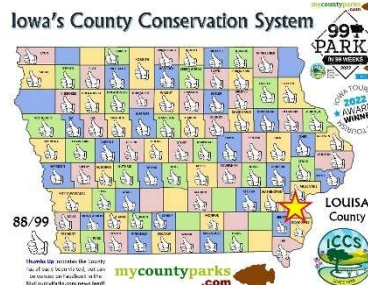
Living with Loess

Hosted By:

Harrison & Pottawattamie County Conservation

2023 ICCS Fall Conference – Council Bluffs

Mark your calendars and stay-tuned for more information about our trek to Iowa's west coast and the Loess Hills next September – hosted by Harrison & Pottawattamie CCBs! The conference theme is "Living with Loess" – look for lodging room block information coming to you in the weeks ahead! ☺



9/26/2022	Osceola
10/3/2022	Plymouth
10/10/2022	Van Buren
10/17/2022	Dickinson
10/24/2022	Lucas
10/31/2022	Jefferson
11/7/2022	Madison
11/14/2022	Mahaska
11/21/2022	Warren
11/28/2022	Wapello
12/5/2022	Allamakee

WEEK NUMBER 88 UPDATE!

#THISISIOWA

11 MORE WEEKS TO GO!the final sprint is on! If you are one of our final counties – be sure to get your materials (pictures & proposed text) submitted well in advance of your dates listed to the right! ☺ It has been a historically productive effort since January 2021 – many thanks to those of you that have assisted ICCS! ☺

Escalating all the Numbers: Engaged with 550,829 visitors and posted 1,927 awesome pics to-date! Proud to be recognized as the 2022 Iowa Tourism Outstanding Niche Marketing Initiative!!



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

1. KOSSUTH Co. – Operations Supervisor
2. FAYETTE Co. – Roadside Vegetation Technician
3. CLINTON Co. – Naturalist
4. DICKINSON Co. – Iowa Roadside Vegetation Tech.
5. DICKINSON Co. – Roadside Vegetation Tech. - PPT
6. HAMILTON Co. – Golf Course Clubhouse Mgr. / Pro
7. POLK Co. – Conservation Laborer – Construction
8. POLK Co. – Facility Attendant
9. SEASONAL POSITIONS – 14+ opportunities listed on website



9/19/2022



Fillmore Recreation Area - Dubuque Co. ☺