



FACTS & STATS

May 2022

HISTORY

- 1943 - Iowa Conservation Commission (ICC) requested the Iowa Legislature to create a county conservation board system
- 1955 - CCB System established by the Iowa Legislature, Iowa Code – Chapter 350
- 1956-1976 - Individual CCBs each voted into existence in conjunction with local General Elections over the next 20 years. Allamakee was the 99th CCB to form in 1989
- 1958 – ICC created the County Conservation Coordinators Office, later to be known as the County Conservation Activities Office. By the early '80s there were three full-time employees assigned to this office. As the ICC restructured into the DNR, in 1989 – the County Conservation Activities Office was closed and the staff were reassigned.
- 1959 – Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards (IACCB) was formed as a non-profit 501c(6) organization to provide additional networking, administrative support and a legislative presence for the new CCB system.
- 1981 – IACCB contracts for a part-time Executive Secretary for the Board of Directors. In 1986, a part-time Office Assistant is hired.
- 1989 – With the closure of the Activities Office, the IACCB assumed many of the services that had been provided, and the Executive Secretary also began to provide lobbying services for the IACCB during Legislative Sessions.
- 2010 – IACCB voted to re-structure both financial & administrative operations and contract for a Chief Executive Officer who would also oversee support staff and lobbying contractors.
- 2018 – IACCB voted to transition to a Division structure and doing business as Iowa's County Conservation System (ICCS). The eight existing CCB affiliate organizations became ICCS Divisions, and were assembled under one administrative umbrella, establishing management agreements with ICCS. Each Division maintains original autonomy and administration, but shares efficiencies with finances, networking and integrated digital systems. Current Divisions and year of creation include:
 1. **IACCB** (1959) – 594 members (99 Conservation Directors & 495 Board Members)
 2. **IACCBE** (1974) – Iowa Assoc. of County Conservation Employees (674 members)
 3. **CCDA** (1975) – County Conservation Directors Assoc. (99 Conservation Directors)
 4. **IAN** (1978) – Iowa Association of Naturalists (150 members, includes non-CCB)
 5. **CCPOA** (1985) – County Conservation Peace Officers Assoc. (163 CCB peace officers)
 6. **AFIRM** (1992) – Association for Integrated Roadside Managers (70 members, 70% non-CCB)
 7. **IowaTLC** (2005) – Iowa Trust for Local Conservation (501(c)3 Tax-Exempt CCB Trust)
 8. **MyCountyParks.com** – (2009) Statewide 99-County Website (415 administrators)

Funding for ICCS operations comes from a 5-tier county membership program based on property tax support per county; Preferred Vendor Membership Program fees; revenue generated from conferences and support provided by the MyCountyParks.com website.

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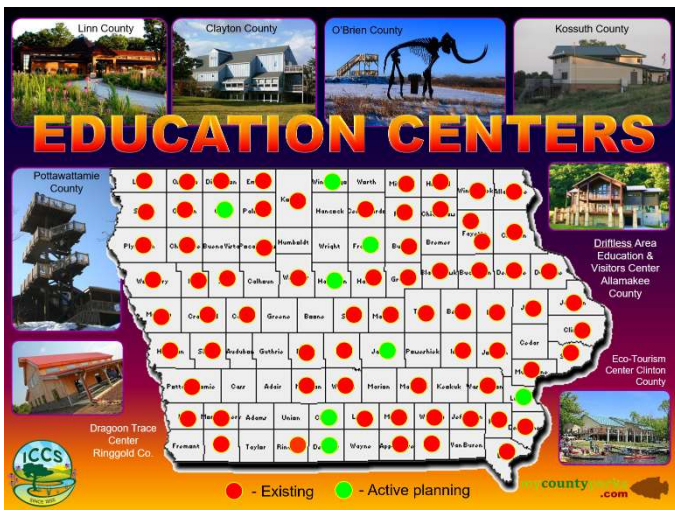
PERSONNEL

- **495 Conservation Board Members** – Citizenry of individual counties that are appointed to staggered five-year terms on the local Conservation Board by the Board of Supervisors. There are five Conservation Board Members in each county, and the Boards meet monthly. Conservation Boards are autonomous county departments but receive property tax support as their primary source of funding.
- **100 Conservation Directors** – One in each county, hired by the Conservation Board.
- **131 Park Rangers** – All certified peace officers. Additionally, 31 Directors also carry peace officer certification. 60 of Iowa's 99 CCBs have certified peace officers on staff.
- **121 Naturalists** – at least one in most counties. 70 CCBs currently have Education (Nature) Centers with 8 others currently in the pipeline.
- **36 Operation Supervisors** – usually in counties with larger operations / numerous staff
- **123 Maintenance Technicians** – general area maintenance & operations
- **74 Natural Resource/Vegetation Specialists** – Roadside programs, forestry & land mgmt.
- **39 Administrative Personnel** – Deputy Directors, Administrative Managers, other leadership
- **35 Clerical/Office Staff** – Office Managers, clerical, financial & technical staff
- **23 Other Fulltime Staff** - Specialty staff (Equestrian, historical, recreational, etc.)
- **400+ Seasonal Positions** – Various seasonal employment across the state in every county
- **Thousands of Volunteers** – Nature Centers, Campground Hosts, Foundation Boards, etc. Most all CCBs, especially those with education centers have active Foundations, Friends organizations or other non-profit support groups

ACRES UNDER MANAGMENT

- **215,860 TOTAL ACRES MANAGED** (14,289 acres of water surface)
 - 198,478 acres of **county** (12,735 acres of water surface)
 - * Parks – 36,681 acres
 - * Natural Areas – 130,430 acres
 - * Preserves – 11,954 acres
 - * Wetlands – 16,371 aces
 - * Other – 3,042 acres
 - 12,846 acres of **state** (886 acres of water surface)
 - 3,407 acres of **federal** (364 acres of water surface)
 - 1,129 acres of **city** (304 acres of water surface)
- State Acres referenced above includes **management of 19 State Parks**: Bobwhite (Wayne), Cold Springs (Cass), Crystal Lake (Hancock), Eagle Lake (Hancock), Echo Valley (Fayette), Frank A. Gotch (Humboldt), Heery Woods (Butler), Lake Cornelia (Wright), Lake Icaria (Adams), Mill Creek (O'Brien), Oak Grove (Sioux), Oakland Mills (Henry), Pammel (Madison), Sharon Bluffs (Appanoose), Spring Lake (Greene), Swan Lake (Carroll), Three Mile Lake (Union) and Minne Estema (Benton), Mines of Spain (Dubuque).
- Of the 215,860 total acres (2,024 areas) managed by County Conservation Boards.....
 - **Parks** = 42,272 acres
 - **Natural areas** = 138,339 acres
 - **Preserves** = 14,509 acres
 - **Wetlands** = 17,241 acres
 - **Other** = 3,499 acres

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CCB OUTDOOR EDUCATION

- 70 CCBs w/Nature Centers – 8 more in pipeline
- 121 Full-time Naturalists
- 26,000+ Programs w/ 753,000 participants



CCB TRAILS

- 1,949 miles
- 712 miles hard-surfaced
- 1,237 miles soft surfaced



CCB CAMPING

- 11,111 Campsites in 98 Counties
- 8,351 Modern Sites
- 2,760 Primitive Sites

CCB CABINS

- 285 Cabins in 60 Counties
- 181 modern w/ bathroom
- 85 modern w/o bathroom
- 19 Primitive w/no electricity



CCB HUNTING

- 146,262 ACRES of CCB lands available for hunting

