



# Newsletter

Volume 59, Issue No. 1  
July 12, 2017

#THISIOWA



@IACCB\_HAZE1955

## SAVE THE DATE:

The IACCB Calendar is also available online via the IACCB link on MCP.com

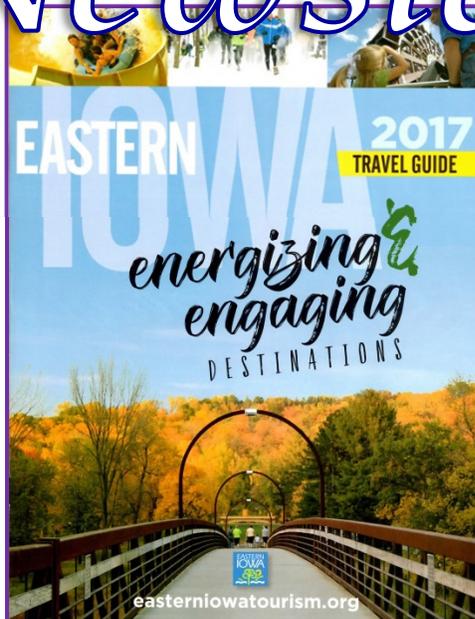
- \* July 20 – District 1 Mtg. – Grundy County
- \* Aug. 3 – IACCB Board of Directors – Des Moines
- \* Aug. 4 – District 2 Mtg. – Worth County
- \* Aug. 17 – District 4 Mtg. – Shelby County
- \* Aug. 23-25 – Summer ISAC / CCDA – D. Moines
- \* Oct. 10-12 – CCPOA Fall Workshop - Johnston
- \* Nov. 1 – New CCB Emp. School – Des Moines
- \* Nov. 2 – E-Commerce Summit – Des Moines
- \* Nov. 7-9 – IAN Fall Workshop

The IACCB Newsletter is produced on a periodic basis, and provided in digital format as a membership benefit to IACCB Members and

**2017 IACCB Annual Fall Conference**  
September 21-23  
Sioux Center, IA  
Hosted by the Lyon & Sioux CCBs



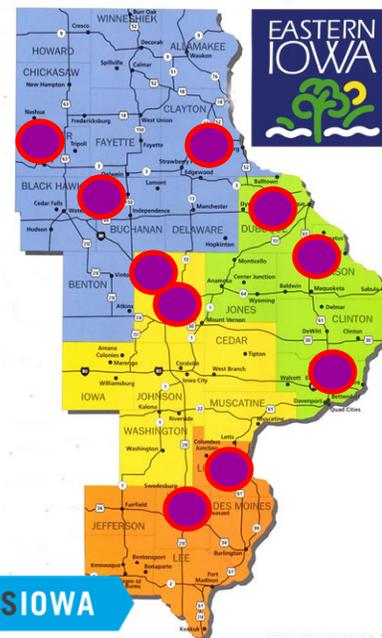
NEW "CABIN"  
at Dog Creek  
Park in O'Brien  
County! ☺



**KUDOS to Linn CCB** for landing their destination **Mary Lundby Bridge** on the cover of the **2017 Eastern Iowa Tourism Guide!** The bridge spans the Wapsipinicon River in Pinicon Ridge Park (near Central City), and connects the campgrounds with other trails, facilities and activities in the park. The guide is filled with many great destinations and outdoor recreation opportunities – including many pictures and information about county conservation areas, trails, etc. In addition to all 28 counties in the Eastern Iowa Tourism Region having a County Membership, there are 9 CCBs that have answered the call to Tourism! Thanks to the following county conservation boards for taking an active,

participatory role in Iowa's tourism industry – **Buchanan, Bremer, Clayton, Dubuque, Henry, Jackson, Linn, Louisa and Scott.** IACCB/MyCountyParks.com is also a member of all three of Iowa's tourism regions – supporting tourism and promoting the best kept secrets in Iowa – our county parks!

Memberships in the Iowa Tourism Regions will run you \$135 to \$150/year and are well worth the investment! The regions host 5 to 6 great meetings each year that put you in touch with local and regional tourism partners that provide excellent networking and partnership opportunities. AND – whether you are a tourism region member or not – don't forget the FREE opportunities of posting your events and facilities to [www.traveliowa.org](http://www.traveliowa.org) – the Iowa Tourism website! There are a bunch of great folks ready to assist you in the Iowa Tourism office - feel free to be in touch with them at: [tourism@iowaeda.com](mailto:tourism@iowaeda.com) or (800) 345-IOWA (4692)



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## CONGRATS RINGGOLD CCB!

**JUNE 24** was the **GRAND OPENING** of the **Dragon Trace Nature Center** that has been years in the making. Hundreds of folks were on hand for the sun-splashed celebration! Director Kate Zimmerman cut the ceremonial ribbon to open the doors! Visit the Ringgold County Conservation Board Facebook presence for more pictures & information about this historic day! ☺





## IACCB FY2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

IACCB is most appreciative for the 65 CCBs that have already renewed their FY2018 IACCB Memberships well in advance of **the August 1<sup>st</sup> deadline!** This has enabled us to “hit the ground running” as the new fiscal year arrived on July 1<sup>st</sup>! ☺ It has been especially rewarding to be able to represent a full contingent of all 99 counties these past many years – IACCB appreciates your continued support, participation and dedication to the finest county conservation system in the nation!



## DISTRICT 6 MEETING – BENTON CCB

Many thanks to **Director Karen Phelps, Deputy Director Scott Bahmann** and the staff of the Benton CCB for hosting a grrrrreat and well-attended District 6 Meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting was held at the Nature Center at Rodgers Park near Vinton, IA. Benton CCB Board Member Dan Gibbins (*who also happens to be the Superintendent of Cedar Rapids Parks & Recreation!*) had a great presentation about the local “Partners in Pollination” program; Marybeth Stevenson, IDNR did a program on Gully Assessments and Water Quality; and, Adam Rodenburg, MCWA Director updated everyone on the Middle Cedar River Watershed Project. Following a superb home cooked luncheon (*prepared by the BCCB staff*) – participants were invited to tour the Rodgers Park Yurts and habitat improvement areas. BTW – the District 6 business meeting was robust and rousing too! (**NOTE: District 6 only meets twice each year...once in June and once in December. The December 2017 meeting will be held at the new Allamakee CCB Driftless Area Education and Welcome Center on Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.**) The old adage still holds true that **“If you miss a District Meeting – You Miss A Lot!”**



## DISTRICT 4 MEETING – HARRISON CCB

**Director Scott Nelson** and the staff of the Harrison CCB hosted the June 15<sup>th</sup> District 4 meeting at Schaben Park just a bit south of Woodbine. Attendees first toured the recent updates to Schaben Park (*Shelter House, Storm Shelter, Fish Habitat Project & Natural Resource Enhancements*). They then road-tripped to Willow Lake Park for lunch – following which, they toured the improvements at Willow Lake. These included a Huffcutt Latrine & Shower House, a new Fishing Pier and recent equipment purchases. The final visit for the day was to the Gleason-Hubel Wildlife Area to view prairie and timber projects, and trail enhancements of this 165-acre property on the front face of the Loess Hills. These tours were set up to highlight the recent improvements that HCCB had done – utilizing special techniques such as bartering, grants, re-purposing and staff talents! **The next District 4 meeting appears to be set up for Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> – hosted by Shelby County** – mark them calendars now! ☺ ☺



## ISAC ANNUAL CONFERENCE & CCDA SUMMER MEETING, AUG. 23-25

We already have 32 Directors and Deputy Directors registered for this event – including FOUR new CCB Directors from Black Hawk, Boone, Calhoun and Lee CCBs! It looks to be another great event put on by the Iowa State Association of Counties – their first-ever summer conference! (*this event replaces the former “Fall School of Instruction” in November*) **Looking forward to seeing many of you there!**

# Enjoy the Outdoors™

...and keep it clean.

As of today's writing, our MyCountyParks.com website has **71,481 Register Users** – 249 of which are **County Administrators** who can work on the back (Admin) side of the site. As we closed out accounting for FY2017, we note that the site processed **17,184 facility & event registrations**, generating **\$1.73 million** for individual CCBs – glitch-free for the most part ☺. As many of you know – it is a behemoth of a site with a myriad of functionalities, both on the public and administrative sides. Almost everyone has their opinion as to how the website could be better to serve their county's particular needs – so striking a threshold of stability in a very fast paced technology arena is always challenging. We try to do our best.

From time to time, you may have a customer who disagrees with the policies or operation of the site, and frequently it is related to the user's hardware, internet access or simply cyber-abilities. Specifically for CCBs that accept online reservations for facilities and events, you also accept the challenge of becoming immersed in how the website works – both the benefits and the shortfalls.....it is what it is (until the next version arrives!)

A reminder that the System Administrator appreciates your sharing of the feedback and suggestions that you are hearing from your users, as this is helpful in brainstorming future improvements. We do however, prefer that this information be channeled through YOU to the System Administrator. Local reservation issues and procedural scenarios should always be handled at the local level, and exterior inquiries that come in to the site will be routed to the appropriate CCB for responsive handling. There's no question that we appreciate all the website admin work that so many of you do – *thanks for your partnerships!*



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## THREE NEW CCB DIRECTORS !

Over the past couple of months, the **Black Hawk, Lee, and Boone CCBs** have recruited and hired new County Conservation Directors:

**Black Hawk** – Mike Hendrickson  
[mhendrickson@co.black-hawk.ia.us](mailto:mhendrickson@co.black-hawk.ia.us)

**Boone** – Tanner Scheuermann  
[tscheuermann@boonecounty.iowa.gov](mailto:tscheuermann@boonecounty.iowa.gov)

**Lee** – Nathan Unsworth  
[nunsworth@LeeCounty.org](mailto:nunsworth@LeeCounty.org)

**CONGRATS!** on the new career paths, Gents – we collectively look forward to working with you! ☺ ☺



## 2017 IACCB FALL CONFERENCE

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER LOOMS ON AUGUST 15<sup>th</sup>!**

**Sioux County** is looking forward to receiving your **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM** soon, and IACCB is looking forward to receiving your **SILENT AUCTION DONATION FORM** soon. In both cases, the sooner the better! We are looking forward to super pre-conference activities and the Thurs. evening fish fry – and to two great days of bus tours/educational venues across Sioux and Lyon Counties. Please visit the website link below for the conference packets and registration form(s). Just a bit over two months away! 😊 😊 😊

**LINK TO CONFERENCE INFO.** - <http://www.mycountyparks.com/Info/IACCB.aspx>

Iowa's County Conservation System  
**SILENT AUCTION DONATION**  
 98<sup>th</sup> Annual IACCB FALL CONFERENCE - Sioux Center, IA  
 September 21 - 23, 2017

Name of Item: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please provide an item per bidder or reusable auction item)

Created By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name of County Conservation Board)

Brief Description of Item: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested retail value of item \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you are donating a gift certificate, please include a brochure/flyer for our table display.

- Auction items will be displayed during the conference on Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Arrangements must be made to have all items paid for and picked up by the close of the Evening social time on Friday.
- All proceeds from the silent auction will assist in enhancing conference costs, with all profits going to the IACCB general fund to support IACCB training programs.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## CALHOUN CCB HIRES NEW DIRECTOR

Long-time Calhoun County Conservation Director **Keith Roos** opted to retire in late April – so the hunt was on for a new Director and some new directions! Enter **Curtis Vanderheiden** from the South Dakota Game Fish & Parks Department, a native of Carroll, IA. Curtis assumed the CCCB Director gig in May, and just got married this past weekend! 😊 As luck would have it, while we were having a county conservation “orientation day” this past week at the Calhoun CCB office/shop – who should stop in but the recently retired Keith Roos! (pictured left w/Curtis) It was good to see Keith, congratulate him and wish him all the best on everyone’s behalf. Sounds like lots of fishin’ and gun-smithing are in his retirement wheelhouse - **CONGRATS again, Keith!**

7/6/17 - Retiring Calhoun CCB Director Keith Roos (left) and new Director Curtis Vanderheiden

Calhoun County has long been on my “bucket list”, one of only two remaining counties to visit..... ✓ - done! It was rewarding for me to tour yet another one of Iowa’s best kept secrets – Calhoun County Conservation. Like so many other emerging CCBs – lots of great facilities, people and history. Dreams of a nature center, park expansions and improvements, AND of bringing cabins and campsites to MyCountyParks.com for online reservations! Lots of exciting visions and great local support to get things rolling! Kudos to the Calhoun County Conservation Board for their long term commitment to a great CCB program! 😊



Check ‘em out – Cabins, large and small – just feet from the North Twin Lake, some with their own docks. 😊



The 6.5 mile off-road, hard-surfaced Twin Lakes Trail completely encircles the 569 acre spring-fed North Twin Lake. Spurs off the trail add another 4.5 miles. 😊



Contact Information for **Curtis Vanderheiden** at Calhoun County Conservation – (712) 297-7131  
[conservation@calhouncountyiowa.com](mailto:conservation@calhouncountyiowa.com)





## NOT QUITE LIKE ANYTHING YOU HAVE SEEN BEFORE!?

**Dog Creek Park South, O'Brien CCB  
Sutherland, Iowa**

Two "BIN CABINS" are now a part of the **O'Brien County** rural landscape in Dog Creek Park. The park has long been known for its scenic vistas and stunning sunrises and sunsets – now one can stay a few days and sit out on an elevated deck for more spectacular views! ☺ And, the spectacular isn't just on the outside! The interior of these 1200 sq. ft. extremely beautiful & uniquely Iowa "cabins" is also a wonder to behold – spiral staircases, sleeping for 12, full kitchen and gathering area, and each one comes fully furnished - with exception of towels and bed sheets, there are beds, a bathroom and living room are all included in this 33 foot tall bin. – not to mention the matching bin-themed exterior picnic gazebo.....WOW! One more great example of "out-of-the-box" innovative county conservation ingenuity and "can-do" attitude. As with many local CCB projects – much of the work on these special facilities was completed by the O'Brien County Conservation employees – Shazam!

The cabins rent for \$130/weeknights; \$150/weekend & holiday nights; or \$875/week. If you can picture you and your family/friends escaping to one of these picturesque lodging locales – contact the O'Brien County Conservation Board: **(712) 295-7200** [occb@iowatelecom.net](mailto:occb@iowatelecom.net)



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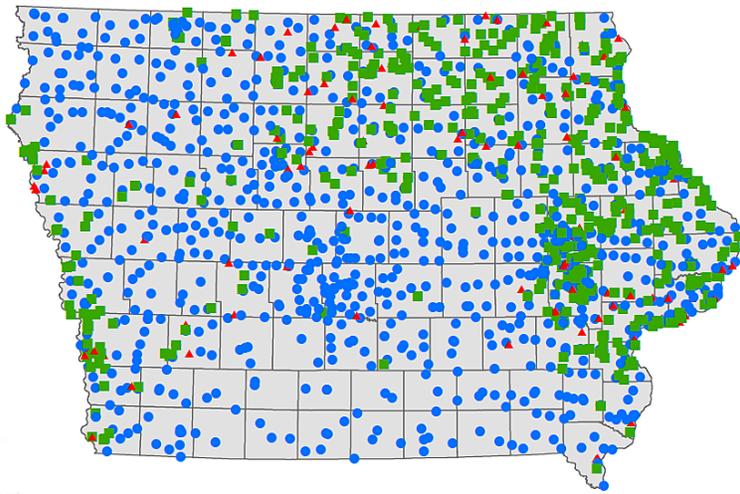


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## IOWA PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROGRAM ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

Under the 1996 reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the State of Iowa is required to publish an annual report of the status of its drinking water program. The 2016 report is available electronically at the following Internet address:  
<http://www.iowadnr.gov/WS-Annual-Compliance-Report>

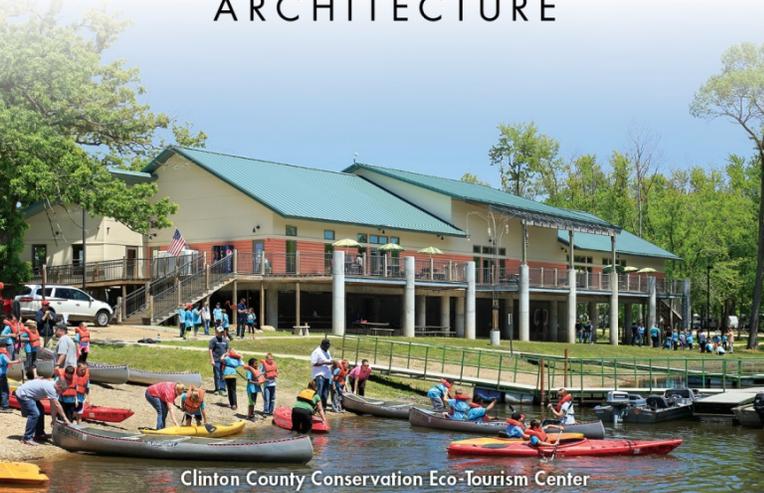
The report was compiled by the staff of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Water Supply Engineering and Operations Sections, using data collected in 2016 from all active public water supplies in the state. The report contains a summary of the program, a description of the requirements that systems must meet, the year's violation statistics, and the list of the systems with each health-based standard or major monitoring or reporting violation incurred during the year.

The photographs in the report were from Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund projects that were completed during the year. The maps depict the public water supply system universe in Iowa and the locations of the systems that incurred the health-based standards and major monitoring and reporting violations. The maps are also separately listed on the website.

Iowa had 1,847 active public water supply systems in 2016. Of those systems, 95% were in compliance with all health-based drinking water standards, and 80% were in compliance with all major monitoring and reporting requirements. There were no waterborne disease outbreaks or deaths attributed to the drinking water at any active public water supply in Iowa during the year.



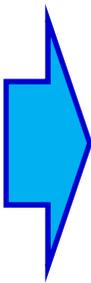
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If you have any questions about the report, please contact me. I anticipate that the report will be presented to the Environmental Protection Commission in September.

**Diane Moles** | Executive Officer 2  
[diane.moles@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:diane.moles@dnr.iowa.gov)

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
 Water Supply Engineering Section  
 P 515-725-0281 | F 515-725-0348

[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov) / [www.iowadnr.gov/WS-Engineering](http://www.iowadnr.gov/WS-Engineering)

## 2017 WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT AWARDS

Back in May IACCB distributed the **2017 Wildlife Habitat Improvement Survey** to all 99 CCB Directors. This survey will determine winners of the **Izaak Walton Habitat Improvement Awards** that are announced at the Annual IACCB Meeting in September. This is a self-nomination process for each CCB, and we encourage your participation. This recognition covers CCB activity / habitat improvements for the FY2017 year only. **Deadline for submission is August 4, 2017.**

Questions? – [IACCB@mycountyparks.org](mailto:IACCB@mycountyparks.org)



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

- BLACK HAWK Co. – Conservation Unit Ranger**
- TEMPORARY POSITIONS – 12 opportunities listed on website**

■ Full Time  
 ■ Seasonal/Part-Time

[mycountyparks.com](http://mycountyparks.com)