Newsletter

Volume 58, Issue No. 13
March 17, 2017

@IACCB_HAZE1955

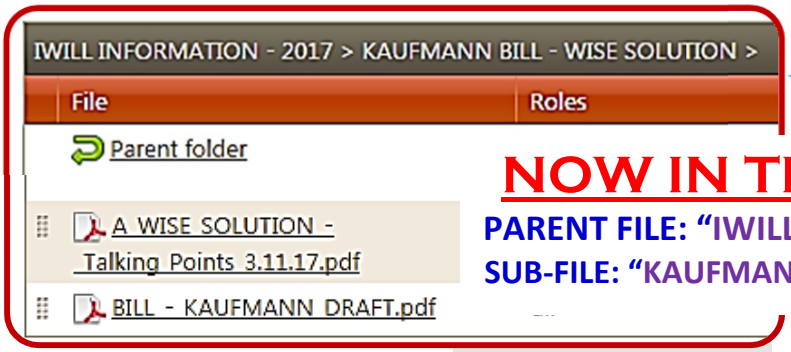
SAVE THE DATE:

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

* *Mar. 21 – Winterfest Plan. Mtg. – Marshall Co.*
* *Mar. 28-29 – Invasive Species Conf. – Hny. Crk.*
* *Mar. 29 – REAP Day at the Capitol!*
* *Apr. 11 – IWILL Day at the Capitol!*
* *April 11-12 – CCDA Retreat – Polk County*
* *Apr. 13 – CCPOA Wksp. – Black Hawk County*
* *Apr. 19 – District 3 Mtg. – Ida County*
* *May 18 – District 4 Mtg. – Ringgold County*
* *June 15 – District 5 Mtg. – Wayne County*
* *June 21 – District 6 Mtg. – Allamakee County*

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

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



NOW IN THE PORTAL!

PARENT FILE: "IWILL INFORMATION – 2017"
SUB-FILE: "KAUFMANN BILL – WISE SOLUTION"

W·I·S·E SOLUTION

1. Water;
2. Infrastructure;
3. Soil; and it's for our
4. Economy

http://www.iowaswaterandlandlegacy.org/wise-solution/

WE HAVE A BILL!

On Tuesday, March 14th – **Representative Bobby Kaufmann** (R-Wilton) introduced the **WISE Solution** legislation to fund the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund! With eleven co-sponsors, this long anticipated bill is finally available for discussion and digestion. A copy of the full bill, and a one-page list of talking points have been placed in a special file in the **Portal** (see above). This legislation features a three-year phase-in of the 3/8 cent sales tax increase, with an accompanying reduction of individual income taxes for all Iowans by zeroing out the lowest tax brackets proportionally to the increase in sales tax. As Kaufmann relayed, "The other water quality bill that is currently moving through the House is the skeleton, and this one provides the muscle!"

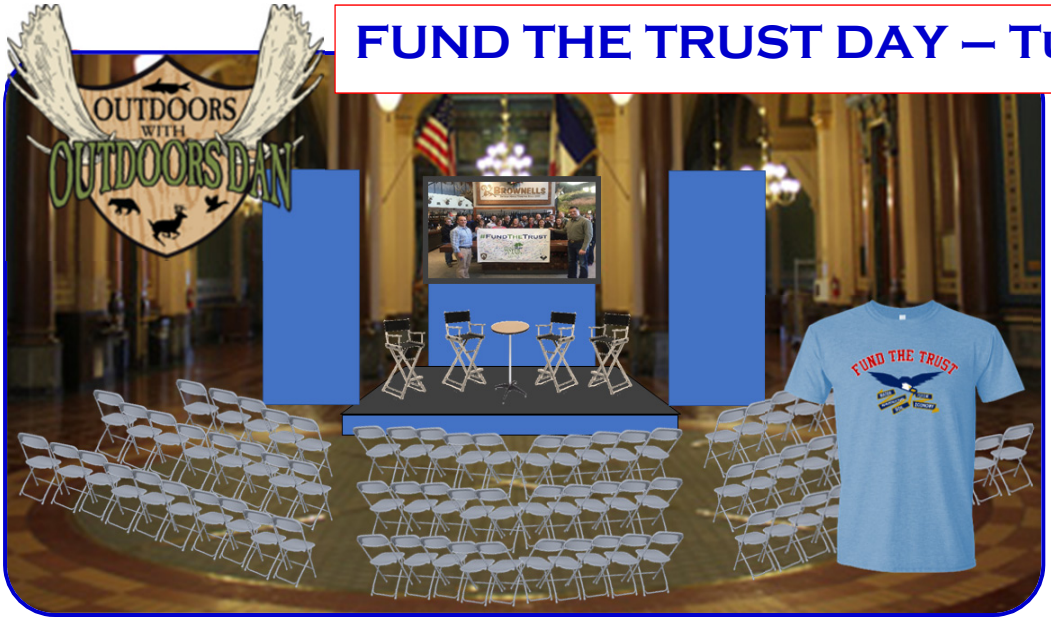
Look forward to revised (more focused) talking points to come out soon, and be sure to already be following up with your legislators with those banner picture letters, emails or phone calls. I have some examples of excellent email communications that a few Directors have shared with their legislators that I will be happy to share with you – just shoot me a note at countyparksiowa@gmail.com .

Just a HEADS-UP for the weeks ahead…. We will be targeting certain legislative districts for concentrated communications, roundtable discussion events, getting to legislative forums, etc. From our statewide footprint as leaders behind the grass roots efforts across Iowa – we are commencing with the final sprint, and we need to BRING IT ALL! Contacting legislators, letters to the editors, partnering/rallying local stakeholder organizations, motivating/educating local community leaders & elected officials – we are on the bubble!!

THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU for your months and years of advocacy, action, participation and perhaps most of all patience – I know that you all join me in the fervent hopes that this is finally going to happen – onward to victory! ☺

FUND THE TRUST DAY – TUESDAY, APRIL 11TH

(A.K.A. "IWILL Day" at the Capitol)



CAN COUNTY CONSERVATION MUSTER 100 SUPPORTERS??

An internal **IWILL Executive Committee** document lists over 50 stakeholder groups from across the state with a number attached to each that signifies the amount of supporters/advocates that organization can generate to attend the now **FUND THE TRUST DAY at the Capitol on April 11**. I am proud to see our CCB system in a 3-way tie at the top of the list at 100 participants! **WE CAN DO THIS!** In 2015, we brought over 125 to the Capitol for the IWILL Day at the Capitol (see below) – and it wasn't a "heavy lift" for us!

ALL who are planning to attend this year are being asked to **register via the RSVP link below** to the IWILL Coalition. This will ensure that there will be enough FREE lunch for everyone, and that you can order the correct-sized FREE commemorative T-shirt. Doors will open at 8:30 AM and there will be programming on the half-hour all day long until 2:00 PM! **Outdoors Dan** will be the emcee and on stage all day with guest trainers, speakers, advocates and leaders as you take advantage of your pre-arranged meetings with your legislators. We need a solid turn-out from our staff, board members, alumni and any local stake holders you can bring to the Capitol on this day! **THIS IS THE DAY- THIS IS OUR TIME TO MAKE THE DIFFERENCE – THIS IS OUR BEST CHANCE** to make this happen! **Directors** – this is also the day of the CCDA Legislative Retreat at Jester Park – a unique opportunity for you to have an incredibly productive day, evening and overall leadership experience!

The **WISE Solution** will have had almost 4 weeks of discussion, banter and debate by this time - so a strong showing by ALL organizations, and engaging discussions with legislators may actually be the final push it takes to move to the Governor's desk. Again – this task in front of us is the most important and effective conservation/natural resources legislation to be considered in the past century – collectively, we can make it happen. Sitting on your hands at home – thinking "someone else can do this lifting", will not make this casually happen on its' own. Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 11th and join us, along with HUNDREDS of other natural resource professionals, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, trail advocates, tourism supporters and those who are striving to preserve a better Iowa for the generations to come! ☺ ***The finish line could be right in front of us……***

RSVP TO ATTEND: http://www.iowaswaterandlandlegacy.org/take-action/join-us-capitol/

Take A Legislator Fishing Weekend June 2-4

Just a thought…..why not take advantage of Iowa's "Free Fishing Weekend", on which many of you have some sort of fishing clinics or derbies - and invite your elected officials to join you. Bringing their families / grandchildren out with them is a great way to engage them with the out-of-doors, experience your outdoor programming, and build rapport and support for county conservation?! *(Thanks to **Larry Stone**, Board Member for the **Clayton CCB** for sharing this idea with the rest of us!)* ☺

EMAIL SCOOP OF PORTAL CONTACTS COMPLETED

FYI – We are now utilizing emails scooped from the **Portal Contacts** on March 14th for our email communications. It was good to see a slight up-tick in the total numbers harvested. If you are not receiving these communications directly, or add a new employee/board member – please notify IACCB directly to get individuals added to the email pool for this quarter. The next update from a Portal scoop can be anticipated towards the end of June……thanks! ☺

IACCB EMAIL SYSTEM TO CHANGE IN UPCOMING MONTHS

Like many companies, and even state agencies – IACCB will be migrating to a new Google Business-based email system over the summer (slow season for us) months. We have experienced increasing problems with our current patchwork system that has been pieced together over the past 6 years….so it is time to make a switch. During this transition, you may see more emails coming from a countyparksiowa@gmail.com address – which seems to have less conflicts with some of you than the addresses we utilize with a "mycountyparks.com" extension. We hope to have an all-new system that will incorporate affiliate groups (CCDA, CCPOA, IAN, IACCBE and AFIRM) as well as other individuals/organizations……all with a mycountyparks **.org** extension which will separate us somewhat from our website "**.com**" operations. Stay tuned……we are hoping that this will all be seamless for everyone!? ☺

WHERE is the Lake Sturgeon "OSCAR"??

O.K. – who doesn't like a good mystery!? Any of you that had been to Springbrook Conservation Education Center between 1973 and say….2013, may have had an encounter with the mounted 5'2" lake sturgeon "Oscar". She had a place of honor on the wall in the dining hall at Springbrook for decades. The storied history of Oscar dates back to 1925 when she was a gift to the Iowa Conservation Commission from the State of Wisconsin. In 1926, the ICC built the aquarium at the Iowa State Fair, and Oscar secured star billing in the Junker Tank #1 – a spot she maintained until her passing in 1953. A few years ago, the staff at Springbrook gave her away. They vaguely remember it was to a County Conservation Board but not which one. The DNR is wondering if Oscar still exists and if she does - where she is at. They're not looking to get her back, just to know where she is located, and that the people who have her know that they have a special piece of Iowa fisheries history. If you know where Oscar is at, please contact **Vance Polton**, Iowa DNR Fisheries Management at: Vance.Polton@dnr.iowa.gov

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

JOBS

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

1. **IOWA Co. – Executive Director**
2. **BOONE Co. – Executive Director**
3. **MARSHALL Co. – Maintenance Technician**
4. **CLAYTON Co. – Office Manager**
5. **HAMILTON Co. – Park Ranger**
6. **TEMPORARY POSITIONS – 80+ opportunities listed on website**

mycountyparks.com

Full Time Employment

Seasonal/Part-Time