



Happy Holidays

Iowa's County Conservation System

mycountyparks.com

Volume 63

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Newsletter

As 2021 marches to a close – we can look back on a successful, though very interesting year for Iowa's County Conservation System.... ICCS would like to thank each and every one of you for your participation, support and engagement with the finest CCB system in the country! We consistently call upon each other to share our victories and failures, to consult collectively on new challenges that have emerged, and to explore the wisdom of those who would mentor the newest or most-seasoned amongst us. It has been an honor to spend time in the pilot house of this wonderful fleet of CCBs with the talented cadre of staff, board members, volunteers and stakeholders who are the heart and soul of this incredible Iowa industry! Our joint successes have cemented our resolve to continue, we know we don't have to do this by ourselves.....**You are simply just the BEST!**

TOM

SAVE THE DATES:

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

mycountyparks.org

- * Jan. 7-8 - REAP Congress – Iowa State Capitol
- * Jan. 13 – District 1 Mtg. – Carroll CCB
- * Jan. 25-27, 2022 – 2022 WINTERFEST – Coralville
- * Feb. ___ - ICCS Board of Directors Mtg. (TBA)
- * Mar. 10-11 – Spring ISAC /CCDA Meeting – D. M.

Indicates Online Registration Available



2022 ICCS Fall Conference
September 13-15, 2022
Doorway to the Driftless
Dubuque, IA

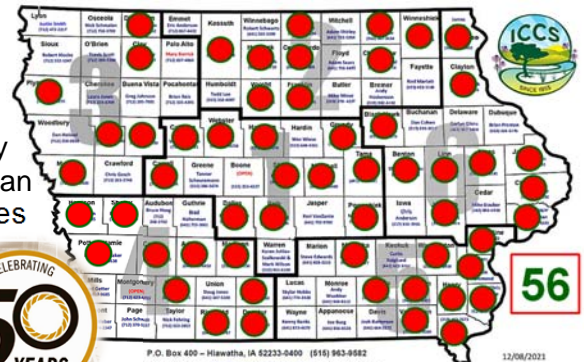
WINTERFEST 2022 REGISTRATION DEADLINES IN EARLY JANUARY!

- January 4th – Lodging Block Cut-off at Hyatt-Regency!
- January 11th – Registration Closes for Employees!

As of today's writing, we have **253 employees registered representing 56 CCBs** – numbers are climbing nicely with a little over 3 weeks remaining to the registration deadline!**great numbers & room to accommodate many more!** ☺ Don't forget to be thinking of items that might be hanging around your CCB that would make a great item to **donate to the IACCBE raffle** at Winterfest! Each CCB District across the state is also building a custom bag toss, and the three sets of two platforms will also be a part of that raffle!



The **Winterfest Planning Committee** has been hard at work behind the scenes to ensure that your Winterfest 2022 experience will be a worthy investment of your time and energy. Combining an awesome mix of educational learning experiences with great networking opportunities will make this **50th Annual** winter gathering another historic event not to miss! Make sure that your CCB staff doesn't miss out! ☺



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

IACCBE@mycountyparks.org

(515) 963-9582

mycountyparks.com

P.O. Box 400 – Hiawatha, IA 52233-0400 (515) 963-9582
Tom Hazelton, CEO – IACCBE@mycountyparks.com (515) 521-9692 (cell)

12/08/2021

WELCOME! NEW DIRECTORS

Over the past several weeks, we have welcomed both familiar and some new faces to CCB Director positions across the state. A hearty ICCS *“Welcome Aboard!”* to the following new leaders: **Katie Healy** (Boone), **Justin Smith** (Lyon), **Nick Buseman** (Grundy), **Chad Humpal** (Chickasaw) and **Justin Spunaugle** (Montgomery). We are also awaiting announcements from **Palo Alto** and **Lee CCBs** following their recruitment and selection processes! *Congrats & best wishes to these new Directors and their CCBs!*



CCB Directors receive a REAP Update – Summer ISAC 2016

mycountyparks.com PORTAL

CONTACTS

FILES

JOBS

BEST PRACTICES

MY ACCOUNT

EMAIL HARVEST ON-TAP for end of January! Just *your FINAL friendly reminder* that we will be in the **CONTACTS** section of the Portal towards the end of January for the next harvest of email addresses for our communications. Please be sure to get in there prior to that time to update your listings with new staff or Board Members, delete ones that are no longer with your CCB, and ensure that everyone remaining is current and accurate! These listings are used by ICCS, Districts and Divisions for communications – THANKS in advance for your updating!!



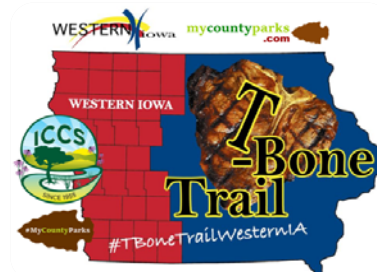
College Students receiving advice and evaluation of their resumes from CCB professionals at Winterfest 2016

COLLEGIATE DAY RESUME REVIEWERS

We can still use a couple more of you stalwart experienced interviewers! Our college students are lining up for the ever-expanding **Collegiate Day & Resume Review Session at Winterfest 2022!** Students from ISU, UIU, UNI, Central, Luther, Ellsworth and Kirkwood are heading to Winterfest 2022! You will be needed for approx. ½ hour starting around **11:40 AM on Wednesday, January 26th** – just prior to the luncheon. The students just can't pass up this great opportunity to have what is perhaps their very first resume critiqued by an actual industry professional! If you have had some experience in this arena – *please step up!* Contact **Tom Hazelton** at IACCB@mycountyparks.org – more information & pointers will be forthcoming!

WESTERN IOWA CCBs – STAY TUNED!

We had a recent conversation with **JayJay Goodvin** (of Iowa City) about his planning efforts for the **“T-Bone Trail” Tour 2022** - his warm-recreation season trek to all counties within **Iowa's Western Tourism Region**. He has your contact information and will be getting in touch with each CCB in the weeks ahead as he puts more specifics on his calendar. Inasmuch as Iowa Tourism is promoting healthy life style family adventures to parks and trails – the **T-Bone Tour** hopes to feature as many county parks as possible. Most of his visits will be on weekdays – so if you have space in a cabin/campground that you can donate to the adventure – you just can't buy the great advertising you will receive! *Thanks for assisting with this great Iowa promotion!*



mycountyparks.com ROLLING OUT THE NEW - IN JANUARY!

A couple of long-awaited new features will be going “live” on our **MyCountyParks.com** website in early January! Months of development, testing and review have gone into this process – looking to have a seamless and uneventful launch in the upcoming weeks! An all-new **“Guest Checkout”** and an **administrative Q.R. Code generator** will highlight this rollout, along with several minor adjustments to other functionalities & administration. 😊

These will effectively culminate nearly 4 years of planned development, renovations and expansion in an effort to keep pace with the ever-changing rules & demands from E-commerce and cyber security technological operations. The “punch list” of 43 items is now completed, and we can now THINK BIG toward the anticipated major renovations and additional features in late 2022 and into 2023. Late 2022 will also bring us to dedicated staffing onboard with ICCS to handle the day-to-day operations, training and networking of the now over 410 administrators working on the website across all 99 CCBs. This will also include the build-out of the remaining 340+ parks, trails and other areas across the system which yet to have a presence on the website. *Pretty awesome to contemplate all that is yet to come!* 😊



Sign In

Username: JOE CUSTOMER

Password: *****

Log In

Forgot your username, password or need to re-activate your account?

Don't have an account?

Please take a moment to fill out our registration form. Once registered, you will gain access to additional features and functions throughout the site. Your information is safe.

Create an Account

Continue without creating an account?

Click here to explore the website and place order without registration or login.

Continue as Guest



50	12/27/2021	Wright
51	1/3/2022	Cedar
52	1/10/2022	Fayette
53	1/17/2022	Ida
54	1/24/2022	Jones
55	1/31/2022	Keokuk

WE'VE MADE IT HALF-WAY!!



- MyCountyParks.com

The last posting for 2021 will be about **WRIGHT CCB** next weekend – **County #50!!** This will also wrap-up our 34 – week celebration of the “Class of 1958” (CCBs established in '58) – the single most robust year of CCB creation. Then it is on to the 12-county Class of 1960, starting alphabetically with Cedar the first weekend of January 2022! ☺ Along the way, we have posted over **1,085** of only THE BEST photos of what we do, and have hosted some **317,076** visitors to our parade of county conservation boards – **WooHoo!** For those of you “On Deck”.....this is the perfect time for you to get your pictures and comments into ICCS so that there is no final rush to the finish line for you. Sharing links to a **Google File or Dropbox** have proven to be the best mechanisms for getting your photos to us in bulk, and please – we ask that YOU pre-sort the 20-25 of your best to send! ☺ (No photo-dumps of myriads!) We are looking forward to the next 50-weeks of showcasing more history, pictures and connections of and about the finest county conservation system in the nation! Thanks again for all the assistance. **Questions?** – IACCB@mycountyparks.org

Two CCB Director Retirement Events! - Thursday December 30th



KEVIN WILLIAMS, GRUNDY CCB DIRECTOR

Kevin Williams, long time **Grundy CCB Director** will be retiring at the end of 2021. Kevin has been with Grundy County since 1980 and the Director since 1994. The Grundy County Conservation Board and staff will be hosting retirement sendoff for Kevin at the **Grundy County Heritage Museum** located at 204 4th street in Morrison on **December 30th from 2pm – 6pm**. Join the GCCB in showing their appreciation and send him off on his next journey. **Atta-Boy, Kevin!**

BRIAN MOORE, CHICKASAW CCB DIRECTOR

Veteran **Chickasaw CCB Director, Brian Moore** will be retiring at the end of the year – following 37 years in conservation and 31 as the CCCB Director. The Chickasaw County Conservation Board and Staff will be hosting a gathering at Twin Ponds Nature Center for Brian's retirement from **1-3 PM on Thursday, December 30** – and invite you to join them in wishing him well as his next life chapter unfolds! Twin Ponds Center is located at 1811 240th St, Ionia, IA 50645. **CONGRATS, Brian!** ☺



“You don't need to practice social distancing from Mother Nature: Enjoy Iowa's County Parks!”



- Full Time
- Seasonal/Part-Time

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

1. **WOODBURY Co. – Asst. Resource Manager**
2. **PLYMOUTH Co. – Park Ranger**
3. **CLAYTON Co. – Park Ranger/Maint. Technician**
4. **CHEROKEE Co. – Office/Natural Assistant**
5. **POLK Co. – Conservation Laborer - Construction**
6. **SEASONAL POSITIONS – 17+ opportunities listed on website**



12/20/2021

And what is your **99 PARKS** backpack bringing you this holiday season?