



SAVE THE DATES:

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



- * **Mar. 31** – Deadline for CCPOA Training 2B Done
- * **April 11** – Denise Straw Retirement Open House
- * **April 17** – Ben Van Gundy Memorial
- * **April 22** – ICCS Alumni Welcome Back Zoom!
- * **April 27-28** – Iowa Tourism Conference
- * **May 19** – ISAC Webinar About CCB System
- * **May 20** – ICCS Board of Directors Meeting
- * **Aug. 25-27** – ISAC Annual Conference – TBA
- * **Oct. 4-6** – CCPOA 35th Annual Wksp. & Anniv.
- * **Jan. 25-27, 2022** – The WINTERFEST 2022!!

Indicates Online Registration Available

2021 ICCS 65th Anniversary +1 Fall Conference
September 15-17, 2021
Ames, IA



Newsletter

Volume 62

Issue No. 9

March 25, 2021

Coming in May 2021!

The **May 2021 Edition of *The Iowa County Magazine*** (produced by ISAC) will be featuring Iowa's County Conservation System! The "**Exploring Iowa's County Parks**" focus will highlight the CCB role and impact of Outdoor Recreation during COVID – specifically the benefits, challenges and quality of life that CCBs provided to all Iowans these past 12 months. This will be a full color edition featuring many of the great pictures you have been sending in over the past couple of years. Our CCDA is partnering with ISAC and ICCS to provide articles, data and pictures for this production – *yet another great chance to showcase our CCB system across the state!*

You may remember the February 2017 edition of *The Iowa County* was all about county conservation too – with that issue focusing on the need to Fund the Trust, and other funding challenges that counties were facing. This issue will also reach into that arena – with more conversations about lack of grant programs and other supplemental funding sources.

To coincide with this issue of the Iowa County, ISAC will also be hosting a webinar about the County Conservation System as featured in the magazine on **Wednesday, May 19th beginning at 1:00 PM**. Matt Cosgrove (Webster), CCB representative on the ISAC Board of Directors and Tom Hazelton will be coordinating this effort, and are very much looking forward to telling your stories through both the magazine and webinar! ☺



Fall Conference Registration!

Registration for the **2021 ICCS 65+1 Anniversary Fall Conference** this September in Ames **has been re-opened!** Thanks to the Story CCB and Ames CVB for working with ICCS to get things kick-started!



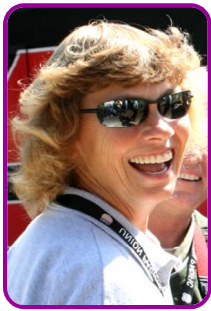
The **2021 Conference Planning Committee** has resumed regular meetings, and the updated Conference Program was released today to be in conjunction with the registration system opening up. FYI – There are eight CCBs (*Des Moines, Polk, Linn, Harrison, Webster, Benton, Louisa & Howard*) that have paid registrations "on the books" from 2020 – if you need to refresh your memories about those – just let Tom know. We are looking forward to seeing you all IN-PERSON this fall, and also expecting to see a somewhat robust number of CCB Alumni to join us – now in our 66th year of Iowa's CCB system!

GET REGISTERED HERE: <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>

IACCB@mycountyparks.org

(515) 963-9582

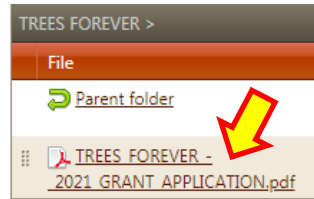
mycountyparks.com



DENISE STRAW, CHICKASAW CCB TO RETIRE

Bon Voyage Open House – Twin Ponds Nature Center – Sun., April 11 – 2:00 to 4:00 PM

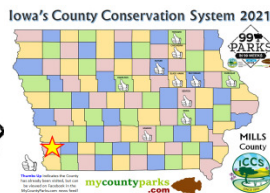
Join the Chickasaw CCB Staff and Board as they host a retirement open house for long-time CCCB employee, **Denise Straw**. Denise has also left her mark on several statewide organizations – including leadership roles with **IACCBE**, **AFIRM** and most recently on the **ICCS** State Board of Directors. We certainly wish Denise all the best as she begins this next chapter of life, and extend our gratitude for her dedicated years of service to the Chickasaw County Conservation Board and Iowa's County Conservation System! CONGRATS on your retirement!



FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR TREE SEEDLINGS!

We have funding to purchase seedlings and would love to partner on projects that are planned or happening soon to help stretch dollars and resources! As we head into spring and the 2021 planting season, I wanted to share with you a grant program that we have for seedling trees. Through this program we are able to partner with organizations to do seedling planting projects on publicly accessible land all throughout Iowa. We are able to cost share on the purchase of seedlings, reimbursing up to \$1 per tree. There is no limit on the number of trees you can apply for, we will review applications as they are submitted and will continue to do so until we have awarded all of the grant funds. I have attached the application to this email. If you are planning a seedling planting please consider applying to the program. If you have questions, please let me know. And if you know of others that might be interested, please pass the application and my contact information on to them.

MORE INFO: Emily Swihart - eswihart@treesforever.org (The application for this grant program has been uploaded to a new "TREES FOREVER" file in the IACCB Portal)



3/29/2021	Mills	Pony Creek Park
4/5/2021	Mitchell	Interstate Park
4/12/2021	Page	Pierce Creek Rec. Area
4/19/2021	Polk	Jester Park
4/26/2021	Poweshiek	Diamond Lake Park
5/3/2021	Scott CCB	Scott County Park

- MyCountyParks.com

- Iowa'sCountyConservationSystem

99 COUNTIES IN 99 WEEKS – WEEK #11 IS NEXT WEEK!

Hard to believe that is already Week #11 in this nearly two-year marketing promotion – sure has been fun! **A shout-out to the staff from Marion CCB** (who was highlighted in week #10) for sending in the awesome photos and the bulk of the text that was utilized for our Facebook postings – sure makes it a bunch easier in this ICCS Office to have that level of support from the featured CCB for this effort! We have now surpassed the **90,000 "people reached" threshold** – hoping to hit the 100K milestone soon. ☺ Please note the short list above of the CCBs on tap over the next 6 weeks.....are your pages of MyCountyParks.com dressed up, refreshed and ready to go?! Thanks for all that you are doing to assist ICCS with this long-term undertaking – it is certainly making the difference! Any questions as the march through time continues – contact IACCB@mycountyparks.org



AWAITING THOSE SELFIE STATION SIGNS?

As we mentioned in the last newsletter – the seven or so CCBs that ordered new selfie station signs for 2021 can expect delivery of those sets-of-three sometime in mid-to-late April. Remember your cedar State of Iowa will come to you traced out on a plank with the branding completed, and it will be up to your talented staff to get them cut out and properly treated for outdoor use. ☺ Stay tuned for delivery options in the upcoming weeks!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR BEN VANGUNDY

As noted in the February ICCS Newsletter, Ben's family would be hosting a Celebration of Life for Ben later this spring. This has been scheduled for **10:00 AM on Saturday, April 17th at Cerro Gordo CCB's Lime Creek Nature Center** north of Mason City. Those planning to attend should contact Ben's wife Julie at jbvangundy@gmail.com. Cards and letters can be mailed to the family at: 12525 Dorchester Trail, Apple Valley, MN 55124. Contributions should be made to the conservation organization of your choice.





CCB ALUMNI ZOOM MEETING ON EARTH DAY 2021!

SAVE THE DATE! ICCS looks forward to hosting a morning “Coffee Chat” with any and all CCB alumni on **Thursday, April 22nd at 9:30 AM** (Central). For many of you – this may be a “Welcome Back” to County Conservation Event as we establish/launch a new CCB Alumni Division for the finest county conservation system in the nation! This one-hour online gathering will feature a short presentation and status update of ICCS Operations in 2021, and invitation to the 65th+1 Anniversary Celebration at the 2021 ICCS Fall Conference in Ames, and some general networking & story telling amongst the CCB Alumni present on the Zoom – should be a fun time to get caught up just a bit. Alumni should look forward to receiving an email from Hazelton next week with your opportunity to sign up to this event via our CCB online registration system so that we can get you the Zoom meeting link the week of the meeting. Very much looking forward to connect with you all once again in the days ahead! For more information or questions - IACCB@mycountyparks.org

CCPOA UPDATES – MARCH 2021

The **CCPOA Executive Committee** wishes to remind all officers to be **wrapping up their required in-service training for 2020 by March 31st** as outlined in previous email communications to you. This will realign your certifications to be on track and in sync for resuming normalized mandated training for 2021 at the **35th Annual CCPOA Fall Workshop** this October 4-6. Question should be routed to; CCPOA@mycountyparks.org CCPOA Officers should also be anticipating an email from the Division with a link to balloting for the delayed 2020 Election of Officers in the next couple of weeks. Look for more information on the Fall Workshop soon!



IOWA PRAIRIE CONFERENCE 2021

SAVE THE DATE – July 31 – August 1, 2021

The 2021 theme will be “Prairie Kinship” and hosted by the Iowa Prairie Network and the Iowa Prairie Conference Planning Committee. Virtual presentations will be on 7/31 with statewide prairie field trips on 8/1. More details will be forthcoming – and you can visit the Iowa Prairie Network website at: <https://www.iowaprairienetwork.org/>

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

mycountyparks.com

JOBS

- Full Time
- Seasonal/Part-Time



BELVA DEER LAKE CAMPGROUND - Keokuk CCB

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

1. POTTAWATTAMIE Co. – Promotions & Outreach Coord.
2. LOUISA Co. – Natural Resource Technician
3. POLK Co. – Assistant Naturalist
4. BLACK Hawk Co. – Conservation Maintenance I
5. DICKINSON Co. – Roadside Technician (PPT)
6. BENTON Co. – Conservation Technician
7. POLK Co. – Conservation Laborer, Construction
8. CLINTON Co. – Park Supervisor (Two Positions)
9. CHICKASAW Co. – Nat. Resources & Park Manager
10. CRAWFORD Co. – Nature Ctr. Asst. (PPT)
11. BUENA VISTA Co. – Nat. Resource Tech.
12. POTTAWATTAMIE Co. – Nat. Resource Tech.
13. CRAWFORD Co. – Park Technician
14. SEASONAL POSITIONS – 90+ opportunities listed on website



Where's your
99 PARKS
backpack
taking you
this year??



3/25/2021

