



# Newsletter

Volume 63  
Issue No. 3  
September 5, 2021

## 2021 ICCS FALL CONFERENCE – AT THE GATE!



## 2021 ICCS FALL CONFERENCE – READY TO ROLL!

**REGISTRATION HAS CLOSED!** Please note that masks will be required for all indoor activities if not engaged in active dining or beverages. Outdoor activities will remain “mask optional, but encouraged” at this time. THANKS to those of you that took advantage of purchasing your canoe & shotgun raffle tickets in advance - \$200 rolled in ahead of the conference - much appreciated.

Those of you participating in **pre-conference activities** should have already heard from Story CCB about your selected activity – be sure to contact them if you have any questions or changes in plans! **SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS:** A few more have trickled in – but we are still only at a total of 12 items, with 5 of those being from ICCS! 😊 We will continue to accept donation forms through the end of this week – Questions: [IACCB@mycountyparks.org](mailto:IACCB@mycountyparks.org)

We are very much looking forward to this 2021 fall conference – gathering in-person as best we can.....some 225+ have registered, and pre-conference events have good participation! **Story CCB** has done a marvelous job over the past TWO years to hold this event together – be sure to express your appreciation to them all in a short two weeks! 😊

## ICCS SELFIE STATION REVERB

Well...what we thought might be a sleepy little article on the *Guardian Magazine* webpage got picked up and placed in the 9/1 Edition of the *New York Post* (online); and, now we are working with the *Backpacker Magazine* with one of their editors that had never heard of a “selfie station” until having read about it in The Post’s article! Consequently, we can always use additional “stock” photos that you may have of your selfie stands in use, or pictures taken from them.

There will be a set of Selfie Station signs available in the ICCS Silent Auction at the Fall Conference – after that, our inventory is gone. If your CCB is interested in additional sets – we have started another list for orders....let us know! 😊



**LINK TO ARTICLE:** [https://nypost.com/2021/08/31/us-parks-hope-selfie-stations-can-help-prevent-deaths/?utm\\_source=url\\_sitebuttons&utm\\_medium=site%20buttons&utm\\_campaign=site%20buttons](https://nypost.com/2021/08/31/us-parks-hope-selfie-stations-can-help-prevent-deaths/?utm_source=url_sitebuttons&utm_medium=site%20buttons&utm_campaign=site%20buttons)



### US parks hope 'selfie stations' can help prevent deaths, overcrowding



### SAVE THE DATES:

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



- \* Sept. 8-10 – IRVM Conf. – Winneshiek Co.
- \* September 15-17 – ICCS Annual Fall Conference
- \* Oct. 4-6 – CCPOA 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Wksp. & Anniv.
- \* Oct. 20 – District 3 Mtg. – Clay CCB
- \* Oct. 27 – ICCS New CCB Employee School
- \* Oct. 28 – E-Commerce Summit, MCP - Johnston
- \* Nov. 3-5 – Fall IAN – Woodbury CCB
- \* Nov. 18 – District 4 Mtg. – Montgomery CCB
- \* Dec. 8 – District 3 Mtg. – Plymouth CCB
- \* Dec. 15 – District 6 Mtg. – (TBA)
- \* Jan. 25-27, 2022 – 2022 WINTERFEST - Coralville

Indicates Online Registration Available

**2021 ICCS 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary +1 Fall Conference**  
September 15-17, 2021  
Ames, IA



[IACCB@mycountyparks.org](mailto:IACCB@mycountyparks.org)

(515) 963-9582

**mycountyparks.com**

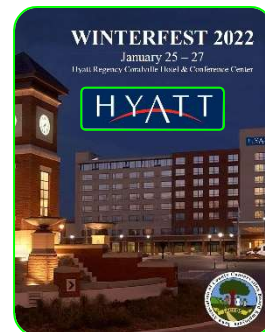


2022 Winterfest Planning Committee

## FIRMING UP WINTERFEST 2022

The Keynote presenters are onboard, concurrent session slots are filled, and the registration packet will soon be in production. Look for online registrations to be available in October. “It takes a village” to produce this event each year – and that group is the 24-person **IACCBE Winterfest Planning Committee!** **Kudos** to IACCBE President, **Brent Hansen (Polk)** for pulling the team together after a year of pandemic chaos and other challenges to get us to this “normal point” in the year to solidify the agenda! 😊

Representatives on the committee come from all 6 ICCS Districts, each ICCS Division and just some uniquely energized CCB employees who want to engage with the event! You will be very pleased with the fantastic conference experience that they are poised to roll out to you all in just a few weeks!!



## CCDA MEETS AT 2021 ISAC ANNUAL MEETING IN DES MOINES

Nearly 50 CCB Directors gathered in Des Moines on August 25-27 for the **2021 ISAC Annual Meeting**. Participants attended special training sessions provided by ISAC and other county affiliate groups as well as specific sessions provided directly for CCB Directors. Scott Nelson, Director for the Harrison CCB served as a panelist for the statewide discussion about the American Recovery Plan as the Harrison CCB recently received \$1M from their county’s ARP funding. Directors also participated in sessions about ICCS Updates, Stream Identification Grant Program, Human Resource Practices, IADNR Flood Plains-Permits, IADNR WRAC Grant Program, Nature Center Projects in Ringgold and Harrison CCBs, and Working with Your Boards. There were also several roundtable discussions on subjects of mutual interest, and most of all – unparalleled professional networking experience – was your Director there?

## 2021 ISAC EXCELLENCE IN ACTION AWARD TO WEBSTER CCB!

For their **Tiny House Project** - providing three tiny houses available for overnight lodging at Gypsum City Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park – the state’s largest OHV recreation destination. The Webster CCB partnered with Iowa Central Community College and the Fort Dodge Correctional Center with pilot program funding from the federal Second Chance Pell Grant Program. The CCB invested around \$12K per house for materials, supplies, equipment and delivery, and another \$5K for interior furnishings and exterior decking. Additional information about the houses, the award and project can be found on MyCountyParks.com and the September edition of the *ISAC Iowa County Magazine*. 😊



Touring the Tiny Houses were part of a District 1 meeting in October 2019.

Webster CCB Staff Natasha Nielsen and Director Matt Cosgrove measure the width of one of the Tiny Houses.

Cosgrove, Nielsen and Cody Peterson accept the ISAC Excellence in Action Award.

As noted to the CCB Directors who were at ISAC last week – some CCBs have been of AWESOME assistance with this long-term marketing effort, while others.....not so much 😞

To assist the 66 CCBs that remain within this two-year effort, we provide the “tip sheet” that was also shared with directors this past week – here to the right!

With just a bit of forethought, there is no need for this to be crisis-mgmt. with just days to go before your dates! Get your pictures and any text you wish to provide submitted in advance at your convenience - then all ICCS has to do is scoop and upload! 😊 As always - let us know if you have any questions, as well as where we can be of any assistance – thanks!



9/6/2021	Greene
9/13/2021	Grundy
9/20/2021	Hancock
9/27/2021	Hardin
10/4/2021	Humboldt

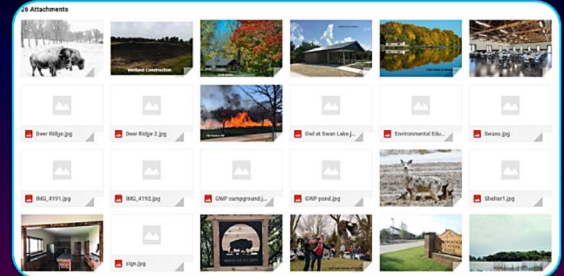


- MyCountyParks.com

## WEEK # 34 LAUNCHES 9/6!

### HOW CAN YOU BEST ASSIST ??

8/23/2021	Franklin	Maynes Grove
8/30/2021	Fremont	Fremont County Campground/Golf Course
9/6/2021	Greene	Spring Lake Park
9/13/2021	Grundy	Grundy County Lake
9/20/2021	Hancock	Crystal Lake Park
9/27/2021	Hardin	Calkins Nature Area
10/4/2021	Humboldt	Joe Sheldon Park
10/11/2021	Jackson	Spruce Creek Park
10/18/2021	Lee	Wilson Lake Park
10/25/2021	Linn	Pinicon Ridge Park
11/1/2021	Marshall	Green Castle Recreation Area
11/8/2021	Story	Hickory Grove Park
11/15/2021	Tama	Otter Creek Park
11/22/2021	Wayne	Lakeside Park
11/29/2021	Webster	Gypsum City OHV



**Carroll County Conservation**  
27 parks and recreation areas totaling 2,700 acres

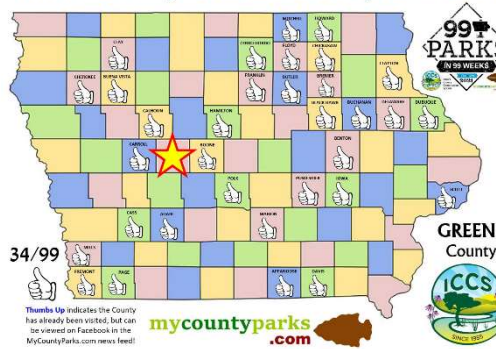
**Swan Lake State Park**

- 125 site campground with two modern shower houses and dump station.
- 2 playgrounds with sand volleyball and basketball court nearby
- 2 modern cabins: Bison View was new in 2020/Deer Ridge was a donated house we moved into the park in fall of 2018, remodeled into a “cabin” and opened for use in spring of 2019.
- Newly constructed east shelter house that we just opened in spring 2021
- Nature Center
- Environmental Education programming, summer camps, etc...

- **KNOW** your week of fame!
- **REVIEW** existing posts for ideas
- **PROVIDE** current & fresh pictures
- **PROVIDE** text information
- **PREPARE** your MCP home page!
- **ENSURE** links are not broken
- **SHARE, SHARE, SHARE** the post
- **ENGAGE** stakeholders to share
- **CONTACT** Tom with questions

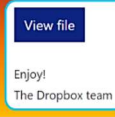
IACCB@mycountyparks.org

### Iowa's County Conservation System 2021



Thanks Up indicates the County has already been visited, but can be viewed on Facebook in the MyCountyParks.com news feed!

mycountyparks.com



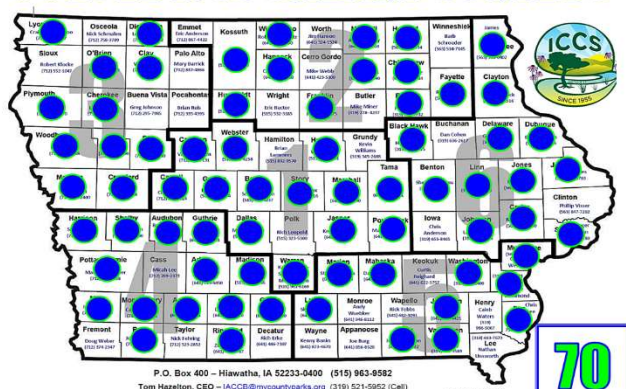
## FY2022 ICCS SALARY SURVEY – DUE 9/15!

**MUCH APPRECIATION for the 70 CCBs** that have turned

in their FY2022 Salary Survey already! The remainder of you have 10 days to get them in!!! Please don't make us chase you down...soooo unnecessary!

Once all 99 counties have returned this survey – the data is combined with 2021 REAP Certification Report Data and new census data, along with statewide levy data to provide you with an awesome digital tool for budget preparations, program comparisons, etc. The survey was sent out to everyone several weeks earlier than normal – so the DEADLINE should be easy to make?! 😊 Many thanks for your prompt attention to getting this task off your end-of-summer plate!

## FY2022 ICCS SALARY SURVEYS



P.O. Box 400 – Hiawatha, IA 52233-0400 (515) 963-9582  
Tom Hazelton, CEO – IACCB@mycountyparks.org (319) 521-9952 (Cell)

9/4/2021

70

## ICCS ANNUAL REPORT & ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

The **FY2021 ICCS Annual Report** and **2021 Annual Meeting Agenda** have been posted under the “**Conferences**” Tab on our MyCountyParks.org website!! There will be limited numbers of these documents available at the Annual Meeting, so we encourage you to get online to review them in advance – thanks!

The Report also includes the **ICCS FY2022 Approved Budget**, and a report on the operations of the MyCountyParks.com website. A synopsis of FY2021 operations will be presented on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at the 2021 Annual Meeting in conjunction with the fall conference in Ames. Thanks for joining us on this incredible 66-year journey! 😊

<https://www.mycountyparks.org/conferences.html>

Iowa's County Conservation System 2020  
**62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING**  
September 16, 2021 1:00 PM (approx.)  
Quality Inn Conference Center – Ames, IA

**AGENDA**

- CALL TO ORDER - Mark Shoemaker (Poltavskian CCB), President
- INTRODUCTIONS - **MINUTES OF THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETING**  
Mark Shoemaker (Poltavskian CCB), President
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- APPROVE AGENDA - **VOTE** mycountyparks.com
- APPROVE MINUTES - 11/24/2020, Annual Business Meeting - **VOTE**  
\*Minutes have been mailed to all members since Nov. 25, 2020.
- FINANCIAL REPORT & UPDATES - Tom Hazelton (ICCS)  
a. FY2021 Budget - Final Report  
b. FY2022 Approved Budget - **VOTE**  
c. Board/Staff Compensation - Iowa's County Conservation System in 2022
- NEW BUSINESS  
a. ICCS Board of Directors Recognition  
Tom Hazelton, CEO, ICCS  
b. FY2021 IHLA Habitat Improvement Awards  
c. 2022 ICCS Annual Conference - Hiawatha, IA (hosted by Poltava CCB)  
- September 13-16, 2022
- CALL TO THE AUDIENCE  
a. Discussion of any issues from the audience
- ADJOURNMENT  
a. Any additional announcements  
b. Motion for Adjournment

# ICCS/MCP.COM FALL SCHOOLS ON TAP!

Stoney Creek Conference Center – Johnston, IA

10/27 – 2021 New County Conservation Employee School

10/28 – 2021 MCP.com E-Commerce Summit

TWO DAYS of great networking and learning await participants in late October at these annual events! 😊 We already have 31 registrants from 16 CCBs registered for the **New CCB Employee School** and online registration has just gone live for the **MCP E-Commerce Summit**. Registration, agendas and additional information on both opportunities are available via the website link below.

In the event that some folks may be attending BOTH days, we have a room block for the night of 10/27 at the Stoney Creek - please touch base with Tom for additional information: [IACCB@MyCountyParks.org](mailto:IACCB@MyCountyParks.org)

Looking forward to seeing many of you at both of these great events!

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

	<p><b>2021 ICCS NEW EMPLOYEE SCHOOL</b></p> <p>Event: 10/27/2021 - 10/27/2021 Registration From: 08/01/2021 - 10/22/2021</p> <p>ALL NEW EMPLOYEES, who have not attended from the past couple of</p>
	<p><b>2021 MCP.com E-COMMERCE SUMMIT</b></p> <p>Event: 10/28/2021 - 10/28/2021 Registration From: 09/01/2021 - 10/22/2021</p> <p>Whether a veteran of MyCountyParks.com or someone interested in exp</p>



**SINCE 1985**

## CCPOA 35th +1 Annual Fall Workshop and Business Meeting

Event: 10/04/2021 - 10/06/2021  
Registration From: 08/19/2021 - 09/16/2021

The 35th year +1 anniversary Banquet is here!! Picture year as well! And top notch training!

**County Conservation Peace Officers** will gather in early October for the first time since the start of the pandemic. This 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop will provide the necessary mandated training to get all the membership back on track with state law requirements. Sessions include: Daytime & Subdued Lighting Firearms Training, New Officer Orientation, State of Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Fish/Game/Parks Legal Updates, Mandated ILEECF Training, Mandated HAZMAT Training, Mental Health and Resiliency, Detecting Danger, CCPOA Business Meeting, Group Pic and the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet.

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

**ONLINE REGISTRATION  
NOW AVAILABLE  
THRU SEPTEMBER 16TH!**



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# IACCBE SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

**IACCBE** – your statewide ICCS Division representing ALL CCB employees is seeking the following candidates: **1) Vice President** – Serves for three years as Vice President, President and Past President; and **2) IACCBE Representative to the ICCS Board of Directors** – Serves a three-year term and eligible for a second three-year term. Employees interested in these positions may contact **current IACCBE Leadership** for additional information, position descriptions, questions, etc.

**President** – Brent Hansen (Polk CCB) - [brent.hansen@polkcountyiowa.gov](mailto:brent.hansen@polkcountyiowa.gov)

**Vice President** – Brett Backhaus (Worth CCB) - [brett.backhaus@worthcounty.org](mailto:brett.backhaus@worthcounty.org)

**Secretary/Treas.** - Joni Hefley (Webster CCB) - [jhefley@webstercountyia.org](mailto:jhefley@webstercountyia.org)



## DISTRICTS 2, 3 & 4 MEET IN AUGUST

Three of our Districts held in-person regional meetings in Aug. and all had excellent attendance – a brief synopsis follows:

**AUG. 11 – District 2 at Frank Gotch Park, Humboldt CCB:** The District 2 Business meeting & CCB Updates, ICCS Report, and Active Shooter (ALICE) Training. Thanks to **Todd Lee and the HCCB Staff** for the hospitality & networking opportunity!

**AUG. 18 – District 3 at the Prairie Woods Nature Center in Oak Grove Park, Sioux CCB:** The District 3 Business meeting & CCB Updates, ICCS Report, ARP Funding Discussion, Tours of new Cabins at the Big Sioux Recreation Area and the SCCB Custom Seeding Program. Thanks to **Rob Klocke and the SCCB Staff** for their preparation, hospitality & orchestration!

**AUG. 19 – District 4 at Breezy Lodge in Arrowhead Park, Pottawattamie CCB:** The District 4 Business Meeting, ICCS Report, “School of the Wild”, Land Management at Arrowhead, Arrowhead Obstacle Run Event, Shower house & Pedestrian Bridge Tours, New Cabin Tours – Thanks to **Mark Shoemaker & PCCB Staff** for scrambling to arrange a replacement meeting with short notice – much appreciated by all District 4 participants!



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

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**JOBS**

**mycountyparks.com**

■ Full Time  
■ Seasonal/Part-Time

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

1. POLK Co. – Youth Corps Coordinator
2. BOONE Co. – Executive Director
3. WOODBURY Co. – Asst. Resource Manager
4. PLYMOUTH Co. – Park Ranger
5. CLAYTON Co. – Park Ranger/Maintenance Tech.
6. CHEROKEE Co. – Office/Naturalist Assistant
7. POLK Co. – Conservation Laborer – Construction
8. SEASONAL POSITIONS – 10+ opportunities listed on website



9/5/2021



Webster County CONSERVATION

Camping Yurts at Kennedy Park



Scenic Vista from deck at Gotch State Park



And where is your **99 PARKS** backpack taking you to this month?