

Cass Co. Cons. Bd
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24th Halloween Hike

We are excited to announce The "Unhuggables" Halloween Hike! Follow a trail where the "unhuggables" will meet you! It is NEVER too late to volunteer! So much goes into this event and we have a great foundation of volunteers that help EVERY year! This event is a great NON-SCARY, Family Friendly, FREE hike into the night! Please help us make it a success! We are in need of:

Actors

Tour Guides

Face Painters

Treat Makers

Call our office ASAP to get involved! 712-769-2372!

Also, Check out the event in the upcoming events section for more information!

People Making a Difference...

Thank you to **Barb Chase** for your assistance throughout the year with the Conservation Quarterly newsletter mailings!

A continued thanks to **Dean Downer and Sue Rodgers** for being our Caretakers of Outdoor Educational Classroom and Hitchcock House respectively!

Thank you to **SOAR**, for coming and doing a raptors program for Breakfast with the birds!

E-Newsletter!

Save a tree, email Lora at lkanning@casscoia.us and let her know to add your email to get the email/PDF version of the Conservation Quarterly!

Cass County Conservation on Facebook & Pinterest!

Search [Cass County Conservation](#) and "like" us on Facebook! Easy way to keep up on events and wildlife sightings around Cass County! Get creative with us on Pinterest as @ [casscountyacon](#).

Cass County Conservation Board Members

Phil Pryzchodzin- Massena
Rich Govig- Lewis
Duane Curtis- Cumberland
Luanne Steffens- Griswold
Jerry Hudson- Lewis

Swan Contest

Trumpeter Swans have visited the Schildberg Quarry for, at least, eighteen out of the last nineteen winters. Most Trumpeter Swans migrate farther south for the winter in search of open water and food. Because of the depth of Atlantic's Schildberg Quarry, and the large number of wading waterfowl, it remains open year round, making it possible for the swans to stay. Arrival and departure dates of the swans have been as follows:

1997/1998 December 18 – January 2
1998/1999 Nothing on record
1999/2000 December 25 – February 15
2000/2001 November 23 – March 6
2001/2002 December 25 – February 24
2002/2003 November 23 – March 15
2003/2004 November 26 - March 21
2004/2005 November 25 – March 18



In this Issue:

Upcoming Events

Swan Recap

Continued from front page...

2005/2006 November 17 – March 5
2006/2007 October 30 – March 9
2007/2008 November 22- February 14
2008/2009 November 18- March 12
2009-2010 November 19 - January 5
2010-2011 November 5 – February 10
2011/2012 November 17 – February 21
2012/2013 November 24– March 4
2013/2014 November 12- April 7
2014/2015 November 11- April 6
2015/2016 November 22- March 24
2016/2017 November 19- March 9

The Cass County Conservation Board is asking you...When do you think the first Trumpeter Swan will arrive at the Schildberg Quarry? Please call in your prediction (by November 10th) to the Conservation Board at 712-769-2372, leave a message and return phone number if we are not in. Duplicate dates will not be allowed. For example, if a caller predicts November 25th, no one else will be allowed to predict that arrival date. So, call anytime until November 10th to make your prediction! One prediction per family, please. The sponsors of this contest will determine the official arrival of more than 6 trumpeter swans to Lake 4. The winner will receive a Trumpeter Swan 8x10 print from the Cass County Conservation Board. Sorry, this contest is only for residents of Cass County.

Trumpeter Swan Recap

Our unmarked Trumpeter Swans returned to Massena again this year. The pair started out with five cygnets but they lost 1 by the end of July. At Schildberg Recreation Area last winter we had RECORD year! An average of 50 visiting, and the most on one day was 150 on December 28th 2016! We were over 100 swans for twenty days straight! We are excited that the reintroduction efforts are going well but we know they can still struggle. This past winter was a rough one, we did have 2 swans sick with an undetermined illness. They both perished on the ice, one we were able to retrieve, take the body to Ames, but we still haven't heard of the determination on that one. SOAR- Saving our avian resources, brought us an adult swan recovering from lead poisoning, we "think" that might be the adult who has hungout all summer on Lake 4. The new set of swan flappers have been installed on the powerline spans near the railroad tracks between lake 3 and 4. Thank you to AMU for installing them.

Mark your Calendars

Don't forget the Great Backyard Bird Count in February 2018!
2018 is also the year we offer our Sandhill Crane Trip to Nebraska! Stay tuned!

Upcoming Events



Denotes an Oak Stroller approved event!



Halloween Hike The "Unhuggables"

Saturday, October 28th

Sunnyside Park, Camblin Addition, Atlantic

7:00 PM—Last group departs at 8:10 PM

You will follow a trail where your "unhuggables" will meet you! It is not our intent to scare or frighten anyone, but to educate and entertain people of all ages! After the hike enjoy tasty treats, warm drinks and bonfire! MUST CALL FOR YOUR FREE RESERVATIONS AT 712-769-2372. Leave your name, # of people in your group, Phone # and time you wish to depart on you hike.



Bird House Workshop

Saturday November 11th at 1 PM

Outdoor Educational Classroom, Massena

Learn all about making bird houses! Make and take a bird house home for a suggested donation! Fun for all ages, children must be accompanied by adult. Suggested donations for House Wren house \$8, Bluebird \$8, and Kestrel/screech owl house \$10. Pre-registration is requested by November 6th call 769-2372!



Natural Holiday Decorating

Saturday, December 2nd 12:30 PM

Atlantic Public Library Community Room

Back by popular demand, make and take home keepsakes. New crafts, decorate with nature, and all skill levels welcome! FREE, Pre-register by November 30th call 769-2372.

Soiree with the Swans



Saturday, January 6, 2018 at

Schildberg Recreation Area 11:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. in case of no swans or bad weather it will be held at the Atlantic Public Library Community Room 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Presentations will be every half hour with the last presentation will be at 2 p.m.

All Cass County Programs are FREE unless otherwise stated! Donations for programs are accepted.