



Conservation Quarterly

Cass County Conservation Board



Spring 2012

Camping Season updates

The Cass County Conservation Board no longer is managing the Cocklin Fish Farm north of Griswold. The Griswold City Council voted last fall to take back over managing the park as of January 2012. All maintenance and care of the park, as well as camping and shelter reservations are done now by the City of Griswold. If you would like to reserve a shelter or camp at the Cocklin Fish Farm please contact the City of Griswold at 712-778-2615. The CCCB is still managing and maintaining all of its other parks if you would like to camp or make shelter reservations at Cold Springs Park, please call 712-769-2372.

We are looking forward to another busy camping season in our parks and look forward to seeing everyone this spring and summer.

Results of 2012 Great Backyard Bird Count

Cass County Birders Are 2nd in the State... Cass County was once again very well represented by submitting 78 checklists in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)! Adel had 1st place again this year with 146 checklists, with Des Moines at our heels with 72 checklists! We beat Adel the number of species reported we had 43, they only had 42. Though Sioux City had the highest 53 species reported. The GBBC is a national bird count sponsored by the National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Since 2002 the Cass County Conservation Board has advertised this bird count throughout the county encouraging citizens to participate. Typically participants submit their checklists on the internet, however, for those that are not comfortable using computers, the Conservation Board collects the data and enters the checklists for them. The Conservation Board also visits the Atlantic High School each year to encourage students to participate in the count. Congratulations Cass County on a wonderful response! You can explore the results at www.birdsource.org/gbbc/.

Cass County Results

| <u>Town</u> | <u># of Checklists Submitted</u> | <u># of Species Reported</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Anita | 3 | 23 |
| Atlantic | 78 | 43 |
| Cumberland | 0 | |
| Griswold | 2 | 13 |
| Lewis | 3 | 12 |
| Marne | 1 | 13 |
| Massena | 2 | 8 |
| Wiota | 3 | 15 |

More results: Only 74 Ring-necked Pheasants individuals were counted in Iowa. 953 Bald Eagle individuals were counted and that is up from 507 from last year. 16 of them were counted in Cass County.



Summer Camps



The Cass County Conservation Board has joined with the Cass County ISU Extension Office to sponsor summer camps for the youth of Cass County. These camps were developed to give children a chance to have fun exploring and learning about nature. Registration fee is \$10 includes a t-shirt. If you have questions, please call Lora at 769-2372 or Susan at 243-1132.

Registration Information:

- ◆ The Atlantic school system will register on Registration Night, May 15th and 16th from 6:00-8:00p.m. at the Washington School Gym.
- ◆ All other county school systems will have forms passed out to school children in May that will explain the registration process.
- ◆ If your children are home schooled, please call 243-1132 for registration information.

Atlantic Schools ~Deadline May 16th!

K-2nd Grade: Dig Those Dinosaurs

For children that have completed kindergarten, 1st, or 2nd grade

Location for both days is at Sunnyside Park

Dig Those Dinosaurs I: May 23rd-24th (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.) OR

Dig Those Dinosaurs II: May 23rd-24th (1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.)

3rd-5th Grade: Water Wonders

For children that have completed 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade

May 25th at Sunnyside Park (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)



CAM Schools



Deadline May 16th!

K-2nd Grade: Dig Those Dinosaurs

for children that have completed kindergarten, 1st, or 2nd grade.

May 30th and 31st at Lake Anita (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

3rd-5th Grade: Water Wonders

For children that have completed 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade.

June 1st at Lake Anita (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

Griswold Comm. Schools

Deadline May 23rd!

K-2nd Grade: Dig Those Dinosaurs

For children that have completed Kdg, 1st, or 2nd grade.

June 6th and 7th at Cold Springs Park (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

3rd-5th Grade: Water Wonders

For children that have completed 3rd, 4th, or 5th,grade.

June 8th at Cold Springs Park (10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.)

Cass County Conservation Board Update!

Since our last newsletter we have had a change on our conservation board. Phil Rink completed his term. We thank Phil for his years of service! Luanne Steffens steps on as our new board member. Our board and the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards would like to recognize Ken Lawton for his 20 years of service on our Conservation board. We would also like to remind our readers that the conservation board meets monthly. Those meetings are the third Thursday of every month at our Cold Springs offices at 5PM.

On our Hitchcock House Advisory board Bernice Ihrke completed her term. We welcome Mary Hoegh to the Advisory board.

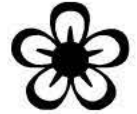
Pictured from Left to Right Ken Lawton, Luanne Steffens, Duane Curtis, and John Curry. Not Pictured Bob Muldoon.



E- Newsletter!

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

Upcoming Conservation Events



Wildflower Walk

Saturday, April 28th- 9AM

Pellett Memorial Woods

Join our Naturalist for a hike to locate the early spring Wildflowers.

Cass County Bicycle Expo

Monday, April 30th– 7 PM –8:30PM

Cass County Community Center

Mark Wyatt, Executive Director of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition is the guest speaker and he will speak on hiking and biking trail development in Iowa. Door prizes of bicycles, bicycle helmets, and bicycle accessories will be given to people attending.

Hitchcock Pioneer Skills Festival- The 19th annual Pioneer Skills Festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 5th. Come visit the famous Hitchcock House (a National Landmark and former stop on the Underground Railroad) just west of Lewis and see tin punching, rope-making, butter making and many other skills that were vital to pioneer survival. This event will be open to the public from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be a \$5 fee for a tour of the Hitchcock House.

National Bike Week is May 14th -18th.

Bike to Work Day is May 18th

Save some gas and bike around that day or all week!

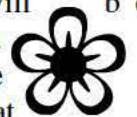


Campground program– Geocaching 101

May 26th at 7:00 PM at Cold Springs State Park –Campground shelter

Spend Memorial Day learning about a newer technology to help you EXPLORE nature! Time will be spent on “caching” with these units. GPS units will be available for the class or bring your own.

Please pre-register by calling 712-769-2372 and also let us know whether or not you will be providing your own GPS. These are open to the public, and you don't have to be camping at the park to attend!



Lake Anita Kids' Fishing Day

Kids, come to Lake Anita on Saturday, June 2nd for a fun morning of fishing (bring your poles) and information! Learn about the fish in Lake Anita, followed by hands on fishing! Prizes will be awarded to participants, no child will leave empty handed! This event is planned in conjunction with Iowa's free fishing weekend so Iowa adults don't have to have a fishing license to join their children! To register meet at the beach parking lot at 10:00 a.m.



Music on the Lawn

June 24 2-4 PM

Hitchcock House Recreation Area

Blue Tones Reunion Show will be performing. www.bluetonesreunionshows.com

For more information.

Summer event preview: Dutch Oven Cooking, Music on the Lawn at Hitchcock House and MORE!!

Cass County Conservation now has a Facebook page, search for us and click like!

**Cass Co. Cons. Bd.
57744 Lewis Rd
Lewis, Iowa 51544**

STANDARD RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Lewis, IA
PERMIT NO. 493

Address Service Requested



Printed on Recycled Paper

- ◆ **Making Shelter Reservations-** To reserve the shelter at Cold Springs Park contact Ryan Lockwood at 769-2372.

People Making a Difference!

- ◆ Thank you to **Bob Voggesser** for feeding and caring for the Trumpeter Swans this past winter!
- ◆ Thank you to **Ken Lawton** for delivering corn to the Trumpeter Swan feeder.
- ◆ Thank you to **Harrison County Conservation** for letting us borrow the Snowshoes once again this year!
- ◆ Thank you to **ISU Extension Cass Co. and 4-H Leadership Council** for helping make our winter camp a success!
- ◆ Thank you to **Phil Rink and Bernice Ihrke** for their dedication and time serving on our boards.
- ◆ Thank you to **Dean Downer** for all of his hard work over the past year at the Outdoor Educational Classroom.
- ◆ A continued thank you to **Donna Rourick and Donna Reimers** for maintaining our county's bluebird boxes!

Cass County Conservation Board
Duane Curtis- Cumberland
Luanne Steffens- Griswold
Bob Muldoon- Atlantic
Ken Lawton- Lewis
John Curry- Massena

Staff
Micah Lee- Director
Lora Kanning- Naturalist
Ryan Lockwood- Park Superintendent
