

Cass Co. Cons. Bd
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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!

Thank you to **Sandy McCurdy** with SMPhotographix and her work on the Outdoor Classroom brochures and taking new photos of the park!

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
- Judy Kennedy- Atlantic
- Luanne Steffens- Griswold
- Jerry Hudson- Lewis

25th Halloween Hike

We are excited to announce The "Squeaks, Squawks and Screeches" Halloween Hike! 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!



Swan Contest

Trumpeter Swans have visited the Schildberg Quarry for, at least, twenty out of the last twenty-one 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

In this Issue:

Upcoming Events

Swan Recap

2004/2005 November 25 – March 18	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	2017/2018 November 9- March 20
2018/2019 November 11- January 23	2019/2020 November?

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 11th) 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 11th to make your prediction! One prediction per family, please. The sponsors of this contest will determine the official arrival of the swans. 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 and Summer happenings

Our unmarked Trumpeter Swans returned to Massena again this year. The pair started out with four cygnets but they lost 1 by the end of July. We had a very roller coaster winter at Schildberg Recreation Area in 2018/2019 we had an average of 81 visit. We have a new record of the most swans on one day was 164 on January 5th 2019! Breaking our old 2016 record of 150. The swans disappeared from the Lake by January 23, with Lake 4 completely icing over on the 27th, and staying iced over in to February. Which according to our records (since the swans been coming to lake 4) it had never iced over for more than 4 days. Cold springs campground has seen some upgrades this year, every electric site now offers 50amp service. Our old sites 1-8 have now been enlarged and sites 1-3 have moved to the north west curve of the campground. We have upgraded all our outdoor lighting to LED, which also gives off a more directed glow. We partnered this year with the Cass County Landfill to do Crayon and Marker Recycling in all Cass County School Districts. In crayons alone 60 lbs were diverted and were remade into crayons for local children hospitals. Markers we diverted just over 10 pounds to be plastic recycled into roofing shingles, park benches, and even electricity.

Upcoming Events



Denotes an Oak Stroller approved event!

**Dutch Oven Cooking- Lunch
Lake Anita Campground
October 12th 10am-Noon**

Upcoming Events

Learn how to make two dishes in a dutch oven! Please bring your own place setting for samples. Free will donation for supplies will be accepted. You DO NOT have to be a registered camper to attend the program!



Mentored Youth Pheasant Hunt October 19th

The Cass County Pheasants Forever Chapter will be offering a mentored youth hunt on opening day of youth pheasant season on OCTOBER 19TH (RAIN DATE OCTOBER 20TH). This is open to youth 11-15 years old who have successfully completed the hunter safety education. This is a FREE event to allow young hunters the opportunity to take part in a safe and successful pheasant hunt. GROUP SIZE IS LIMITED TO FIRST 12 YOUTH THAT REGISTER. MUST PRE-REGISTER WITH BECKY DREAGER 712-249-5130 OR CONSERVATION OFFICER GRANT GELLY 712-250-0303.



Halloween Hike

**Squeaks, Squawks, and Screeches
Saturday, October 26th**

Sunnyside Park, Camblin Addition, Atlantic

7:00 PM—Last group departs at 8:20 PM

You will follow a trail where you will hear "Squeaks, Squawks, and Screeches" along the way! 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 23rd at 9 AM

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 20th call 769-2372!



Soiree with the Swans

Saturday, January 4, 2020 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.

We are planning to do our Cabin Fever escape again in Late January. Don't forget the Great Backyard Bird Count in February 2020!

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