

Cass Co. Cons. Bd  
57744 Lewis Rd  
Lewis, IA 51544



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## People Making a Difference...

Thank you to **Kay Newman of SOAR**, for coming and doing her raptors program for Breakfast with the Birds!

Thank you to **Phil Przychodzin** for his many years of work and dedication on our Cass County Conservation Board!

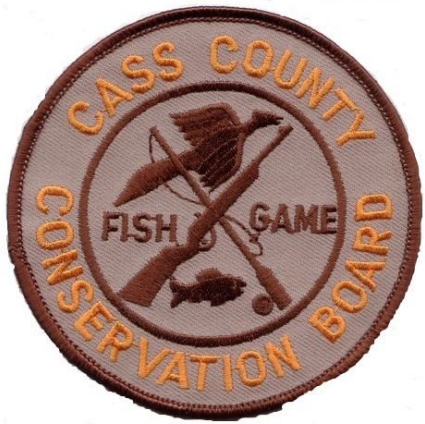
A continued thanks to **Robin Loring** for being our Caretaker of the Hitchcock House!

## E- Newsletter!

Know anyone missing our digital edition, email Lora at [lkanning@casscoia.us](mailto:lkanning@casscoia.us) and let her know to add their email to get the email/PDF version of the Conservation Quarterly!

### Cass County Conservation Board Members

- Massena  
Rich Govig- Lewis  
Judy Kennedy- Atlantic  
James Stokely- Anita  
Sandra Sothman- Atlantic



## Conservation Quarterly Cass County Conservation Board Fall 2022



## 7th Biennial Lighted Halloween Campground

This event was great non-scary, successful drive into the night! We had our campground sites plumb full for the event! Cass County Conservation Board would like to thank our business sponsor Cappel's Ace Hardware who donated the prizes to our Lighted Halloween Campground. We would also like to thank everyone who signed up to decorate a site, thank you for sharing your Halloween décor with everyone! On Saturday October 22nd at Cold Springs Park in Lewis, we had 187 people voting for their favorite site! Our first place winner was Site 2, the Dougherty family with the Alien décor (pictured to the right), second place winner was Site 7, the Griswold Cub Scout Pack, third place winner was Site 8, the "Marne Crew". The Lighted Halloween Campground will be held in 2024!

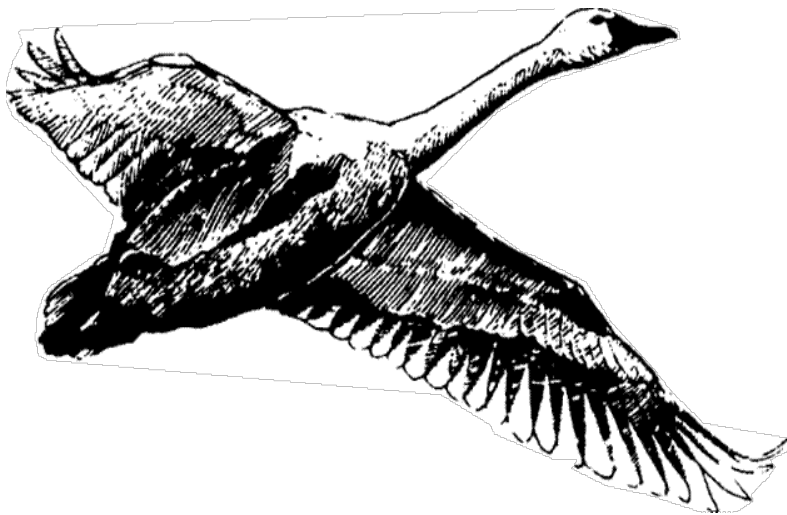
**Picture below Williams family representing the "Marne crew" (3rd place), Dougherty family (1st place), and Donahoo Family representing Cub scouts (2nd place).**



### In this Issue:

Upcoming Events  
Summer Recap





## Trumpeter Swan Contest

Trumpeter Swans have visited the Schildberg Quarry for, at least, Twenty-three out of the last Twenty-four 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. Last season we had an average of 43 visit, and the most on one day was 108! Arrival and departure dates of the Trumpeter Swans have been as follows:

1998/1999	Nothing on record	1997/1998	December – January
2000/2001	November 23 – March 6	1999/2000	December 25 – February 15
2002/2003	November 23 – March 15	2001/2002	December 25 – February 24
2004/2005	November 25 – March 18	2003/2004	November 26 - March 21
2006/2007	October 30 – March 9	2005/2006	November 17 – March 5
2008/2009	November 18- March 12	2007/2008	November 22- February 14
2010/2011	November 5 – February 10	2009/2010	November 19 - January 5
2012/2013	November 24– March 4	2011/2012	November 17 – February 21
2014/2015	November 11- April 6	2013/2014	November 12- April 7
2016/2017	November 19- March 9	2015/2016	November 22- March 24
2018/2019	November 11- January 23	2017/2018	November 9- March 20
2020/2021	November 30- February 13	2019/2020	November 8- March 3
		2021/2022	November 22- February 28

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 22nd) 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 22nd 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, and if they arrive before the Nov. 22nd no more dates will be taken. The winner will receive a Trumpeter Swan Prize from the Cass County Conservation Board. **This contest is strictly for residents of Cass County.** Contact Lora for more information. [lkanning@casscoia.us](mailto:lkanning@casscoia.us) or 712-769-2372.

## Trumpeter Swan Recap and Summer happenings

Our unmarked Trumpeter Swans returned to Massena again this year. The pair were successful in hatching 3 cygnets to flight stage this year. We had another very roller coaster winter at Schildberg Recreation Area in 2021/2022 we had an average of 43 visit. We did have one cygnet death on the ice of unknown causes. The swans were gone by the end of February. We had a busy summer camp, summer reading program, and nature tots season. We are always looking for suggestions for public programs or other educational opportunities. As we roll into Fall don't forget hunting and trapping seasons are starting up. Please understand that these types of users will be out in our parks. We take reservations for our Outdoor Educational Classroom Lodge for meetings and events through the winter as we do keep it plowed. Please contact the office if you are interested in reserving. Snow will be coming! Snowshoes are available for checkout here at our offices! Check in and out must be within our office hours! Link to sign up is found at our website: <https://www.casscountyia.org>.

[gov/county-departments/conservation-office/](http://gov/county-departments/conservation-office/) I have 5 pairs of snowshoes that fit children 90 lbs. and below. I have 25 pairs fit children/adults weighing up to 175 lbs. and 3 pairs for adults/children over 175 lbs. Get out and enjoy Fall in Cass County Parks!

## Upcoming Events



Denotes an Oak Stroller approved event! All Cass County Programs are FREE unless otherwise stated! Donations for programs are accepted.

### Pellett Memorial Woods Workday

**Saturday November 12th 1-4pm (come and go)**

We are looking for those volunteers that wish to be a part of the preservation process may contribute by assisting with the removal of honeysuckle bushes. **If you are wishing to help with this program please dress appropriately (wearing long pants, long sleeves and gloves), and bring loppers if you have them.**



### Christmas Bird Count



**Cass County**

**December 18 8am-4:30pm**

Those that want to participate in the count will be meeting at Cold Springs State Park in Lewis at 8:00am to divide into groups that will cover different sections of the count circle. Birders are encouraged to dress for the conditions and bring along binoculars and bird books. The count will run until 4:30pm that day as we cover a 15 mile diameter circle as thorough as we can. We will meet for lunch at Noon at the Atlantic Pizza Ranch to compare lists and reboot for counting in the afternoon. You are welcome to join for the whole day or just the morning or afternoon sessions.



### Soiree with the Swans



**Saturday, January 7, 2023 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.

**Don't forget Great Backyard Bird Count February 17- 20th, 2023**

## Mark your Calendars

**Intro to Ice Fishing**

**Saturday, January TBA**

**Outdoor Educational Classroom, Massena**

**Cabin Fever Escape**

**Saturday, January 21st 1-4PM**

**Outdoor Educational Classroom, Massena**

Got Cabin Fever? Cure it by spending time outdoors (sledding, and snowshoes) with family friendly activities! If you get cold, warm tasty drinks and a movie will be playing inside the shelter!