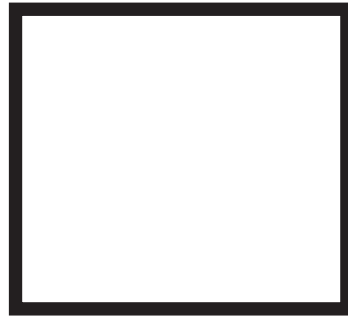


Cass Co. Cons. Bd
57744 Lewis Rd
Lewis, IA 51544



Address Service Requested



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People Making a Difference...

Thank you to everyone that took part in our **Soiree with the Swans!**
Thank you to the **ISU Extension Cass County and 4-H Leadership Council** for helping our winter camps a success!
Thank you to **Dean Downer** for all of his hard work over the past year at the Outdoor Educational Classroom.

Cass County Conservation on Facebook!

Search [Cass County Conservation](#) and "like" us on Facebook! Easy way to keep up on events and wildlife sightings around Cass County! Make sure you are getting this in your inbox! 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 Board Members

Phil Przychodzin- Massena Rich Govig- Lewis
Judy Kennedy- Atlantic Luanne Steffens- Griswold
Jerry Hudson- Lewis

Staff

Conservation Office & Cold Springs 712-769-2372
Micah Lee- Director mlee@casscoia.us
Lora Kanning- Naturalist lkanning@casscoia.us
Ryan Lockwood- Park Superintendent rlockwood@casscoia.us
[Hitchcock House](#) 712-769-2323



Conservation Quarterly Cass County Conservation Board Spring 2021

In this Issue:
Park Highlights and Updates

Upcoming Events

Plant sale!



Results of 2021 Great Backyard Bird Count

Overall it was a great year for Iowa in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). The Cass County Birders were 7th in the State! Iowa overall was lower in species and in checklists happening, but our fantastic showing of 47 checklists was not enough to beat top BIG counties in the state 1st place Johnson County with 181 checklists, with Polk, Story, Linn, Scott and Black Hawk behind them. We were 9th in the species count, we had many usual species missing this year. With the new eBird system the record keeping is by county so I cannot really tell you anymore the species reported for each town unless we record them, but Cass County as a whole. Iowa as a whole had 100 species reported and 1,445 checklists! United States reported 665 species and 223,400 checklists. The GBBC is a global bird count sponsored by the National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology, globally 6,449 species and 328,800 checklists. 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. You can explore the results at

<https://ebird.org/gbbc/places> .

Cass County Results

Town	# of Checklists Submitted	39 Species Reported total	
Anita	13		
Atlantic	14		
Cumberland	0	Griswold	2
Lewis	14		
Marne	0	Massena	0
Wiota	4		

Continued on the next page...

More results: Carolina Wrens, Lapland Larkspurs, American Robins, and lots of hawk species counted in Cass County! NO Trumpeter Swans or Duck species due to ice conditions. Also of note, no wild turkeys or Ring necked pheasants individuals counted.

120 hours Outdoor Challenge

Have you heard about our 120 hours outdoor challenge? Still time to enter you and your family in our program, with chances to win great prizes! The program starts 1/1/21 and goes until 1/1/2022. Explore the natural features Cass county has to offer and more! Outside activities do not have to be done in Cass county, but participants need to be Cass county residents to sign up. We encourage you to explore Nature by hiking, birding, walking, but also through meditation or sitting in spots outside. Everything you do outside counts! Why 120 hours? There are studies that show benefits to spending around 2-3 hours outside per week. These benefits include lowering stress levels, decreasing blood pressure, and boosting mental health.

To register, call 769-2372, email to sign up lkanning@casscoia.us, or visit Cass County Conservation on Facebook to register via [google form](#). Please register each person in your household individually, entering the same email for multiple individuals if needed. After you register, you will be emailed a time tracking sheet for each person you've registered.

Individuals who reach milestones of 30, 60, 90, and/or 120 hours will be entered into drawings for prizes over the course of the year. In order to be entered for prizes, a photo of your tracker is due on the check-in dates of May 1, September 1, and Jan 1, 2022. Photos of progress at these dates should be emailed to lkanning@casscoia.us. All three check-ins must be completed for our grand prize!

Park Highlights

Come take a drive on our new paved roads in Cold Springs! Enjoy our north silt pond out at our Outdoor Educational Classroom! Be aware of the Spring hunting seasons while enjoying our parks where we allow hunting. Don't forget our Standup Paddleboards programs will be on last Saturday of every month, ending Labor Day Weekend with that Saturday September 4th. We only have 5 currently, so you must pre-register for your spot! Anyone under 16 must have a parent with them at all times. A frequent camper card program, stay 6 nights get the 7th FREE- ask our staff! Camping coupon books are now available! \$150 for 11 nights of camping at Cold Springs Park good until Oct 31, 2022. Making Shelter Reservations- To reserve the shelter at Cold Springs Park, contact Ryan Lockwood at 769-2372. Don't forget we take reservations for our Outdoor Educational Classroom Lodge for meetings and events. Please contact the office if you are interested in reserving.

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 cloth bag. If you have questions, please call Lora at 769-2372 or Shelby at 243-1132.

Registration Information: We will be emailing out in April a separate form once we set dates. Forms can also be found here: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass>

If your children are home schooled, please call 243-1132 for registration information.

K-2nd Grade*: Dig those Dinosaurs ~ Youth will learn and play as we explore dinosaurs. Make crafts, friends and play games!

3rd-5th Grade*: Water Wonders ~ Youth will explore all things water!

6th-8th Grade*: Outdoor Adventure Camp ~ For children that have completed 6th, 7th, or 8th grade. This camp highlights a Natural Resource job and an outdoor recreation activity. Activities this year include Wildlife activities, Archery, and Dutch Oven Cooking.



Busing is available from Cass Co. Community center.

To Register: Print the form when available in April, and return with \$10 per camp to the Cass County Extension Office by the deadline. Questions: Call 243-1132! *Please Note- grade listed above refer to grade just completed.



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

Upcoming Events



Wildflower Walk

Saturday, April 24th- 9AM

Pellett Memorial Woods

Join us for our annual Spring Wildflower Walk with our naturalist!

Hitchcock Pioneer Skills Festival- Will return in 2022!!



Bike to School Day is May 5th

Bike to Work Day is May 21st

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



Movie in the Park

May 28th 9PM- Cold Springs Park Campground Shelter- TBA

Come out for a movie under the stars! Bring a blanket or chair, Dress for the weather and if it RAINS it will be CANCELLED.



Lake Anita Kids' Fishing Day

Kids, come to Lake Anita on **Saturday, June 5th** 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! Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. near at the beach parking lot, fishing starts at 10AM.



National Trails Day- the T-Bone Trail!!

June 5th 1PM

Meet at the I80/71 Trailhead Parking Lot for the T-Bone trail.

Bike, walk, strollers, everyone is welcome! Come out and celebrate National Trails Day! We will be Hiking on the trail.



Cass County Fishing Derby

June 12th AM

Cold Springs Park

Please pre-register, derby is limited to 30 participants, 15 years old and younger. Pre-register by calling 769-2372.

Standup Paddleboard Demonstration- see information on page 2.

Cold Springs Park- Beach

May 29th 1pm- 5 Spots available

2:30PM- 5 Spots available

June 26th 1pm- 5 Spots available

2:30pm- 5 Spots available

Stay tuned for more on the July programs and more in the Summer Newsletter.



Cass County Conservation Native Plant Order Form

Order Deadline April 30th, 2021



Mail or deliver to:

57744 Lewis Rd

Lewis, IA 51544

Office: 712-769-2372

Fax: 712-769-2392

Fax orders accepted, payment must be recieved by deadline.

Customer Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Bloom	Plant Name	Sun	Moisture	Height	Price/plant	# Ordered	Subtotal
●	Prairie Drop Seed	Full/Part	Moist	2-3ft	\$2.50		
●	Prairie Smoke	Full/Part	Moist	8-12in	\$2.50		
●	Butterfly Milkweed	Full/Part	Average	2-3 ft	\$2.50		
●	Swamp Milkweed	Full	Moist	4ft	\$2.50		
●	Meadow Blazing Star	Full	Moist	3-5ft	\$2.50		
●	Joe Pye Weed	Full/Part	Avg/Moist	5Ft	\$2.50		
●	Pale Purple Cone-flower	Full/Part	Avg/Dry	4ft	\$2.50		
●	Wild Bergamot	Full/Part	Avg/Dry	4ft	\$2.50		
○	Hairy Mountain Mint	Full/Part	Average	3ft	\$4.00		
●	New England Aster	Full/Part	Moist/Avg	5ft	\$3.50		
●	Purple Prairie Clover	Full/Part	Avg/Dry	2ft	\$4.00		

Price per item includes shipping and sales tax.

All orders must be pre-paid by deadline. Unpaid orders will not be placed.

Order deadline Friday April 30th by 4pm.

All orders must be picked up during designated times at our offices in Lewis unless prior arrangements made.

Plants not picked up will be donated with NO REFUND.

Designated pick up times will be: Thursday May 27th 8 AM-6 PM

Friday May 28th 8AM-7:00PM

Buyer Signature/date: _____

Checks payable to: Cass County Treasurer

Office use:

Paid By: Check# _____

Cash

\$ _____

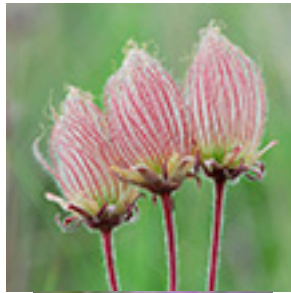
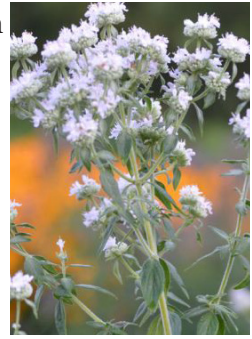
Receipt# _____

Received By: _____



Prairie Dropseed *Sporobolus heterolepis*
 Light: Full Sun
 Soil: Sand, Loam
 Moisture: Dry, Medium
 Benefits: Birds, Deer Resistant
 Height: 2'-4'
 Blooms: Aug, Sep
 Color: Straw-Gold

Hairy Mountain Mint *Pycnanthemum verticillatum*
 var. *pilosum*
 Sun Exposure Full sun to part shade
 Soil Moisture Medium
 Bloom Time July, Aug
 Color White
 Height 3 feet



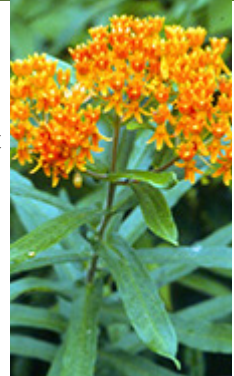
Prairie Smoke *Geum triflorum*
 Light: Full Sun
 Soil: Sand, Loam
 Moisture: Dry, Medium
 Benefits: Deer Resistant
 Height: 0.25'-0.5'
 Blooms: May, Jun
 Color: Pink

Meadow Blazing Star *Liatris ligulistylis*
 Sun Exposure Full sun to part shade
 Soil Moisture Medium
 Bloom Time Aug—Sept
 Height 5 feet
 Color Purple



Wild Bergamot "Bee Balm" *Monarda fistulosa*
 Sun Exposure Full sun to part shade
 Soil Moisture Medium- wet to Dry
 Bloom Time July—Sept
 Color Purple
 Height 4 feet

Butterfly Milkweed *Asclepias tuberosa*
 Plant Spacing 1-3'
 Sun Exposure Full sun or part shade
 Soil Moisture Medium to Dry, well- drained
 Height 2 feet
 Bloom Time June—August



Purple Prairie Clover *Dalea purpurea*
 Light: Full Sun
 Soil: Sand, Loam, Clay
 Moisture: Dry, Medium
 Benefits: Pollinators, birds, Host plant
 Height: 1'-2'
 Blooms: Jul, Aug,
 Color: Purple

New England Aster *Aster Novae-angliae*
 Light: Full Sun- partial
 Soil: Sand, Loam, Clay
 Moisture: Medium
 Benefits: Pollinators, Butterflies, Birds, Deer Resistant
 Height: 3'-6'
 Blooms: Aug, Sept, Oct
 Color: Purple



Swamp Milkweed *Asclepias incarnata*
 Sun Exposure Full sun or part shade
 Soil Moisture Wet to Medium
 Bloom Time June—August
 Color Pink
 Height 4 feet

Live Plants

- Live plants from nursery will come as small plugs (or larger); cells are 5" deep x 2" wide at top or 4.5" deep x 2" Cone.
- Immediate care: remove plants from container as soon as possible and water thoroughly.
- Plant in the ground or a larger pot.
- Keep area around plants weed free, especially during the first growing season.
- Watering is important during the first growing season. Make sure the plants do not go dry for the first 3-6 weeks; water deeply to allow formation of deep drought and frost resistant roots. Once established, native plants can withstand extreme weather.