

Up and Down the River

JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD SUMMER 2009

Paddling in Jackson County



Canoe and kayak enthusiasts can take advantage of a well-developed and maintained river trail in Jackson County. There are two forks to the **Maquoketa River Water Trail** that meander about 50 miles through the county, meeting just north of the town of Maquoketa. The river then flows another 30 miles until it reaches the Mississippi River. Paddlers can access the Maquoketa River at 16 public accesses throughout the county. Jackson County Conservation has placed road signs directing drivers to the accesses. River trail signs at the access tell paddlers distance to the next access. To obtain a river map, stop at the Hurstville Interpretive Center or download the map at www.MyCountyParks.com/Jackson.

Green Island State Wildlife Area is a great place for canoe and kayakers to view waterfowl, shore birds, and raptors. A good route starts at the Channel 4 parking lot, loops up through Snag Slough, into Sawmill Lakes, and back through Channel 5. From the Channel 5 access, a short connecting channel will return the paddler to the starting point. Paddlers should be aware of a short (20 feet) portage at the north end of Channel 4 access. This marsh provides paddlers an opportunity to explore the impounded backwaters of the Mississippi River.

Other opportunities for exploring Mississippi backwaters include, using the city boat ramp in Sabula and Barge Lake boat access off 607th Ave north of Sabula. Maps to guide you through Barge Lake, Joe Day Lake, and Esmay Slough can be downloaded from www.fws.gov/Midwest/UpperMississippiRiver/maps.html.

Please practice **Safe Paddling**. Canoeing is a great recreational sport, but not when people are injured or killed. Rivers can be dangerous: with hazards (fallen trees, rocks, floating objects), currents, and dams. Accidents and deaths occur every year at low-head dams, found on Iowa's interior rivers. Be prepared and portage around them. Other safety tips include: wear a life jacket, stay alert, keep your craft stable, no alcohol or drugs, watch for hazards, and plan to get wet!

The Jackson County Conservation Environmental Education staff are offering a **Canoe Class** for paddlers to learn or improve their canoeing skills. Participants will learn how to carry and launch a canoe, water safety, paddle strokes, canoe rescue, river hazards, hand signals, and stopping/starting a canoe, based on the American Canoe Association instructional foundations. The class will be held at the Hurstville Fishing Pond and on the Maquoketa River. The class is limited to the first 10 registrants and will be held Tuesday June 30 and Wednesday July 1 from 5:00—8:30 PM each night. Pre-registration required by Thursday June 25.



For more information about paddling opportunities in Jackson County, visit www.MyCountyParks.com/Jackson or www.JacksonCCB.com.

mycountyparks 
.com

Stories of Hurstville

“Stories of Hurstville” is the new permanent exhibit at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. The exhibit features historic photos as well as recorded memories of Hurstville. Thanks to funding from Doris Miller in honor of Sara Hurst Cooper, the historic photos and recordings are now assessable to the public. Sara Hurst Cooper was the granddaughter of Alfred Hurst, founder of the lime kilns. Additional funding came from Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area’s general grant fund.



Monarchs from Jackson County Recovered in Mexico!

Three tagged Monarchs from the Jackson County area were recovered in Mexico this past March! One was tagged at the Hurstville Interpretive Center Sept 6, one by Delwood students on Sept 10, and one by Briggs teacher Jane Long on Sept 17.



The Jackson County Conservation environmental education staff tag about 200 monarchs every fall, on their journey south. You can learn more about this amazing journey at our tagging programs every Saturday in September.

Ann Burns, environmental education coordinator with JCCB, traveled to the wintering sites of the Monarch Butterflies in Michoacan, Mexico this past March. She will be sharing her experience of that trip at school and public programs this fall.

AmeriCorp Workday

On May 4th the Jackson County Recreation Trail was spruced up for the summer. AmeriCorps’ members from Jackson, Scott, Louisa, and Buchanan counties spruced up the trail by putting in new benches and replacing timeline



signs. The signs were created by Preston’s 1994 6th grade class. The timeline signs list historical and geological events.

2009 Earth Day Project Recap

JCCB teamed up with area schools for an Earth Day project centered on helping wildlife, specifically wildlife rehabilitation. Wildlife rehabilitation involves caring for injured, ill, or orphaned wild animals with the goal of releasing each back into its natural habitat. Critics of wildlife rehabilitation often say “let nature take its course.” However, records indicate that the majority of injured and orphaned wildlife got that way because of human intervention -- some accidental, some intentional, and most preventable. Rehabilitators ease the suffering of these animals by either caring for them until they can be released or humanely euthanizing them.

The goal of this Earth Day project was to get students involved through education and raising money for wildlife rehabilitators. Schools raised money through donations, pop can collection, ‘hat days’, and other sources. In all, Jackson County students raised over \$1,300 for wildlife rehabilitation!!!

After funds were raised, area wildlife rehabilitators visited the schools to talk about their organization, what they do for wildlife, how the money will be used, and what to do if you find an injured or orphaned animal.

Wildlife rehabilitators included Vera Blevins with Bat World Heartland of the Quad Cities and Phil Cronin with the MacBride Raptor Project of Cedar Rapids. Students enjoyed learning how these organizations work to help injured bats and birds of prey. The highlight of the presentations were the live animals. Blevins brought big brown bats and Cronin brought a red tailed hawk, barred owl, screech owl, and American kestrel.



Cronin shows students a barred owl taken in by the MacBride Raptor Project

Blevins shows students a big brown bat she took in.



Summer Programs

June

Free Fishing Clinic Saturday June 6 from 9-11 AM Hurstville Fishing Pond



It's free fishing weekend for Iowa residents! This year's clinic is being organized by Tom Ehlers for his Eagle Scout project. Youth and families are invited to come and practice their fishing skills. Some fishing poles will be available for use.

Junior Naturalist Days at 1:00 Sunday June 7; Friday July 3; Sunday August 16 Hurstville Interpretive Center

Children ages 6-12 are invited to join a naturalist in a fun nature-related activity to complete requirements for their Junior Naturalist badge! June 7th—Explore the Hurstville Marsh!

Jackson County Conservation Board Meetings Tuesday June 9 at 7:30 PM: Meet at Papke Farm. Meeting at JC Welcome Center in Sabula. Tuesday July 14 at 7:30 PM: Meet at Pine Valley. Meeting TBD

Tuesday August 11 at 7:30 PM: Meet at Preston Trail.
Meeting at Preston City Hall.
During the summer, the board tours different areas of the county before the meeting. Meetings are open to the public.

River Clean-Up/ Canoe Trip Sunday June 14 at 1:00 PM Maquoketa River



Enjoy some beautiful scenery in Jackson County while cleaning up along one of our precious streams. Participants will canoe and pick up trash along a portion of the Maquoketa River. A limited supply of canoes will be available or you can bring your own. **Pre-registration is required by June 10th.**

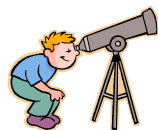
Friends of Jackson County Conservation Meeting Tuesday June 16 at 7:00 PM Hurstville Interpretive Center

Get involved in conservation and environmental education!

Aldo Leopold Reading Sunday June 21 at 3:00 PM Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join us this Father's Day as we celebrate Aldo Leopold, ecologist, forester, and father of wildlife management. Leopold's book *A Sand County Almanac* has been read by millions and has informed and changed the environmental movement and a widespread interest in ecology as a science. Join us as portions of his book are read aloud by community members.

Science Under the Stars Thursday June 25—Friday June 26 Hurstville Interpretive Center



For youth who are going into 5th-7th grade & are interested in learning more about nature, science, & want to have fun! Campers will make their own supper and spend the night at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. Cost is \$15. **Pre-registration is required by June 19th, please contact the Jackson County Extension Office at (563) 652-4923 to register your child.**

Canoe Class

Tues. June 30 & Wed. July 1 from 5-8:30 PM Hurstville Fishing Pond & Maquoketa River

Participants will learn or improve their canoeing skills. Class is based on the American Canoe Association instructional foundations. Cost: \$5/person. Limited to first 10 sign-ups. **Pre-registration required by June 25th.**

Nature Tales

June 11—Zoo Safari

July 2—Animal Olympics

August 13—Yummy Plants

Hurstville Interpretive Center at 10:00 AM

Pre-school age children and their families are invited to join AmeriCorps member Vanessa Vanis in learning more about the natural world. Story and activities will go along with the theme.

Naturalist Lunch Box

June 11— Dem Bones

June 25— Trumpeter Swans

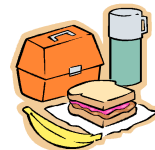
July 9— Buzzy Bees

July 23— Wonderful Wetlands

August 13— Nature Did it First

Hurstville Interpretive Center at Noon

Bring a friend, grab a lunch, & join a naturalist for an entertaining & educational program on natural resources while you dine!



July

Campground Programs

Friday July 3 at 7 PM at South Sabula Lakes Park

Saturday July 4 at 7 PM at Spruce Creek Park

Join naturalist Ann Burns for an entertaining and educational program at the picnic shelter in the campground.

GPS & Geocaching Demo

Saturday July 18 at 1:00 PM

Hurstville Interpretive Center

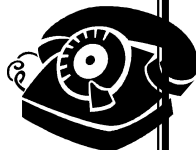
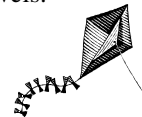
Join area geocachers for a short demo on how to use a GPS to find hidden caches. Some GPS's will be available for use or bring your own. Demo is for people of all skill levels.

Kite Flying

Sunday July 26 between 1:00—3:00 PM

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Bring a kite or make & decorate one to take home. Let's hope for a windy day as we fly them over the prairie! Cost is \$4 to make a kite.



Our public programs are designed for enjoyment and education for all ages and varying abilities. If you have special needs, please contact the JCCB office prior to an event. Programs are free unless otherwise noted. Some programs require pre-registration. You can do so by calling the conservation office at (563) 652-3783.

August

Youth Outdoor Skills Day **Saturday August 8 from 9-11** **Hurstville Fishing Pond**

A day of outdoor recreation— archery, fishing, canoeing, orienteering, outdoor cooking, and more. Cost is \$5/person in advance, \$7 day of event. Great for youth and their families!



Baraboo Trip **Saturday August 15 from 6 AM—7 PM** **Baraboo, Wisconsin**

Travel to Baraboo to visit the International Crane Foundation and the Aldo Leopold Center. Cost: \$45/person.

Youth Outdoor Skills Day **Saturday August 8**

From 9:00—1:00

Hurstville Fishing Pond

(across the highway from Hurstville Interpretive Center)

We invite youth and their families to come out for a day of outdoor recreation. Archery, shooting sports, fishing, orienteering, canoeing, outdoor cooking, and more!

Cost is \$5/person in advance, \$7/day of event.

Baraboo Bus Trip

Join naturalist Jess Wagner on a trip to Baraboo, Wisconsin on Saturday August 15th to visit the Aldo Leopold Legacy Center and the International Crane Foundation (ICF).

The Aldo Leopold Legacy Center embodies the philosophy of one of America's great thinkers, the late conservationist and author of *A Sand County Almanac*. Learn how features like solar power, geothermal, and sustainable building materials make this one of the "greenest" buildings in the world. The tour will then take us to the Leopold Farm for a visit to the re-built chicken coop or 'The Shack', where the Leopold family stayed during weekend retreats. The land surrounding The Shack and farm provided the inspiration for Leopold's writings.

Following the Legacy Center is a visit to the International Crane Foundation (ICF). The ICF is the only place in the world where you can see all 15 crane species. ICF has gained international acclaim as one of the world's leaders in the conservation of endangered species. You will hear the haunting calls of the red-crowned cranes, see the tallest flying bird in the world, the saurus crane, and observe one of the world's rarest birds, the whooping crane.

Cost is \$45/person (\$6 off for current Friends members). This includes transportation, entrance fees to Leopold Center and ICF, and lunch. Depart at 6 AM and be back around 7 PM. Registration deadline is August 3rd.

Attention kids and parents!

Announcing the 2009 Summer Camps

Mark your calendars! Note changes from last year, we are doing things a little different this summer.

Explorer Camp

Age: **5-7 years old**

Theme: Nature Detectives

Dates: June 16, 17, 18 from 9:00—1:00 each day

Flowers, trees, bugs, animals, water—there is so much to see, do, and learn about—join us in exploring the natural world!

Ranger Camp

Age: **8-10 years old**

Theme: Water Works

Dates: July 14, 15, & 16 from 9:00—1:00 each day

Water is an all important resource—learn more about the quality and quantity, critters that live there, and how to have fun with it!

Adventure Camp

Age: **11-15 years old**

Theme: Outdoor pursuits

Dates: July 7, 8, 9 from 9:00—1:00 each day

Have fun with outdoor recreation—canoeing, archery, orienteering, caving, and more!!

*Cost is \$40 per child for the 3-day camp. Each day will be filled with activities, games, and crafts to go along with the theme. Lunch will be provided each day. Registration and payment is required Friday before camp begins. Maximum number of participants is 20 per camp, so sign up soon! Thanks to a donation from the John & Jeanne Hoesley family, scholarship money is available, don't hesitate to ask for help for all or part of your child(ren)'s registration cost! For more information or to register for a camp, contact us at (563) 652-3783. Registration forms available online and at the Hurstville Interpretive Center.



JC Through the Seasons

Jackson County Conservation staff are putting together a display of photos of Jackson

County and would like your input. Go out and snap photos of the rivers, streams, flowers, landscapes, prairies, critters, wildlife, anything that captures nature throughout the seasons in Jackson County! (*This is not a contest.*)

Please send your matted photos to 18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, IA 52060. Include name, permission to use photo, date and location photo was taken.

After we have received photos through the year, we will display them at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. So get out there and start snapping!!





Friends of Jackson County Conservation



Renew Yearly Membership this Month



Current Friends members— remember to renew your membership this month. Membership runs from July 1- June 30. You can renew your membership at the Friends meeting June 17th or mail in the membership form to the right. And it's a great time to become a member if you aren't already! Benefits include 10% discount in the gift shop, a free rental of snowshoes each year, early notice of events, and you get to put in your two cents on activities, projects, and events sponsored by Friends of Jackson County Conservation.



New to the exhibit floor— Beaver's Toolbox. AmeriCorp member Vanessa Vanis created the Beaver Toolbox for her AmeriCorp special project. The beaver toolbox allows visitors to learn about adaptations beavers have and how their adaptation compare to manmade tools. Thanks goes to Friends of Jackson County Conservation for funding this great hands-on addition to the wetland diorama. Friends member Kevin Burns assisted Vanessa in the construction of the toolbox.

Next Friends Meeting Tuesday, June 16th at 7:00 PM Hurstville Interpretive Center



Interested in supporting and assisting the Jackson County Conservation Board? Join the Friends of Jackson County Conservation for their summer meeting and learn more about the benefits of being a friend and become involved!

Membership Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____
Zip Code: _____
Phone number: _____
Email Address: _____

Type of Membership: (Please check one per form and make checks payable to Friends of Jackson County Conservation.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Student \$5.00	Regular \$10.00	Senior Citizen \$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family \$20.00	Sustaining \$50.00	Other Contribution \$_____

Amt. enclosed....._____

Please send Membership form and fee to:
Friends of Jackson County Conservation
18670 63rd St.
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060
Memberships are on a fiscal year— July 1 to June 30

Snip and Take to Pizza Hut

Pizza Hut in Maquoketa will donate 20% of your purchase to Friends of Jackson County Conservation. Just turn in this ticket when you pay and the Friends will get the credit. Dine-in, carry-out, and delivery from 5:00 PM to close on **June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9** (2nd Wed. of the month).



Your Name: _____ Date: _____

I support: Friends of Jackson County Conservation

Total Spent: _____ (Pizza Hut staff will fill this out and attach it to your receipt.)

Spring Activities at Hurstville Interpretive Center



Wal-Mart staff celebrated Earth Day April 22 by planting bur oak trees at the Hurstville Fishing Pond!

Doug Gonner with the Iowa Prairie Rose Dutch Oven Society gave a Dutch Oven Demo at the center. Over 50 people joined him for some delicious food sampling!



Area residents took part in a Boat Education course put on by JCCB and the Iowa DNR.



Students with the Area Substance Abuse Council visited the center this spring. They made atlatls, a Native American weapon, and practiced throwing darts.



Tyler Polk, Boy Scout Troop 68 of Maquoketa, completed his Eagle Scout project by building benches and a shade canopy at the observation deck on Old Hwy 61 overlooking the Hurstville Marsh. These improvements has made the deck a better stopping point to view the wildlife at the marsh!



Kid's Corner

Summer Word Search

P	E	R	G	H	C	I	H	O
H	N	A	E	S	A	U	N	S
K	I	T	E	O	M	C	P	E
S	H	R	T	C	P	B	O	I
A	S	B	I	C	Y	C	L	E
I	N	S	U	S	B	I	E	O
B	U	T	T	E	R	F	L	Y
W	S	V	R	E	W	O	L	F

Kite
Bicycle

Camp
Sunshine

Flower
Butterfly

NEW!

Animal of the month

www.MyCountyParks.com/Jackson

Thanks to Maquoketa HS students Sam Veach, Jordan Street, and Stephanie Davison for putting it together!



A Special Thank You!

Jackson County Conservation would like to thank and acknowledge the following individuals, clubs, and businesses for their continued support and donations. With their help, we have been able to do so much more!

Volunteered at the Hurstville Interpretive Center— Heidi Ahrens, Kevin Burns, Myrna Cavanagh, Margaret McCarthy, Erica Drake, Lorene Delagardelle, Ruth Hainstock, Wendy Hainstock, Karen Krueger, Barb McCray, Zola McMahan, Phyllis Nissen, Lindsay O’Shagay, Helen Stewart, Vi Said, Mary Sanger, Asher Schroeder, Owen Thorson, Bel Tubbs, Chris Tubbs, Duane Westphal, Doris Yaddof, East Central 6th graders, Richard Current, Richard Ganzer, Barb Ganzer, Karen Ganzer

Helped with Spring Newsletter— Darlene Dalziel, Marlene Dalziel, Jeanne Hoesley, John Hoesley, Dorothy Nabb, Grace Otting, Mary Sanger

Fill Bird Feeders— Ryan Current

Butterfly Garden— Kevin Burns, Ann Burns, Darlis Croce, Maxine Flock, Jeanne Hoesley, Karen Krueger, Chris Tubbs, Jack Tubbs

Flowerbeds at the Kilns— Don & Nancy Flagel

Hurstville Fishing Pond—Maquoketa Ikes (fish habitat), Wal-Mart (tree planting)

Food/supplies for NCCC supper—John & Jeanne Hoesley, Barb McCray, Karen Steffen, Ben Wagner, Bill & Wendy Hainstock, Bel Tubbs, Karen Krueger, Ann Burns, Daryl Parker, Jeanne Collins-Heer, Vanessa Vanis, Kim Jochum, Lana Flagel, Pam True, Larry & Denise Ziekelbach

Program Presentations— Charlie Winterwood, Bob Walton, Brad Walker

Cut wood for Birdhouse Workshop— Jerry Dalziel

Monitor Bee Hive at Center— Elmer Yaddoff, Ray & Chris Johnson

Cash Donation— Joe & Margaret McCarthy, Sacred Heart School (earth day project), US Bank, George Spalding family, Suzanne Bembridge, Marlene Danielson, Avalyn Sternberg, Dave & Angie Burmahl

Donations— Ryan Owen (coyote pelt), Wal-Mart (shovels, mulch), Maquoketa Library (bird field guide), Jeanne Hoesley (books), Kevin Oetken (red oak boards), Kaylyn Gent (owls), Emmet & Bob Sheets (sandbags), Steve & Chris Tubbs (book), Joan Bollman (landscape rock), Duane Manning (bur oak tree), Nicole Moestschen (EE supplies), Maquoketa Lumber (cut wood), Jeff Glaw, DNR (speakers), Zelda Dostal (one-room school lesson plans), Frank & Jane Goodnow (photos of Hurstville) Darlene Dalziel & Marlene Dalziel (refreshments)

Jackson County Conservation Board

Board Members

Bill Hainstock	Maquoketa
Jerry Millwright	La Motte
Roger Schladetzky	Bellevue
Rick Small	Bernard
Eric Strathman	Andrew

Board Address

18670 63rd Street
Maquoketa, IA 52060
(563) 652-3783

Spruce Creek Shop (563) 872-3621

E-mail jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com

Website www.jacksonccb.com &
www.MyCountyParks.com/Jackson

Daryl Parker	Executive Director
Ann Burns	Environmental Ed. Coordinator
Jeannie Collins-Heer	Park Ranger
Ryan Owen	Park Ranger
(vacant)	Operation Technician
Pam True	Office Manager
Jess Wagner	Naturalist
Vanessa Vanis	AmeriCorp Volunteer

Up and Down the River is distributed free of charge on a quarterly basis. If you are not currently receiving the newsletter and would like to, or if you know of someone who would like to, call us at (563) 652-3783 or email jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com.

A large print copy of this newsletter is available by contacting the JCCB office at the Hurstville Interpretive Center.

Environmental Ed. Wish List

- *Adopt bluebird houses at the center
- *Bird seed
- *Funds for taxidermy work
- *Nature books
- *Astronomy Buff to do a program
- *Wood samples
- *Summer volunteer(s) to help collect duckweed for swans
- * 8.5x11 Certificate Frames (call for details)

—Talk to the conservation staff and receive a detailed list of program books and materials needed.

Donations made in memory of/or in honor of:

Sara Hurst Cooper
Alice Burmahl



Jackson County Conservation
Hurstville Interpretive Center
18670 63rd Street
Maquoketa, IA 52060

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For more information regarding Jackson County Conservation Board activities or events
Call (563) 652-3783 or

Email jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com

Check out our website at www.jacksonccb.com

mycountyparks 
.com

Printed with vegetable ink on recycled paper

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Home of Jackson County Conservation Office

Hours Monday-Friday 9 am — 4 pm

November—March

Saturday & Sunday 12 pm — 4 pm

April-October

Saturday & Sunday 12 pm — 5 pm



No Admission Fee!

Holidays:

Open Memorial Day, Fourth of July & Labor Day

Save a tree!

To be a bit more eco-friendly and to cut back on costs, we are encouraging people to receive this newsletter via email or on our website. **Special Bonus- Photos & graphics are in color!** Send your email to jess@jacksonccb.com.

Don't worry, you can still get your newsletter in the mail if you prefer. Please help us out by checking the mailing labels to insure we have the address correct and please notify us of any changes. The post office does not forward bulk mail. Thanks for helping us update our mailing list!

Up and Down the River is available on the web at
www.JacksonCCB.com/Newsletter &
www.MyCountyParks.com/Jackson

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) getting closer to Iowa

An established EAB population was found near Victory, WI. on the east bank of the Mississippi River across from Allamakee County in Northeast Iowa, less than 5 miles from the Minnesota-Iowa border. Minnesota found its first EAB population this May in St. Paul.

EAB is native to the Orient, and was introduced in the United States near Detroit in the 1990s. EAB is an invasive beetle that feeds on ash trees



and eventually kills them. Although not yet found in Iowa, EAB has more potential for future harm to Iowa forests and urban communities than any other insect currently being dealt with in the US. According to recent sources, Iowa has an estimated 58 million rural ash trees and approximately 30 more million urban ash trees. There are more than 1 million ash trees in Jackson County.

The best action Iowans can take to prevent an infestation, which most experts believe is only a matter of time, is to **buy firewood locally** and not bring it in from other states or from other areas. Watch for signs of infestation in your ash trees. If you suspect your ash tree could be infested by EAB, visit www.extension.iastate.edu/pme/EmeraldAshBorer.html.