



Up and Down the River

JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD WINTER 2007-2008

A Salute to Songbirds

“A Salute to Songbirds” exhibit will be at the Hurstville Interpretive Center beginning Sunday, February 10th. This exhibit includes information on America’s fastest growing sport—birdwatching! The grand opening of the exhibit will feature Dr. Jim Pease, Extension Wildlife Specialist and Associate Professor at Iowa State University, discussing neotropical migrants and the challenges they are facing. Neotropical migrants are birds that spend their summers in North America and winters in the New World tropics of Central and South America, Mexico or the Caribbean. The program will focus on the wintering sites of these birds and the vital habitats that are disappearing especially due to coffee plantations. Find out what you can do to help these birds here in Iowa. Following the program the exhibit will be opened and visitors can explore the Giant Bird’s Nest, the Wheel of Flight, the Nest Parasites and Predators, and more!



As part of the grand opening the Friends of Jackson County Conservation will be holding their annual fundraiser. The proceeds from this event will be used to design and construct a self-guided trail through the Hurstville marsh and prairie. Everyone is encouraged attend and see this great exhibit and help support the Friends of Jackson County Conservation. Without the help and support of the Friends group, bringing in exhibits like this and the mountain lion exhibit would not be possible.



Neotropical Migrant Program &
Salute to Songbirds Exhibit

Program & Songbird Supper

Songbird Supper

\$2/person or \$5/family

Adults \$7 (\$6 in advance)
Children 12 & under \$3 (\$2 in advance)
5 & under Free

Adults \$6 (\$5 in advance)
Children 12 & under \$2 (\$1 in advance)
5 & under Free



Goal of \$10,000 for Endowment Fund

The Friends of Jackson County Conservation met on October 16th at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. During the meeting Friends members set a goal of raising \$10,000 for the endowment fund. This fund was established in 2004 to support the Hurstville Interpretive Center in the future. The money so far in the account has come from individual donations and memorials. If you would like to contribute to this goal please contact the Friends of Jackson County at 563-652-3783.

Any money donated to Friends, who have 501(c)3 status, is tax-deductible from your income taxes. With the end of the year nearing—please consider the Friends of Jackson County Conservation Endowment Fund and help us reach our goal.

2007 Camping Season

With the 2007 camping season in the books we can reflect on a really great summer in Jackson County Conservation campgrounds. The stage was set for the summer with good spring weather and no flood event on the Mississippi River. Combine that with a mid-week Fourth of July which provided 2 full weeks of busy campgrounds. Finally, excellent weather in September and October with 80 degree temperatures throughout the 2 month period and the campers just kept on coming.



The 2007 camping season was a record setter in both Spruce Creek Park and South Sabula Lake Park in terms of revenue generated. Spruce Creek Park generated \$85,370 in camping fees in 2007. This mark surpassed the previous record set in 2006 and continues a steady increase in camping revenues over the last 5 year period. South Sabula generated \$55,389 in camping revenues in 2007 smashing the 2006 record year by \$12,476. This campground continues to set new records year after year and has shown steady increases since the campground renovations completed in 1996.

We also track number of camper registrations, total camping days and total number of campers for each park. Although neither park set a record for total registrations in 2007 both were very close to records. Spruce Creek Park had 1,842 registrations which reflects to 5,527 camping days and 17,825 total campers. South Sabula had 1,134 total registrations, 3,918 camping days and 12,254 campers.

Not only do the campgrounds provide necessary revenue to the conservation department; those campers also generate significant economic stimulus for the communities near the campgrounds and Jackson County. We can estimate traveler income by taking the total number of camping days and conservatively use \$100 spent per day on fuel, food, ice, bait, tackle, and other miscellaneous items. With that estimate the two campgrounds generate **\$944,500** in economic stimulus in Jackson County. Those businesses depend on that camper income and we pride ourselves on providing a quality campground setting to keep the dollars here in Jackson County.

Daryl Parker, Director

Stamp Memorial Park

Erwin Stamp Memorial Park, a part of Mill Creek Park, is located on the south edge of Bellevue where Mill Creek enters the Mississippi River. This 35-acre park provides plenty of shade, picnic facilities, and a public boat ramp. Its location makes it an excellent river fishing site. The picnic shelter at this location is in need of updating. Last fall a new roof was put on the shelter thanks to the Scenic Water Chapter of the (Bellevue) Izaak Walton League and Dan Ploessl Construction. But, it still needs work before it is ready for public use.



The major projects that still need funding include:

- ◆ New concrete floor
- ◆ New ceiling
- ◆ Brick work on the exterior

The Friends of Jackson County are looking for funds to complete the project and make it available to the public as an open shelter. If you are interested please contact the Jackson County Conservation Board at 563-652-3783.

AmeriCorps Naturalist

Jessica O'Connor is the new AmeriCorps Naturalist with Jackson County Conservation. She was also the summer intern with us and has done an exceptional job thus far. Since starting with AmeriCorps she has been busy planning Nature Tales programs for pre-schoolers, putting up new displays in the basement, and doing lots of programs both in-school and at the interpretive center. AmeriCorps is a program that President Bill Clinton established in 1993. It is a network of national service programs that engage Americans in intensive service to meet the nation's critical needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment. In September of 1994, the first class of AmeriCorps members—20,000 strong—began serving in more than 1,000 communities. Since 1994, more than 400,000 men and women have provided needed assistance to millions of Americans across the nation through their AmeriCorps service.



Jackson County Conservation has been very fortunate to be involved with the AmeriCorps program since 2001. This is made possible through the Eastern Iowa Conservation Alliance (EICA) which provides AmeriCorps members with an opportunity to serve in the natural resources and environmental education field.

For more information go to www.americorps.org.



Winter Programs

December

Sharks & Rays of Monterey Bay
Sunday, December 2nd at 1:30 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: Free

Clinton County Conservation naturalist, Mark Roberts, participated in a study of sharks and rays with Earthwatch this past July. Mark will talk about the study and show pictures of his wild adventure. You won't want to miss hearing about how we, here in Iowa, can affect the inhabitants of the ocean.

Reusable Christmas Gift Bags
Saturday, December 8th at 1:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: \$2.00



A fun winter craft that just keeps giving. Join naturalists for an afternoon of decorating Christmas gift bags that can be used over and over. The program will also feature other recycled craft ideas. **Pre-registration is required by December 5th.**

Christmas Bird Count
Friday, December 14th times to be announced
Dubuque Audubon Society
Cost: Free

If you are interested in birding—participate in the Christmas Bird Count which is a nationwide count of birds around the United States. Help identify and count the birds in Jackson County. Please call Charlie Winterwood if you are interested at 563-588-2783.

Winter Camp
December 27th—December 28th from 1 pm—10 am
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: \$15.00

Spend the evening at the Hurstville Interpretive Center and explore the winter world. This camp is for 4-6th graders who are interested in learning about ice fishing, snowshoeing, tracking and more! Participants will make their own supper, and enjoy breakfast before heading home the next morning. **Pre-registration required by December 15th, please contact the Jackson County Extension Office at (563) 652-4923.**

January 2008

Hunter Education Class Online
Saturday, January 19th at 9 am
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: Free

The Iowa DNR has developed an independent/internet hunter education course designed for adults who work evenings and weekends who aren't available to attend a regular class. Those wishing to attend this one-day class must complete the online coursework and quizzes prior to attending. Please visit www.iowadnr.gov for more information. **Pre-registration required by January 16th.**



January continued

Dubuque Eagle Watch
Saturday, January 19 from 9 am—4 pm
Grand River Center, Port of Dubuque
Cost: Free

Join Jackson County Conservation Board staff at the Dubuque Eagle Watch. They will be assisting inside the river center with activities.

Winter Fun Activities
Sunday, January 27th from 1—3 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: Some activities may have a materials fee

Join Jackson County staff for a fun filled afternoon looking at snowflakes under a microscope, making a winter craft, and learning how to identify animal tracks. Learn how to snowshoe at 2 pm—limited number of snowshoes will be available so get there early! Warm refreshments will also be served.



February

"A Salute to Songbirds" Exhibit Grand Opening
Sunday, February 10th at 3 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: \$2/person or \$5/family

"A Salute to Songbirds" is a traveling exhibit about America's fastest growing sport—birdwatching! To kick off the grand opening, Dr. James Pease, Extension Wildlife Specialist at Iowa State University, will discuss neotropical migrants and the challenges they are facing. Following the program, participants will explore the exhibit and get a chance to interact with all the hands-on activities. Stay for the Songbird Supper! Discount prices for program and supper—adults \$7 (\$6 in advance) and children \$3 (\$2 in advance).

Songbird Supper
Sunday, February 10th at 5 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center
Cost: \$6 Adult, \$3 Children under 12, 5 & under Free

To help us celebrate even more there will be a soup supper fundraiser to raise money for the Friends of Jackson County Conservation. The money raised will be used to develop a self-guided trail throughout the Hurstville marsh and prairie. Tickets will be available in advance, adults \$5 & children \$2. If you want to bring your own reusable tableware you will receive a \$.50 discount on your dinner!



"A Salute to Songbirds" Exhibit
February 10—April 17, 2008
Hurstville Interpretive Center

This informative and interactive exhibit on America's fastest growing outdoor interest delights and educates visitors while addressing the challenges facing migratory songbirds and what individuals can do to help them.

February continued

Volunteer Appreciation

Wednesday, February 13th at 12 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Cost: Free

Everyone and anyone who has volunteered or helped out Jackson County Conservation is invited to attend. This will be a great chance to meet other volunteers and hear their stories. **Please RSVP by February 8th if you plan to attend.**

Owls on the Prowl

Saturday, February 23rd at 6 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Cost: Free

Hooting for a good time? Join Naturalists for a program on owls and learn how to tell one hoot from another. Following the program—head outside for some owl calling.



March

Bird House Workshop

Sunday, March 2nd at 1 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Cost: Wren \$5, Bluebird \$7, Kestrel \$16

Bird houses are a wonderful addition to your yard. They increase your success of seeing and keeping wrens, bluebirds and kestrels around your home. We will provide the materials and information on bird houses. If you have a hammer please bring it with you.

Pre-registration is required by January 18th.



Iowa DNR Hunter Education

March 11th & 13th at 6:30 pm and March 15th at 9 am

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Cost: Free

The Iowa DNR requires that anyone born before January 1, 1972 must be certified in hunter education before they are eligible to purchase an Iowa hunting license. A person who is 11 years old or older may enroll in the March course. Class size is limited so please call early. For more information and classes in the area visit www.iowadnr.gov. **Pre-registration is required by March 7th.**

Duck Waddle—Dubuque Audubon Society

March 15 at sunrise

Blakes Parking Lot at Green Island

Cost: Free

Join the Dubuque Audubon Society for the spring waterfowl count at Green Island. See if you can identify one waddle from another!



Bird Hike

Sunday, March 30th at 1 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Cost: Free

Join members of the Dubuque Audubon Society for a bird hike around Jackson County. Birding will begin at the Hurstville Marsh and then continue to the Maquoketa Caves State Park and Buzzard Ridge Wildlife Area.

Nature Tales

All pre-school age children are invited to sign up for Nature Tales. The Nature Tales program has been successful for the last two years. This year we are doing the first year rotation of programs again. We have developed these programs for younger children to get them interested in the outdoors. We hope our programs will open their eyes to nature and encourage them to discover more.

Each day is very similar in structure, but the activities and topics are different. Each program is based on a children's book that we will read. Following the story will be a discussion and activity. We encourage parents, grandparents, or daycare providers to attend with their children. All children who attend do need to be supervised.



January 10, 2008	Moms on the Go	10 AM
February 14, 2008	Tracks	10 AM
March 13, 2008	Insects	10 AM
April 10, 2008	Stars & Planets	10 AM
May 8, 2008	Flowers	10 AM

The program is free and open to the public. We ask that you pre-register for each program so we can plan the activities accordingly. Please call the Jackson County Conservation office at (563) 652-3783 or email jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com for more information or to register.

Attention Youth Leaders

Looking for a program, assistance with badge requirements or a service project? We can help! Contact naturalists to schedule a program, find resource materials, or come to the Hurstville Interpretive Center for a field trip. You can join us for any of the programs scheduled above or schedule your own. Let us know how we can help!

Don't forget about the park packs! We have back packs full of hands-on activities, resource materials and more. Call to check out your pack today. These park packs are available thanks to the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend.



- ◆ Wetland Wonders
- ◆ Treeific Trees
- ◆ Animals of Iowa
- ◆ For the Birds
- ◆ Insect Safari

Contact the Jackson County Conservation office at 563-652-3783 to reserve your pack.

E-newsletter?

Would you like to help us save a few trees? We have developed an E-mail mailing list for our newsletter. If you would like to receive your newsletter electronically, please send us your name and E-mail address. Also include your "snail mail" address as it appears on this newsletter. That will help us clean up our mailing labels file.



Special bonus when you get your newsletter on the web at www.jacksonccb.com—photos and some graphics are in color!

Unless otherwise noted, pre-register for programs by contacting the Jackson County Conservation office/Hurstville Interpretive Center at (563) 652-3783. 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.



Friends of Jackson County Conservation



Christmas Gift Shop Sale

Do your Christmas shopping at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. We have shirts, ornaments, toys, necklaces, honey, wine and more!!

We have ordered some new items for the winter you won't want to miss! Sale proceeds help support the Friends of Jackson County.

Friends Meeting

Tuesday, March 25 at 7 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center



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

Hurstville Interpretive Center Gift Shop Coupon



Holiday Special

10% off your entire purchase in the gift shop

*If you are a Friends member you will receive 15% off your entire purchase. Just show your membership card at the cash register.

Proceeds from the gift shop support the Friends of Jackson County Conservation.

Valid through December 31, 2007.

Fundraising Dates for 2007 & 2008

By eating out one night a month you help the Friends of Jackson County Conservation raise money for educational supplies, displays and exhibits, and many other things that are used for educational purposes in Jackson County. A percentage of your order on the fundraiser nights goes to the Friends group.

December 12	Pizza Hut	5 pm—close
January 9	Happy Joes	All day
February 13	Pizza Hut	5 pm—close
March 12	Happy Joes	All day **Coupon will be in the next newsletter.



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.)

Student
\$5.00

Regular
\$10.00

Senior Citizen
\$5.00

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

Snip and Take to Happy Joe's on January 9

Happy Joes' will donate 10% of your purchases to the Friends of Jackson County Conservation. Just turn in this ticket when you pay and the Friends will get the credit. Dine-in, pick-up, and/or deliver—all day.

Your Name: _____

I support the **Friends of Jackson County Conservation.**

\$ spent at Happy Joe's _____

(Happy Joe's team member will fill this out and attach it to your receipt.)



Fall Activities at Hurstville Interpretive Center



Dewitt-Central Students enjoyed a field trip to the Hurstville Interpretive Center.



Participants at the Geology Program examined fractures in the horizontal bedding!



Preston 4th grade enjoyed learning about the creatures of Iowa in the early 1800s compared to those we see today.



Students from Eisenhower Elementary enjoyed lunch in the butterfly garden during their field trip.



Bellevue 5th grade tried their skills at orienteering this fall during a field trip to the Hurstville Interpretive Center.

Winter Wonders Crossword

P S O L F I S H I N G
 Z K S N O W S H O E N
 M I G R A T I O N T I
 D I C G J S T Q R S T
 E N H E T N Y A W O A
 L G P Y A B P W H R K
 S D R M C P O S D F S
 G L R C I N C O W F E
 O O X N S K V Q T I C
 D C G N I D D E L S I

Migration
Trapping
Sledding
Dormant
Hat

Snow
Frost
Fishing
Snowshoe
Boots

Ice
Ice Skating
Skiing
Dogsled
Cold



Nature Tale participants read the book Salamander Room and learned about salamanders and where they live.

Environmental Ed. Wish List

**Talk to the conservation staff and receive a detailed list of program books and materials needed or check out our website www.jacksonccb.com for a complete listing of items needed.

- * Binoculars
- * Bird food
- * Funding for taxidermy
- * Sponsor Sally the salamander
- * Sponsor Roxie the turtle
- * Adopt a flowerbed in garden
- * Sturdy card table
- * Plastic storage tubs



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!

Newsletter—Margaret McCarthy, Mary Mether, Darlene Dalziel, Marlene Dalziel, Ruth Hainstock

Bird Feeders—Ryan Current, Joel Geier

Trumpeter Swans— Ryan Current, Dale Shady, Bob Sheets

Volunteered at Hurstville Interpretive Center—Lou Behrand, Myrna Cavanaugh, Jerry Dalziel, Marlene Dalziel, Ruth Hainstock, Wendy Hainstock, Florence Heiar, Dolores Klein, Geraldine Lambert, Phyllis Nissen, Don Nissen, Jessica O'Connor, Eunese Roberg, LaVerne Roberg, Ruth Schneider, Asher Schroeder, Mary Schwager, Duane Westphal, Marilee Weuste, Doris Yaddof, Judy Bickford, Alice Burmahl, Janice Hayward, Mary Hayward, Margaret McCarthy, Zoe McMahon, Mary Mether, Dorothy Nabb, Grace Otting, Mary Helen Stewart, Tiffany Duhme, Sue Ostert

Helped with Halloween Hike—Bill & Wendy Hainstock, Karen Krueger, Ken & Diane Kuhlman, Shirley Deppe, Maggie Ward, Jason Thompson (Maquoketa Police Department), Maquoketa Cards Club, Lora Schwendinger, Tiffany Duhme

Food for Halloween Hike—Grace Otting, Pam True, Shannon Weber, Marlene Dalziel, Tammy Small, Doris Yaddof, Mary Stephany, Darlene Dalziel, Wendy Hainstock, Karen Krueger

Costumes for Halloween Hike— Louisa County Conservation, Cedar County Conservation

Characters for Halloween Hike—Maquoketa Cards Club

Help with Sandbox Archaeology programs— Alice Burmahl, Grace Otting, Zoe McMahon, Judy Bickford

Help with Youth Outdoor Skills Day—Eric Strathman, Gary Purtilo, Rick Small, Tammy Small, Ethan Small, Sarah Sagars

Use of fire rings for YOS— Lisa Smith

YOS Supplies (archery target, grill, life jackets, 1st aid kit)— Big Timber Toms— Maquoketa chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation

Work in Butterfly Garden— Cardyn Condon, Mitch Gravert, Jeanne Hoesley, Naomie Irhig, Don Nissen, Phyllis Nissen, Dale Shady, Matt Burns, Deb Pettyjohn, Shelly Kruse, Jamie Miner & the 5th Graders at Briggs Elementary School

Helped with Fall Canoe Trip— Anderson Canoe Rental, Chuck O'Connor, Michele O'Connor, Ben Wagner

Donations made in memory of/or in honor of:

Wayne Sword
Esther Paulsen



Jackson County Conservation Board

Board Members

Bill Hainstock	Delmar
Gene Welch	Sabula
Rick Small	Bernard
Eric Strathman	Andrew
Roger Schladetzky	Bellevue

Board Address

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

E-mail jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com

Website www.jacksonccb.com

Spruce Creek Shop 563-872-3621

Daryl Parker	Executive Director
Jeannie Collins-Heer	Park Ranger
Ryan Owen	Park Ranger
Vacant	Operation Technician
Pam True	Office Manager
Ann Burns	Environmental Ed. Coordinator
Hilary Johnson	Naturalist
Jess O'Connor	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 receive a copy, please send a postcard with the name and address on it to: Jackson County Conservation Board, 18670-63rd Street, Maquoketa, IA 52060.

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

Cash Donations— Robert & Gloria Hillis, Members of the Mesquakie Chapter Ducks Unlimited

Friends of Jackson County Endowment Fund— Sam & Pam True, Friends of Jackson County Conservation

Box Turtle & supplies— Daniel Benoit

Lesson Plans for Millrock— Betty Miller

Backpacks— Sandra Gerlach

Landscape work at Kilns— Don & Nancy Flagel

Cut Thistles in Swan Pond—Logan Connolly, Ryan Current, Ann Burns

Pioneer Days in Miles—Marlene Dalziel, Darlene Dalziel

Programs at Center— Bel Tubbs, Chad Heinzl, Gary Peterson, Denny Weiss

Ecology Crafts for Kids book— Clayton Pederson & Mary Nevans Pederson

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

Cut wood for Bird Feeders— Jerry Dalziel

Hurstville Interpretive Center Volunteers

August	128.5
September	108.75
October	173

Total number of volunteer hours = 40,943 hours
(as of 8/21/04 to 10/31/07)

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!

Holiday Closings

Closed December 22, 23, 24, and 25

Closed December 29, 30, 31 and January 1, 2008



To save the most energy and money, replace your highest used fixtures or the light bulbs in them with energy-efficient models. The five highest use fixtures in a home are typically the kitchen ceiling lights, the living or family room table and floor lamps, and outdoor porch or post lamp. ENERGY STAR qualified lighting fixtures and replacement bulbs can be found at home improvement and hardware stores, lighting showrooms, and other retail stores, including on-line outlets.

The smallest things can add up to a real difference. If every American home replaced their 5 most frequently used light fixtures or the bulbs in them with ones that have earned the ENERGY STAR, we would save close to \$8 billion each year in energy costs, and together we would prevent the greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions from nearly 10 million cars.

FACT: The energy used in the average home can be responsible for more than twice the greenhouse gas emissions of the average car. When you use less energy at home, you reduce greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and help protect our environment from the risks of global climate change.

www.energystar.gov

ENERGY STAR

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Changing the World One Bulb at a Time

Changing the world starts with simple actions. When you replace light bulbs or entire light fixtures in your home with ENERGY STAR rated bulbs, you help preserve energy resources and reduce the risks of global warming while saving money and time buying and changing lights in your home.



ENERGY STAR qualified lighting provides bright, warm light but uses about 75% less energy than standard lighting, produce 75% less heat, and lasts up to 10 times longer!

Printed with soy ink on recycled paper

For more information regarding Jackson County Conservation Board activities, events or to pre-register
Call (563) 652-3783 or
Email jacksoncbb@jacksoncbb.com
Check out our website at www.jacksoncbb.com

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Jackson County Conservation
Hurstville Interpretive Center
18670 63rd Street
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