

Up and

Down

the River

JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD SUMMER 2013

Grant Strengthens Organization's Work

By Ann Burns, Environmental Education Coordinator

"One of the benefits of volunteering for projects like this is I have the opportunity to build personal skills and use a software program I would otherwise not use."

~Mary Hayward, FJCC member

Four members of Friends of Jackson County Conservation (FJCC) are wrapping up a year of bookkeeping training and data base software implementation thanks to an Every Day Grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF). The grant, made possible by Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc., is designed to strengthen public lands support organizations, such as FJCC; by increasing their power to promote and help maintain those lands.

In 2011 FJCC began the "Hurstville Outdoor Makeover" project. As they wrote grants for the project; and began tracking the numerous donations that would make the project possible; several FJCC members realized they either needed to recruit an accountant, or they needed to learn some accounting skills! The file folder for volunteers, the notebook for recording donations, and the card file for memberships needed to be converted to a data base that could cross reference people who are members of all three categories.

With the Toyota Every Day Grant, FJCC was able to contract with Miner, Gilroy and Mead, CPA to have an accountant work with two FJCC members to develop logical accounting categories to better track project income and expenses. Arlene Lyon met with Jeanne Hoesley and Wendy Hainstock several times as they began the process of entering information into FJCC's new accounting software. A follow up meeting six months later confirmed the new system met FJCC's needs.

Article continued on next page....



Friends members Mary Hayward & Jeanne Hoesley

Another facet of this capacity building plan has our summer education intern, Ashley Quinlin, spending part of her time developing activities and social media projects to reach out to some community populations that are not part of our "traditional" program participants. She will explore ways to engage a wider audience in exploring the great outdoors! Read more about Ashley on page 5 and come meet her at a program this summer!

Front page article continued...

Grant funds were also used to purchase volunteer and donation tracking software to enable FJCC to better track these activities and produce statements for grant proposals and year end reports. "What is interesting is the software program we selected is actually a database for small churches. Many software programs written specifically for non-profits were expensive and more difficult to use. We think that this software will be easier for volunteers to learn to use" noted Jeanne Hoesley. "But if you think about it – a church and a public lands support group are carrying out similar activities – relying on volunteers to accomplish tasks, providing educational programs for the public, and relying on donations to carry out their work. They just have somewhat different goals and objectives!"



Friends of Jackson County members are excited about their future and are looking forward to providing greater support for natural resources, environmental education and outdoor recreation in Jackson County. Thanks to the National Environmental Education Foundation and the Toyota Every Day grant, they have the tools to carry out their mission in a business-like manner!

Wildlife Poaching – More Than Meets the Eye

By Jen Meyer, Naturalist Intern

We citizens of Iowa are blessed to be so near to a wide variety of flora and fauna with wonderful properties that humans enjoy beyond their aesthetics. Most people think of hunting game species such as deer, turkey, fish and squirrels but our nongame species are of the greatest concern due to their lack of attention. For food, fur, medicine, pets and profit, our wildlife is highly sought after by people worldwide.

Generally it is prohibited to collect live leaves, flowers, roots, snakes and insects on public lands. Now, realistically, you are not in trouble if you take a tick home, pick a dandelion or swat a mosquito. These rules are designed to keep populations of native plants and animals alive and well. Snakes, turtles, flowers, roots and fish are being illegally harvested and sold around the world for great monetary profit with devastating results on local populations.

Iowa Code Chapter 481 outlines the laws that define poaching and lawful handling of wildlife. Any species that are threatened, endangered, dangerous, specially monitored, requiring a permit or license or of question should be left alone until you can personally verify the correct method of collection. You may call our local DNR conservation officer Andrew Keil at 563/590-1945 or Nate Johnson at 563/590-1944 if you have questions.

Check with park staff for more information specific to that park.

To anonymously turn in poachers or report suspected poaching, call the Iowa DNR Turn in Poachers Hotline at 800-532-2020. There may even be a monetary reward for your vigilance.

10 Rules to Follow when Collecting and Eating Wild Plants

1. Always be 110% sure to clearly identify the plant you are picking.
2. Select only healthy plants.
3. Choose the young green leaves of edible plants. Many leaves develop a chemical called "tannin" and become bitter with age.
4. Apply the rule of 10: harvest only one plant for every 10 you leave behind. Removing a few leaves, petals, fruits or seeds from several plants is better than taking all you need from one plant.
5. Harvest only what you will need for your recipe.
6. Harvest only the edible parts of a plant that are ripe. Out of season edibles can be very bitter.
7. Dismiss all rules of harvesting which begin with a sentence like "All blue berries are edible..." There are no across-the board rules.
8. If one plant in a botanical family is edible, it does not mean that all plants in the family are edible.
9. Sometimes, only a special part of a plant is edible. The rest may be indigestible or even poisonous.
10. Be knowledgeable about the area you've selected for harvesting. Are you in a park? Have herbicides or pesticides been used there?



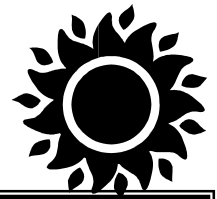
Just remember:

- Follow the rules above.
- Only fruits, nuts and fungus can be collected from areas managed by Jackson County Conservation Board, as well as most other public areas.
- Always ask permission from private landowners.
- Collecting wild plants and eating them can be great fun and give you sense of being more connected to the earth. Enjoy!





Summer Programs



Program Cancellation Policy– In some circumstances, weather or otherwise, we may have to cancel a program. Anyone who pre-registers for a program (whether required or not) will be contacted if the program is canceled. We will also post the cancellation information on the Hurstville Center's Facebook page and send it to KMAQ 95.1 FM.

June

Canoe Outing

 **Saturday June 15 at 1:00 pm**
Maquoketa River—Canton to Royertown

Enjoy the beautiful scenery in Jackson County while cleaning up along one of our precious streams. We have a limited supply of canoes available for free. You can bring your own or rent from a local outfitter. Sign up by June 12.

Ginkgo: The Tree that Time Forgot
Sunday June 16 at 2:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Ginkgo is perhaps the world's most distinctive and ancient tree. An arboreal oddity with one of the longest of all botanical pedigrees, Ginkgo has a life story deeply intertwined with that of our planet. Join Dr. Peter Crane from Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, as he digs deeper into the story of the ginkgo tree.

Jackson County Conservation Board Meeting
Tuesday June 18 at 6:00 pm
Spruce Creek Park

The JCCB will tour Spruce Creek Park and hold their monthly meeting there. Meetings are open to the public.

Bug Hunting

 **Saturday June 22 at 1:00 pm**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join a naturalist in exploring and discovering bugs of all kinds! This is a proper adventure; full of dangerous predators, venom squirting monsters and cannibals but equally one filled with exquisite beauty and wonder. We'll provide the bug nets and jars and help awaken your sense of discovery and adventure in the great outdoors.

Geocaching 101 Event

 **Sunday June 30 at 2:00 pm**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join us for a quick introduction to the positively addicting activity known as geocaching. We'll start with a video session to give you some background. Then we'll show you how to search for, find, and log in your first geocache. Then we'll send you off on the trails around the Center looking for some caches that we've placed. GPS units are available, or you can bring your own. Door prizes too!

July

Life in a Pond

 **Thursday July 4 at 10:00 am**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join a naturalist in discovering what lives in the pond at the Center. Nets and field guides will be provided. Be prepared to get a little wet!

 **Froggin**

Friday July 5 at 7 pm—South Sabula Lake Park
Saturday July 6 at 2:00 pm—Hurstville Center
Saturday July 6 at 7:00 pm—Spruce Creek Park

The distinctive calls of frogs are a common sound of summer. Join a naturalist in exploring the water for frogs. Wear old clothes and plan to get wet; nets are provided.

Lost Mound Tour

Saturday July 13 at Noon
Hurstville Center then Lost Mound Refuge

Bob Walton, expert birder, will lead us on an exciting tour of the Lost Mound National Wildlife Refuge. This area is accessible with trained guides only. Here is your chance to view the vast prairie and wildlife at Lost Mound. Meet at the Hurstville Center at Noon. We'll carpool to Lost Mound. Sign up required by July 1st. Limited space available. Bring binoculars. Tour will be done by van; there will not be very much walking.

Dutch Oven Demonstration

Sunday July 14th at 2:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center


Attention Campers and Outdoor Cooks. Are you tired of the same old campfire meals? Want to impress your friends with a "WOW" factor? Join us for a fun demo by Doug Gonner. *Optional: bring your own Dutch Oven and recipe, and Doug will help you add the "WOW" factor. Preregistration appreciated in advance to have enough food. Demo is Free, Food sampling is \$5, bring your own table service and beverage.*

Jackson County Conservation Board Meeting
Tuesday July 16 at 6:00 pm
South Sabula Lake Park & Jackson County Welcome Center

The conservation board will tour the park and then hold the meeting at the Center. Meetings are open to the public.

July

Nature Camps:

 Youth will have fun with nature related activities! For youth entering Kdg-6th grade next fall. Cost is \$5 per child per 1/2 day camp. Registration required by Friday July 12. Forms available at the Hurstville Center and online at www.jacksonccb.com.

Tuesday July 16

9:00 – 12:00 at Twogood Park in **Preston**

1:00 – 4:00 at Miles City Park in **Miles**

Wednesday July 17

9:00 – 12:00 at Andrew City Park in **Andrew**

1:00 – 4:00 at Horseshoe Pond in **Maquoketa**

Thursday July 18

9:00 – 12:00 at La Motte City Park in **La Motte**

1:00 – 4:00 at Cole Park in **Bellevue**

Date Night at the Park!

 **Friday July 19 at 7:45 pm**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Calling all couples! Join a naturalist for a romantic night in the park. Enjoy dessert and then a guided stroll through the prairie at dusk. Star gazing, hearing the calls of the frogs and much more fun! (Do bring bug spray)

Build a Fishing Rod Workshop

Saturday July 27 from 9:00—3:00
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Calling all fishing enthusiasts! Create your own custom 6-foot spinning rod at this workshop. Experienced rod builder Francis Fischer will provide all the materials necessary and show you step by step how to create your own rod. The class is for adults and youth ages 13 and older. The \$40 registration fee covers all materials (rod & reel). Class size is limited to the first 10 registrants.

Register by July 21. Payment due at time of registration.

Animal Tracks & Signs

 **Sunday July 28 at 2:00 pm**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Wildlife leave all sorts of evidence behind that they were there. Join a naturalist in searching for clues to figure out what lives in the prairie and marsh. Watching for animal tracks and signs of wildlife leads to amazing finds in the animal kingdom.

Special Needs— Our public programs are designed for enjoyment and education for all ages and varying abilities. If you have special needs, please contact our office prior to an event.

Pre-registration— To sign up for a program, email jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com or call (563) 652-3783.

Cost— Programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted. Donations are accepted.

August

Fire Starting

 **Sunday August 4 at 2:00 pm**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Dean Zimmerman of Monticello will be doing a demonstration of how to start fires using friction using both a bow and hand drill. He will also talk about various methods of fire starting. Participants will even get a chance to start a fire themselves... without matches!

Caterpillar Races

 **Sunday August 11 at 2:00 pm**
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Which caterpillar will move the fastest? Come on out for a fun afternoon outdoors learning more about caterpillars and watching them move.

Jackson County Conservation Board Meeting
Tuesday August 13 at 6:00 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

The conservation board will tour the recently donated property of Robert J Martin first; followed by a meeting. Open to the public.

Hike Pine Valley

 **Saturday August 17 at 9:00 am**
Pine Valley Nature Area

Join a naturalist in hiking at this beautiful area; woodlands, prairies, streams and maybe you'll even spot some wildlife! Learn more about the activity packs specific to Pine Valley and other county parks that you can borrow for FREE thanks to Friends of Jackson County Conservation.

Our programs are posted online at

www.jacksonccb.com/calendar_of_events

www.MyCountyParks.com/County/Jackson.aspx

mycountyparks  .com

Environmental Ed. Wish List

Used items are okay!

- ◇ Plastic storage tubs
- ◇ Sponsors for taxidermy work... a red fox, pelican, song birds, flying squirrel, owls, and more.
- ◇ Books: old versions of Little Red Riding Hood & Three Little Pigs
- ◇ Snowshoes (adult & youth size)
- ◇ Used nature story books and field guides
- ◇ Empty clean soup/vegetable cans



Friends of Jackson County Conservation



Friends Sponsor Intern

Friends of Jackson County Conservation has helped Jackson County Conservation Board fund a summer intern two years in a row. Thanks to the Toyota More For Your Community Grant, Ashley is able to help with more projects, including exploring ways to engage a wider audience in exploring the great outdoors!

“Hi, my name is Ashley Quinlan, and I’m thrilled to be the intern this summer! I graduated from Maquoketa High School and will be a sophomore next year at Loyola



University Chicago where I am studying environmental science. I am excited to gain experience in working with people of all ages and finding ways to get them interested in nature and what it has to offer. I’m looking forward to spending my summer at the Interpretive Center!”

School Bus Scholarships

Friends of Jackson County Conservation want to ensure that all students in Jackson County have the opportunity to attend field trips to nature centers and parks. This spring, Friends helped make it possible for PK-6th graders at both East Central and Preston school districts to enjoy a field trip together as they move towards the merger. JCCB Staff Daryl, Ann, Jess & Jen , ISU Extension staff, teachers and volunteers assisted with activities at the field days at Maquoketa Caves State Park.



Friends are online! Visit our website:

www.jacksonccb.com/friendsjcc

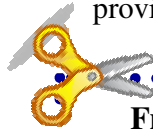
Summer Meeting—June 11

7:00 pm—Business Meeting begins; at the North Bend Community Center (schoolhouse) on Iron Bridge Road

- ♦ **6:00 pm**—Join us for a walk on the JC Rec Trail. Meet at the 45th Street access, east of Spragueville.
- ♦ **6:45 pm**—bring a picnic supper to enjoy; at North Bend Community Center

It's Time to Renew!

Renew your membership this summer. Friends of Jackson County Conservation membership run from **July 1—June 30**. Clip the form below and mail in with a check to stay current on your dues! We aren't putting this form in every newsletter anymore, just the summer edition so folks know when membership fees are due. Not a member? No problem, anyone is welcome to become a member of the Friends group! Make sure to provide an up-to-date email address so you stay in the loop on Friends activities and projects.



Friends of Jackson County Conservation Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

Email Address: _____

Type of Membership (Please check one per form and make checks payable to Friends of JCC)

Student \$5

Regular \$10

Senior Citizen \$5

Family \$20

Sustaining \$50

Individual Life \$500

Amount Enclosed..... _____

Please send membership form and fee to:

Friends of Jackson County Conservation

18670 63rd Street

Maquoketa, Iowa 52060

Spring Activities with JCCB



Phil Cronin with MacBride Raptor Project brought a live screech owl and red-tailed hawk while educating us about birds of prey. 40+ participants joined us!

Jess talks to 4th-6th graders from Preston & East Central about the Maquoketa Caves during a field trip this spring.



Youth helped paint one of the windows at the Center to help reduce bird collisions during migration.

Kid's corner






WHAT DO



GROSBEAKS


LIKE TO EAT?




Rose-breasted Grosbeaks

Bursting with black, white, and rose-red, male Rose-breasted Grosbeaks are like an exclamation mark at your bird feeder or in your binoculars! These chunky birds eat seeds, fruit, and insects. They are a frequent visitors to backyard bird feeders; filling up on sunflower seeds. You can find them along forest edges and in parks. Grosbeaks migrate to Central America during the winter. Watch for them this summer!

①  +  +  =

②  +  - K =

③  + PH +  +  =

④  +  +  =

⑤  +  + EEE =

⑥  +  + N + S =

Answer Key 1.Sunflower seeds 2.Cherries 3.Safflower seeds 4.Peanuts 5.Cranberries 6.Raisins



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—Jeanne Hoesley, Dorothy Nabb, Bel Tubbs, Ann Burns, Mary Hayward, Karen Manning, Barb McCray, Kevin Burns, Margaret McCarthy, Olivia Vega, Peg Miller, Linda Behne, Alice Gillmore, Mary Mether, Darlene Elsner, Dave Lauricha, Kathi Atkinson, Brooke Lapke, Madison Lapke, Kenzi Newmann, Hailey Schwenker, Cale Gent, Christian Gil, Linda Grobstick, Lonnie Herman, Sally Davies, Jennie Wilcox, Karen Krueger, Chris Tubbs, Kim Jochum, Sara Millhouse, Vera Randall, Steve Stroyan, Linda Davidson, Jo Ellen Langerman, Maquoketa Cub Scouts Pack 238, Michele O'Connor, Vince O'Connor, Jeremy Meyer, Curt Kemmerer

Hurstville Lime Kilns Gardens—Don & Nancy Flagel

Helped with Field Trips—Bob Walton, Dawn Carstensen, Roberta Rosheim

Contributed to the Iowans on Adventures Series—Megan Andresen, Lana Flagel, Linda Davidson, Kathi Atkinson, Dave Lauricha, Jo Ellen Langerman, Pam True, Mary Hayward, Daryl Parker, Bel Tubbs, Vera Randall

Boat & Hunter Education Course Instructors—Andrew Keil, Rob Waack, Curt Kemmerer, Gerald Miller, Jeromy Miller, Joel Cornelius, Maury Anderson, Bill Bonney

Helped with Swan Programs—Bob Walton, Kevin Burns

Roadside Cleanup on Hwy 61, Hurstville area—Maquoketa Rotary Club members Bob Osterhaus, Florian Steffen, Ted Maze, Ken Wright, John Gilroy

North Fork Maquoketa River Cleanup—Saukenuk Paddlers of the QC members Rex Grove, Stan Borkgren, Lynn Majetic, Joanne Rabello, Pete Crocker, Drew Crocker, Mark Riese

Roadside Cleanup on Hwy 64, Baldwin Marsh—Baldwin Monmouth 4-H group

Contributed to Annual Soup Supper Fundraiser—Bel Tubbs, Vera Randall, Ann Burns, Asher Schroeder, Barb & John McCray, Betty Miller, Bob & Sandy Walton, Chrissy, Katie & Jenna Breitbach, Chris & Chuck Cornelius, Curt Kemmerer, Daryl Swanson, Denise Swanson, Eunice Schladetsky, Gary & Karen Beedle, Grace Otting, Heather Hafner, Helen Stewart, Hilary Markin, Jake & Judy Bickford, Jean Jorgensen, Jeanne Hoesley, Kathi Atkinson, Jen Meyer, Jennie Wilcox, Jo Ellen Langerman, Karen Krueger, Karen Manning, Karen Portz, Kevin Burns, Kim Jochum, Linda Behne, Linda Davidson, Linda Grobstick, Lisa Oetken, Madonna Hefel, Margaret McCarthy, Margo Sprenger, Marie Rossman, Mary Ann McLaughlin, Mary Hayward, Mary Mether, Jess Wagner, Mary Stephany, Mary Stroyan, Michelle Rolling, Pam Bahr, Pam True, Richard Rossman, Wanda Cornelius, Wendy & Bill Hainstock, Zoe McMahan

Jackson County Conservation Board

Board Members

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Rick Small | Bernard |
| Anne Hawks | Maquoketa |
| Steve Flynn | Maquoketa |
| Chris Cornelius | Andrew |
| Randy Bender | Bellevue |

Address & Contact Information

18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, IA 52060

Phone: (563) 652-3783

E-mail jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com

Website www.jacksonccb.com

Conservation Staff

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Daryl Parker | Executive Director |
| Ann Burns | Environmental Ed. Coordinator |
| Ryan Owen | Park Ranger |
| Jeannie Collins-Heer | Park Ranger |
| Jerry Widel | Operation Technician |
| Pam True | Office Manager |
| Jess Wagner | Naturalist |
| Jen Meyer | Naturalist Intern |
| Ashley Quinlan | Summer Education Intern |
| Derek Hopson | Summer Maintenance Worker |
| Jonathan Bopes | Summer Maintenance Worker |

Up and Down the River is distributed free of charge on a quarterly basis. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, call us at (563) 652-3783.

Donations—Bill & Bonnie Schwenker (program supplies), Pam True (book), Ben Wagner (plants & flowers), Maxine Reistropher (containers), Margo Sprenger (field guide), Mary Jo Vrotsos (books), Julie Lehrman (books), Barb McCray (craft supplies & seeds), Jen & Jeremy Meyer (books), Susan Staskal (containers & magazines), Chris & Connie Domeyer (digital camera), Marvin Hintz (snowshoes), Jay Kahn (books), Bel Tubbs (magazines), Chris & Chuck Cornelius (straw), Larry McDevitt (soil), Vince & Michele O'Connor (books), Wendy Hainstock (containers)

Cash Donations—Ann Knight, Ann & Kevin Burns, Loras & Mary Ann McLaughlin Trust, Dennis & Alice Mans, Asher Schroeder, Mary Mether, Betty Miller, Grace Otting, Mary Stephany, David & Angie Burmahl, Sybesma Eye & Vision Center, Andrew Petal Pals, Tuesday Club, Joan Bollman, Gene Parmer Memorial, Maquoketa Community Services, Jackson County Soil & Water Conservation

Donations made in memory or in honor of:

In Memory of Kenneth Burns
In Honor of McLaughlin Family
In Memory of Pauline Mans
In Memory of Gene Parmer



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



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Hurstville Interpretive Center

Home of Jackson County Conservation Office

Hours

Weekdays Mon—Fri 9 am – 4 pm

Weekends Jan– Mar Closed

Weekends Apr– Oct 12 – 5 pm

Weekends Nov– Dec 12 – 4 pm

No Admission Fee!

Holidays:

Open Independence Day—July 4th!

Open Labor Day—September 2nd!



Great American Backyard Campout!

June 22—Thousands of people all across the nation will head outside with their family and friends to enjoy a fun-filled night under the stars. It doesn't matter whether you camp in your own backyard, with neighbors, in a local park or campground—what matters is that you get outside and help your kids enjoy the wonders of nature. Go to <http://www.nwf.org/Home/Great-American-Backyard-Campout.aspx> and get a camping guide, chock-full of fun activities, great recipes, camping tips and more! The positive effects of daily, unstructured time outdoors on kids' health are well-documented and wide-ranging.

10 Before 10 Challenge 10

Hunt for bugs, fly a kite, go fishing, find animal tracks, geocache, skip stones, etc.. There are many many great things to do outdoors. We've come up with a list of 30 that everyone should enjoy at some point in their lives. We challenge you to our 10 Before 10 event. Complete 10 of the 30 activities on our participation form and enter for some great outdoor prizes!



Bug Hunting!

Download the participant form from our website at www.jacksonccb.com or pick one up at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. Challenge ends November 18, 2013. At least 5 of the activities must be done at one of our public programs this spring, summer or fall. The remaining activities can be done on your own or with family and friends. We welcome all ages to participate in our challenge.



Geocaching!

Get Outdoors!