



The Otter Creek Quarterly

Autumn, 2010
Vol. 25 No. 3

A Newsletter of the Buchanan County Conservation Board

www.buchanancountyparks.com

Natural Resources Trust Fund – On the Ballot!

Dan Cohen, Conservation Board Director

Iowa voters will have a historic opportunity on November 2, 2010 to vote for *Iowa's Water and Land Legacy* (I WiLL) constitutional amendment. The amendment would, for the first time in Iowa's history, establish a constitutionally protected trust fund to preserve Iowa's natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities.

Specifically, the amendment will create the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund which will provide a permanent, reliable and accountable revenue source to improve water quality and natural areas in Iowa, aid in conservation of agricultural soils, help restore wetlands to protect against future flooding, provide enhanced recreational opportunities, and provide new or expanded economic opportunities.

Iowa is blessed with fantastic natural resources, including an extensive network of rivers and streams, and incredible remnants of native woodlands, prairies, and wetlands. Unfortunately, the responsibility to protect, enhance, and leave these resources in good condition for future generations has not been met. Recent data from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources shows that 53% of Iowa's water sources rate "poor," and Iowa currently loses an average of five tons of soil per acre each year due to erosion. As of today, Iowa ranks 47th out of 50 states in per capita state funding for conservation.

Benefits would be felt through projects

conducted by various state and local agencies and nonprofit groups. County Conservation Boards would benefit directly through constitutionally protected funding for the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) program. Funds also would be allocated through a Local Conservation Partnership Program (LCPP). Cities and local nonprofit groups also would have access to these dollars. Additionally, County Conservation Boards would be able to compete for increased

grant funds for watershed improvement, habitat projects, and trail development.

A vote for Iowa's Water and Land Legacy Amendment is a vote to establish the Trust Fund – not a vote for a tax increase. Revenue for the

Trust Fund will come from allocating 3/8ths of one cent from sales tax revenue *the next time* the Iowa legislature raises the state sales tax – providing the Trust Fund an estimated \$150 million per year. This funding recommendation was based on over three years of research and study conducted through efforts of a diverse advisory committee. In 2008 and 2009, more than 90 percent of Iowa's state legislators, including all current and past legislators from Buchanan County, voted to approve the legislation allowing Iowans to vote on the amendment this November.

Iowa would join Missouri, Arkansas, and Minnesota as states to approve constitutional amendments to dedicate funding for natural resources. This is an important issue, and it is hoped that all citizens will learn about I WiLL before going to the polls. For more information, visit: www.iowaConservation2010.org.

Exact Ballot Language:

#1 Iowa's Water & Land Legacy Amendment."

Adopts Iowa's Water and Land Legacy amendment to the Iowa Constitution which creates a dedicated trust fund for the purposes of protecting and enhancing water quality and natural areas in the State, including parks, trails, and fish and wildlife habitat, and conserving agricultural soils in this state."

Snakes, Bats, and Burnout

Sondra Cabell, BCCB Naturalist

When you have worked at any job for more than 20 years, there is always the chance that you become burnt out – tired of the same thing and unable to put as much enthusiasm into your efforts as you might have when younger. Combatting stagnancy and continuing to find enjoyment and fulfillment in my work is a continuing mission.

Naturalists **need** to have energy and enthusiasm to share with participants during educational and recreational programs. In some parts of the country, the job of keeping fresh and invigorated is difficult. But in Iowa, we have an amazing number of naturalists employed through county conservation boards and other nonprofit groups that serve to provide a networking safety net to stagnancy. Through workshops and networking, the Iowa Association of Naturalists strives to help us all help keep each other fresh.

One of the things that really keeps me going is the constant change and amazing opportunities to learn new things just outside my door or window. Picking up new bits of information from experts in the field really helps fill in the cracks of knowledge; but finding out that there are still huge pieces of missing information provides even more of a charge.

In August, The Iowa Association of Naturalists held their summer workshop in Bremer County. While driving to the park for my first session, I noticed literally thousands of dragonflies flying above the ditches and in yards. At 55 mph with the sun in my face, I could tell they had clear shimmering wings and got flashes of orange that I assumed was their body color. Not much to go on for identification. “Way cool!” I thought, “but why are there so many out now?”

This was but the first of the natural world’s intrigue to get me and other naturalists going. After supper, a fledgling great horned owl put on a show. It flew past the picnic shelter to a nearby tree, then made repeated flights to the ground in the mowed picnic area where it was easily visible. Perhaps it was catching and eating grasshoppers or cicadas. Cardinals were following and harassing the young owl much of the time.

All of this excitement occurred while our group was being educated on bats, by Central College’s Russell Benedict. After quizzing



Conservation Board Naturalist Sondra Cabell takes a bat out of a mist net while at a summer Naturalist outing (photo by Heather Gamm).

us naturalists (during which we all learned something), we set out to capture bats in mist nets. While walking past the first net with a few individual bats flying overhead, no one expected, that in a matter of 30 minutes, more than 60 bats would be netted! The experience of holding a live bat in a gloved hand, setting it on a tree trunk, watching it quickly climb up, and then seeing it flip upside down and fly away is incredible!

Persiad Meteor showers and the summer visibility of the Milky Way finished the night. But the fun and learning continued the next morning.

Massasagua Rattlesnakes are endangered in Iowa, but call Bremer County home. We were set to track one down with radio telemetry. Terry and Wendy VanDeWalle have been studying the rattlers for ten years, and we found the female with the transmitter in no time. As Wendy was set to leave, our group advanced to a plywood board set on the ground as snake shelter lure. Another rattler was sitting at the edge – with babies sneaking out both edges. Rattlesnakes give live birth and stay with the young for a short (unknown) time. The mom and 14 babies were collected to measure and mark with a microchip. Many of the little ones had blue eyes – indicating that they were preparing to shed. It is great to know that 14 babies have been added to the population of an animal that is endangered!

Farewell to Tana

Dan Cohen, Conservation Board Director



In July, 1983 a young black bear cub came to Fontana Park. The bear had been purchased as a pet by a family that now was on the move to a



Left: Tana came to Fontana Park in 1983 as a five-month old cub.

Des Moines apartment where a pet bear would not be possible. In such cases, options are limited. The bear would have to be either put down or placed with a properly licensed person or organization.

The new black bear was an instant hit in the display. Then Conservation Board Director Harry Graves called her "the most popular individual in the county". A contest to name the bear was advertised to area schools, and the winning suggestion was to name her Tana (from Fon"tana"). The lively young cub grew into a large, friendly bear who enjoyed climbing up her tree to sit on her wooden "house"; sliding around the wet pen after the floor had been hosed clean; taking showers provided by staff when the temperatures were hot; and feeding on her favorite foods (Tana would easily gobble down 20 apples in one sitting). During naturalist tours of the display, Tana's long tongue, small eyes, inquisitive nose, and large size were great tools for pointing out wildlife adaptations and classic "bearness". Tana was a favorite of Conservation Department staff who cared for her and the other animals in the display during the next three decades. It cannot be over-stated how dedicated these people have been, and still are, when it comes to the care of the animals at Fontana Park.

Right: Tana enjoys a Halloween treat during the annual "Trick or Treat for the Animals".



Below: Even as a very old bear, Tana enjoyed wading in her pool.

So, it was with heavy hearts that at 27 years of age, the old Tana bear had to be put down. Wildlife caregiver Karen Ott called the day "one of her worst". Veterinarian Ken McDonough said "Tana had a long life in one of the nicest facilities of its type, but it is sad to see her go".

During Tana's years in the Fontana Park Wildlife Display, the display has grown and evolved. Soon after Tana's arrival, exotic species were no longer placed in the display which took on a theme of interpreting native Iowa wildlife. Interpretive signs were soon added to provide information about each animal. Enclosures were enlarged and made more comfortable. And improvements continue. Plans are underway to provide larger enclosures for the eagles, hawks, owls and vultures.



Many people have asked when we will get another bear for the display (we still have one bear – named "Bear-Bear"). It is unlikely that any new large mammal carnivores will make their way into the display anytime soon. It is not in the mission of the Conservation Board to seek out wildlife for the purpose of placing them in cages for public viewing. Nearly all the animals are in the display because they have been orphaned, injured, or previously kept as pets. Iowa law was recently changed to restrict people from having large, wild animals such as bears and cougars as pets, so the need for Fontana to serve as a home for discarded wild pets is diminished.

Monarch Tagging

Saturday, Aug. 28, 1 p.m. or Monday, Sept. 6, 1 p.m.
Bryantsburg Prairie (3 miles south of Hazleton on HWY 150)
Preregister by calling 319-636-2617,
or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net - \$3/ person, \$7/family

We have helped in this Citizen Science program for eight years, and in that time participants have tagged nearly 5000 monarchs on their way to their wintering grounds in Mexico. Of those, at least 113 have been recovered in Mexico. That means if you participate and help tag, you have about a 2.5% chance of having your butterfly recovered. Join us during the fall migration to catch, tag and release these tiny travelers. Nets and tags will be provided. If the weather cooperates, we can tag 100-200 butterflies in an hour!



Hunter Safety Class

Sept. 8, 6:30-9 p.m.; Sept. 9, 7-9 p.m.; Sept. 11, 8-4 p.m.
Buchanan County Wildlife Association Grounds
Call Ken Aarhus (319-935-3060) or
Doug Beier (319-334-3256) for more information - no fee

In order to first purchase an Iowa hunting license, you must have a certificate showing you have completed a Hunter Safety Course. This course is available in Buchanan County, thanks to efforts of the Buchanan County Wildlife Association. Participants must bring a social security card to the first night of class.



2010-2011 Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing rules and regulations are available on the Iowa DNR web site, or can be found through the Buchanan County Conservation Board web site: www.buchanancountyparks.com/links.php

Photo Contest and Judging

Entries must be postmarked by Sept. 8
Judging held Wednesday, Sept. 29, 6:30 p.m.
Fontana Park Nature Center - no fee

Kip Ladage of Bremer County will be our judge for this year's Buchanan County Natural Areas Photo Contest. Kip has authored several books including *The Wild Side of Iowa - A Collection of Images and Essays*, and a series of *Moments with Iowa Wildlife*,.... His photos have appeared in *Nature Photographer* and other magazines. Kip maintains a website with frequent entries at <http://sites.butler-bremer.com/web/kladage/home.htm>. Landscapes, mammals, snakes and birds are among his favorite subjects. Everyone is welcome to attend the judging to hear critiques of the photos entered. If you have yet to send in your photo entries, do so now! For more information and contest rules, call 319-636-2617.



Photo by this year's Contest Judge, Kip Ladage

Moonlit Paddle

Thursday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m., Fontana Park Lake
Preregister by calling 319-636-2617, or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net - \$5 per person

The water is calm and reflective at night - a perfect time for a moonlit excursion to the head of the lake at Fontana Park. The evening canoe floats will be held just before sundown for about 1½ hours on the Fontana Park Lake. Paddlers will see some animals settling in for the night while others are just becoming active. The animals seen likely will differ on each evening. Participants should dress for the weather and bring insect repellent.



Jakway Septemberfest

Sunday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Richardson-Jakway Historic Site, Jakway Forest, south of Aurora – freewill offering

Sponsored by the Richardson-Jakway Foundation

Come to Septemberfest, see changes made in the Richardson-Jakway House, and have a day filled with music, food, and fun.

Jakway Septemberfest will begin following an old-time church service at 9:00 a.m. The day will include demonstrations of Treadle sewing machine for all to try, comforter tieing, heritage garden harvesting and tasting, soup tasting, and more. Music will be provided by the band, Country Roads. There will be old-fashioned games for the children and surrey rides for all. Aurora Action Planners will be serving lunch, and Chris Hansen's buffalo chili will be available.

As in the past, the Richardson-Jakway house will be open for tours. This year you will notice some changes within the house. Come see for yourself the fresh coats of paint, newly hung curtains, recently acquired furniture, and room arrangements. These improvements were made possible through a grant from the Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area and funds provided by the Richardson-Jakway Foundation. New cedar siding soon will be placed on the house, thanks to a grant from the Buchanan County Community Foundation.

Funds received from this year's Septemberfest will be used to continue renovations and interpretation of the Richardson-Jakway Historic Site. Tickets for the Septemberfest raffle are \$1.00 each, and now are available at the Fontana Park Nature Center and from members of the Foundation. They will also be available during Septemberfest. Winners need not be present, but you will want to be there for all the fun.



Iowater Biological Water Monitoring Workshop for current Iowater Volunteers

Saturday, Sept. 25, time TBD

Fontana Park Nature Center

Preregister by calling 319-636-2617,

or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net

Fee: \$15/person, \$20 group of three; \$10/additional person

Iowater is a citizen science based water monitoring program. Participants, upon completion of this workshop, will be certified to conduct biological water monitoring in Iowa through the IOWATER Program. Participants must already be certified as an Iowater volunteer in order to register for this workshop (visit www.iowater.com about becoming an Iowater volunteer). The workshop is based on eight hours of training; exact times varying depending on location.



Creepy Critters

Wednesday, October 13, 6:30 p.m.

Fontana Park Nature Center

Preregister by calling 319-636-2617,

or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net - no fee to attend

Come learn about Buchanan County's "creepy" critters – the ones people often run from. Discover the mystery of spiders, bats, and vultures.

Gain knowledge of the critters around you!

Naturalist Angie Auel helps a nature center visitor hold a fox snake.



Reiman Gardens and Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad Trip

Thursday, Oct. 14

Preregister before September 14

or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net - cost is \$99/person



Join the Linn and Buchanan County Conservation Naturalists on a one day tour to experience the beautiful Reiman Gardens in Ames and the Boone & Scenic

Valley Railroad. Part of the day will be spent in Ames touring the Reiman Gardens and butterfly house with over 80 species of butterflies. The trip then will continue to Boone where participants will enjoy a view of fall colors and a hot meal on a Boone & Scenic Valley train ride. Motor coach pick-up will be in Oelwein, Independence and Hiawatha. Registration information is available online at www.buchanancountyparks.com or call Linn CCB at 319-892-6485 or Buchanan CCB at 319-636-2617 for more information.

Trick or Treat for the Animals

Saturday, Oct. 30, 9 a.m.

Fontana Park Nature Center

Preregister by calling 319-636-2617,

or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net— no fee

Help carve some creative pumpkins and then fill them with tasty and nutritious treats for our resident skunks, raccoons, deer, bear and rabbits in the Fontana Park Wildlife Display. The pumpkins will then be placed in the animals' enclosures for a treat that's a trick to get into.



Archery in the Schools



The Conservation Board is providing some great opportunities for youth to become involved in archery. These efforts have been supported by Buchanan County Pheasants Forever, which fully funds all archery equipment.

National Archery in the Schools

Wednesday, October 20, 6:30 p.m.

Fontana Park Nature Center

Preregistration required, call 319-636-2617,

or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net



Learn about National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) and how local schools are, or can be, involved! Participants will learn what equipment is available for loan to schools and other groups, steps needed to get the program in local P.E. classes, and how to take the next step

to create a competitive team. We encourage any community members to attend to help learn how to help start and assist teams.

Basic Archery Instructor Training

Saturday, November 6, 8:00 a.m.

St. Athanasius Gym in Jesup

Preregistration required through the Iowa DNR website:

www.iowadnr.gov/law/shootingsports/files/regformbaibait.pdf

New county naturalist Angie Auel will be providing Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) training for NASP program leaders. This program is conducted through the DNR and provides training to teachers who will teach the kids. This training is offered at no cost to school teachers. The goal is to have teachers leading 2-week, in-school NASP programs. Current cost is \$30 for all others wishing to attend. Training takes one full day and will be conducted in St. Athanasius gymnasium in Jesup.

Sleigh Rides at Cortright

Saturday, Dec. 4, 1-3 p.m. – Cortright Wildlife Area
Preregistration required, call 319-636-2617
Program dependent on snow on ground

Experience Cortright Wildlife Area in a unique way – by horse-drawn sled.

Participants will sign-up for 15-minute ride slots and are asked to arrive at Cortright 15 minutes before their scheduled ride. The sleigh typically holds two participants at a time (or two adults and two children). A fire for warming will also be offered.

Space is limited, so call now. Please ask for directions to this property, located near Littleton.

Sleigh and horses owner Paul Bachman reads a group for a trail ride during last year's sleigh ride at Cortright.



Green Gift for the Holidays

Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m.
Fontana Park Nature Center
Preregister by calling 319-636-2617,
or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net – no fee

Is there someone who is hard to shop for? Maybe a grandmother, teacher or co-worker? After attending this program, you will have completed a green solution to the problem. Participants will be making a shopping/tote bag that is not only reusable, but reused. This is a simple process that will take less than an hour to complete. Children 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult.



New Naturalist Joins Conservation Department



New Buchanan County Naturalist Angie Auel provides an up-close look at a goldfinch.

Hello Buchanan County! I am Angie Auel, the new naturalist with Buchanan County Conservation. I am very excited to work with Buchanan County residents, as I once

enjoyed these wild areas in my youth. I am a Jesup native who is glad to be back around family and friends.

I grew up on a farm west of Jesup (maiden name Reiter). I attended St. Athanasius and Don Bosco High School. After graduating from Hawkeye Community College, I moved to Springbrook Conservation Education Center in Guthrie Center, IA where I worked for two years with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. I then continued my education at Iowa State University, graduating in 2005 with a degree in Animal Ecology. I have worked for Dallas County Conservation Board, Diagonal School, and Ringgold County Public Health.

I enjoy sharing the outdoors with my husband Jason and our two kids Freddie (age 3) and Ava (age 2). We enjoy camping, archery, canoeing, hiking, fishing, hunting – basically anything that gets us outdoors!

One of the many educational programs I love is the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). Jason and I began an archery team in Ringgold County in 2008. Last year we had 40 3rd-12th grade students on our team. We competed each year at the state competition, and in 2009 and 2010 were lucky enough to qualify and go to the national tournament in Louisville, KY. Thanks to parent and community support, the team continues to grow even though we moved away. If you would like to learn more about the NASP program please come to the October 20 meeting (see page 6).

Volunteer Corner – Mary Davis

When it comes to interpreting pioneer daily life, there is no better resource than the Richardson-Jakway Historic Site at Jakway Forest. The Historic Site depends on greatly on volunteer efforts of the Richardson-Jakway Foundation. Heading up this group is Mary Davis of rural Hazleton.

Mary, often with assistance from her husband Harvey, dedicates many hours toward planning for the R-J Foundation's fundraisers. Most notably, the group organizes the Septemberfest celebration (see page 5) and occasional Pioneer Suppers at the Historic Site. Mary also helped with the Septemberfest quilt which is raffled off during the event.

When you visit the Historic Site, you will notice a Pioneer Garden, displayed on the south side of the house. For the past several years,

Mary and Harvey have been chiefly responsible for the garden's planting and upkeep. Gardening is a big part of the couple's lives, and you can visit their stands at both the Independence and Oelwein Farmers Markets.



Mary Davis and her husband Harvey work a local Farmers Market.

There are more than 18 areas in which people may work as Conservation Volunteers. Jobs range from outdoor maintenance to indoor receptionists. For more information, call 319-636-2617.

Nature Center Volunteer Receptionists Hours

(as of 8/18/10)

Rosemary Boland.....	111 hours
Lanette Burroughs.....	31 hours
Ruby Campbell.....	77 hours
Jayne Clampitt.....	4 hours
Marilyn Gallo.....	512 hours
J'Andrea Gibney.....	60 hours
Chris Goarke.....	113 hours
Melva Gramenz.....	114 hours
Robin Hamadani.....	1 hour
Joy Hintz.....	423 hours
Helen Hoefler.....	567 hours
Marybeth Jaggard.....	566 hours
Janet Jessen.....	403 hours
Mellissa Kania.....	50 hours
Kathryn Karsten.....	36 hours
Vivian Koloc.....	17 hours
Mary Lodholz.....	18 hours
Arlene Miehe.....	104 hours
Robert Miehe.....	46 hours
Patti Olmstead.....	168 hours
Judith Porter.....	103 hours
Shirley Rozendaal.....	50 hours
JoAnne Rowe.....	108 hours
Faith Rulapaugh.....	168 hours
Verla Sperry.....	850 hours
Laurie Trenkamp.....	4 hours
JoAnne Van Cleave.....	217 hours
Mary Van Fossen.....	16 hours
David Voigts.....	238 hours
Jane West.....	62 hours
Jeannie Wilson.....	360 hours
Warren Wilson.....	244 hours

Yes, I want to donate to the Friends of Fontana Park!
Enclosed is my donation. I am glad to be able to contribute at the level shown below.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donor (\$1-99) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter (\$250-499) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor (\$1,000-4,999) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor (\$100-249) | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron (\$500-999) | <input type="checkbox"/> Founder (\$5,000 or more) |

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please contact me regarding making a donation as a memorial to a friend or relative. | <input type="checkbox"/> Please contact me regarding making a donation as a gift in the name of a friend or relative. |
|---|---|

Names) as you wish them to read on recognition: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to:
 Friends of Fontana Park and Mail to: Fontana Interpretive Nature Center, 1883 125th St., Hazleton, IA 50641

2011 Animal Sponsorships



The cougar is one of the many animals that can be reserved beginning September 1.

To reserve an animal or a month of bird feeding, contact the Fontana Interpretive Nature Center at 319-636-2617 or fontanapark@iowatelecom.net on or after September 1, 2010.

It's that time again – time to make your reservation to sponsor an animal for the 2011 calendar year. Animal sponsorships make a perfect holiday gift for the hard to buy for.

Sponsorship packages include a letter, certificate, and photo of the sponsored animal, and will be sent in time for holiday gift giving. Animals in our exhibits are available for sponsorship as follows:

To sponsor an animal in our wildlife exhibit, an individual, group, or business needs to make a minimum donation to the Friends of Fontana Park. Donation amounts differ for each animal, ranging from \$30 to \$150. The sponsor's name(s) will be placed on a plaque on the animal's enclosure in early January for the 2011 calendar year.

Sponsor the Bird Feeders!

The bird feeders at the Nature Center provide excellent viewing of wild birds year-round. To help defray the costs of feeding the birds, the Conservation Department is looking for monthly bird feeder sponsors. Sponsors are asked to donate \$50 toward bird seed. All sponsors are recognized on a plaque in the Nature Center.

The Animal Sponsorship program raises money for the conservation board's environmental education program. The money goes toward educational and recreational programs, the newsletter, and animal display.



Conservation Calendar!

- August 28 *Monarch Tagging*
Bryantsburg Prairie, 1 p.m. (P. 3).
- Sept. 1 *Reservations Accepted for 2011 Animal Sponsorships* (P. 9). *Reservations also accepted for 2011 shelter use at Fontana Park.*
- Sept. 6 *Monarch Tagging*
Bryantsburg Prairie, 1 p.m. (P. 4).
- Sept. 6 *Labor Day*
- Sept. 8 *Photo Contest Deadline* (P. 4).
- Sept. 8-11 *Hunter Safety Classes*
Buchanan Co. Wildlife Assoc. Grounds (P. 4).
- Sept. 12 *Jakway Septemberfest*
Jakway Forest, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (P. 5).
- Sept. 21 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 7 p.m.
(subject to change).
- Sept. 23 *Moonlit Paddle*
Fontana Park, 6:30 p.m. (P. 3).
- Sept. 25 *Iowater Biological Water Monitoring*
Fontana Nature Center (P. 5).
- Sept. 29 *Photo Contest Judging*
Fontana Nature Center, 6:30 p.m. (P. 3).
- Oct. 13 *Creepy Critters*
Fontana Nature Center, 6:30 p.m. (P. 5).
- Oct. 11 *Columbus Day* (Nature Center closed).
- Oct. 14 *Reiman Gardens and Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad Trip* (P. 6).
- Oct. 19 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 7 p.m.
(subject to change).
- Oct. 20 *National Archery in the Schools*
Fontana Nature Center, 6:30 p.m. (P. 6).
- Oct. 30 *Trick or Treat for the Animals*
Fontana Nature Center, 9 a.m. (P. 5).
- Nov. 2 *Election Day* (see cover page)
- Nov. 6 *Basic Archery Instructor Training*
St. Athanasius School, Jesup, 8 a.m. (P. 5).
- Nov. 11 *Veterans Day* (Nature Center closed).
- Nov. 16 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 7 p.m.
(subject to change).
- Nov. 25-26 *Thanksgiving* (Nature Center Closed)
- Dec. 4 *Sleigh Rides at Cortright*
Cortright Wildlife Area, Littleton
1-3 p.m. (P. 8).
- Dec. 8 *Green Gifts for Christmas*
Fontana Nature Center, 7 p.m. (P. 8).
- Dec. 21 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 5 p.m.
(subject to change).

Buchanan County Parks (acres)

1. Fontana Park and Jarrett Slater Addition (134)..... Hazleton
2. Jakway Forest (315)..... Aurora
3. Lime Creek Area (45)..... Brandon
4. Boies Bend Area (26)..... Quasqueton
5. Buffalo Creek Area (81.5)..... Winthrop
6. Otter Creek Roadside Park (13)..... Hazleton

Buchanan County Natural Areas (acres)

7. Mickey Fox Area and Anderson Addition (97)..... Jesup
8. VanLaningham Area (3)..... Independence
9. Otter Creek Wildlife Area (100)..... Hazleton
10. Hoover Area (20)..... Troy Mills
11. Sand Creek Area (80)..... Quasqueton
12. Nibeck Nature Preserve (25)..... Hazleton
13. Pine Creek Area (40)..... Quasqueton
14. Buffalo Creek Wildlife Area (60)..... Winthrop
15. Rowley Fen (43)..... Rowley
16. Koutny Pond/Hoffman Woods (106)..... Brandon
17. Putty Root Preserve (17)..... Quasqueton
18. Blazing-Star Prairie (7.5)..... Rowley
19. Crumbacher Wildlife Area (368)..... Independence
20. Bearbower Sand Prairie (40)..... Brandon
21. Swartz Preserve (4)..... Aurora
22. Bryantsburg Prairie Preserve (1.5)..... Hazleton
23. Frogville Access (135)..... Troy Mills
24. Iron Bridge Access (1)..... Quasqueton
25. Schneider-Heinick-Rowe Area (20)..... Troy Mills
26. Newton Township Natural Area (158)..... Quasqueton
27. Patton Prairie (45)..... Aurora
28. Hodges and North Wildlife Area (67)..... Jesup
29. Fairbank Fen (40)..... Fairbank
30. Anderson Addition to Cutshall (24)..... Jesup
31. Ham Marsh (54)..... Independence

Buchanan County River Accesses (acres)

32. Troy Mills Wapsi Access (63)..... Troy Mills
33. Wapsi River Access (51)..... Independence
34. Three Elms Area (75)..... Independence
35. Cutshall Area (85)..... Jesup
36. Cortright Wildlife Area (186)..... Littleton
37. Robert "Chic" McGloughlin Access (6)..... Littleton
38. Wehner Woods (30)..... Lamont

Board Members

Roger Johnson.....	Chair
Jim Klever.....	Vice Chair
Gary Buresh.....	Secretary
Pat Fencl.....	Member
Ranor Hoffman.....	Member

Conservation Staff

Dan Cohen.....	Executive Director
Sondra Cabell.....	Interpretive Naturalist
Angie Auel.....	Interpretive Naturalist
Mike Van Raden.....	Park Ranger
Jeremy Whittle.....	Park Ranger
Chris Hansen.....	Park Technician
YuVonne Buckman.....	Receptionist
Linda Heins.....	Office Manager
Dorothy Wehling.....	Secretary
Karen Ott.....	Wildlife Caregiver/Park Tech
Elaine Walker.....	Custodian
Mary Coffman.....	Seasonal Park Technician

Nature Center Hours

Monday-Tuesday: 8 a.m. to noon

Wednesday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (may be closed for lunch)

Weekends: 1-5 p.m. (summer hours)

Weekends: 1-4 p.m. (winter hours)

For more information regarding Conservation Board activities, call 319-636-2617/bccbdan@iowatelecom.net, or visit www.buchanancountyparks.com.

The Buchanan County Conservation Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, age, or handicap. If anyone believes he or she has been subject to discrimination, he or she may file a complaint with the Buchanan County Conservation Board or the Office of Equal Opportunity, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.



Feature Photo

The flood of 2010 left Buffalo Creek Park inundated with sand. The Conservation Board hopes to have the area cleaned up and ready for visitors again by next spring.

The newsletter is edited by Dan Cohen. Contact the Conservation Department (319-636-2617/bccbdan@iowatelecom.net) for more information.