



The Otter Creek Quarterly

Summer, 2015
Vol. 30 No. 2

A Newsletter of the Buchanan County Conservation Board

Purchase raffle tickets for Adirondack chairs (Page 3)!

Project AWARE on the Wapsi – July 11-16!

Dan Cohen, BCCB Executive Director

Hundreds of river paddlers, outdoor enthusiasts, and caretakers of the natural world will be in Independence the week of July 11. Their goal – to remove as much litter and other junk from the Wapsipinicon River as is humanly possible.

Project AWARE is Iowa's largest volunteer river cleanup. This year marks the 13th annual event, and will feature a 65-mile route from Independence to Olin.

Although the main activity is cleaning the Wapsi, Project AWARE also is designed to:

- Increase awareness about, and community involvement in, water quality issues that impact the health of Iowa's aquatic resources;
- Engage Iowa's citizen volunteers in a project that challenges them to become stewards of the river and produces a tangible, quantitative result;
- Demonstrate the commitment of Iowa's citizens by giving of themselves and their valuable time to make a difference - one stretch of river, one piece of trash at a time.

This year's event will be a five-day, five-night event, beginning Saturday, July 11 at 1:30 p.m. In addition to Project AWARE, there are opportunities to participate in a pre-Project AWARE cleanup north of Independence (see box at right), and a post-Project AWARE cleanup below Olin. Everyone is encouraged to participate in as many events as they like.

The Project AWARE kickoff will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Independence High School. Registrants will be able to choose from a variety of programs, including: Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic; Rowley Fen Tour; Tour of the Wapsipinicon Feed Mill; or Poison Ivy: Plant



Identification, Prevention, & Treatment. Supper will be provided to volunteers at the High School, followed by the a group welcome and introduction.

Sunday morning, volunteers will launch at Knott's Landing, and begin paddling and cleaning up the river. Each day of the event will include cleaning the river by day and enjoying fun programs in the evening. Three meals a day are provided. To register, visit www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/ProjectAWARE.aspx. Registrations are due June 9 to avoid an extra ten dollar registration fee..

Project Aware Pre-Event Cleanup

meet at 9:30 a.m., at Bathing Beach Park in Independence (Access #160)

A cleanup of the Wapsipinicon River above Independence will take place Saturday morning, July 11 – prior to Project AWARE kickoff programs. Volunteers should pre-register by calling the Conservation Board office (319-636-2617). Canoes may be reserved at no charge, and a carpool shuttle will take volunteers to the put-in location. The morning cleanup should last a couple hours.

New Faces in the Conservation Department

Meet the Conservation Board seasonal staff! Two seasonal park technicians are working with field staff on management techniques and park maintenance.

Mack Kleitsch of Fairbank has returned for his second year as a seasonal worker for the Conservation Board. He is attending Upper Iowa University, majoring in Environmental Science. Mack grew up on a small farm, and has always enjoyed outdoor pursuits, including hunting, fishing, and camping.



Seasonal Park Technicians Mack Kleitsch (left) and Ben Milius



*Naturalist Intern
Katy Cantin*

Ben Milius

is living in Fayette, and is enrolled at Upper Iowa University, majoring in Conservation Management. He wants to eventually work as a park ranger, or in some other aspect of conservation work. His hobbies include hunting and fishing.

Katy Cantin is a student at Hawkeye Community College, living in Nashua, Iowa, and working on her Associates Degree in Natural Resources. She hopes to someday work on water quality issues.

The hard work and commitment of all Conservation Board staff is apparent when people visit conservation areas and attend education programs. The staff hopes to see you in the parks this summer!

Naturalists and Teachers in Need of Supplies

The naturalists are in need of some supplies that you might consider garbage, or that you no longer use and would donate to a good home. They would love to get the following items:

- Canning jars – standard jars are needed for the Preserving Local Foods programs (see page 4). Jelly/jam jars, pint and quart jars – both wide mouth and regular – are needed;
- Old fashioned overalls (striped preferred) and denim jeans – for recycled crafts;
- Metal coffee cans – large with lids (not many brands still come in metal cans);
- Peanut butter jars – clean with lids (for many projects including measuring and bugs);
- White 55 gallon drums (for spinning compost bins);
- STYROFOAM Egg cartons (we have enough paper ones);
- Buttons or snaps (maybe mom or grandma had these for sewing projects) for assorted crafts.



In addition to the above items, the Independence High School FFA is looking for donations for their school garden. Their crop land from which they were securing funding for the Ag Ed program will be reduced due to construction of athletic facilities. The school is in need of shovels, rakes, metal T-posts, plant containers, wire, hand garden tools, water hoses, watering tools, garden gloves, and wire fence panels. If you can assist with these donations, please contact Rachel Emig at (319) 334-4705.

Win Two Red Cedar Adirondack Chairs!



A Buchanan County Pheasants Forever Raffle
All proceeds to support

**Friends of Fontana Park!
Purchase Now!
Winner Drawn June 29!**

Here is a great opportunity to win something truly special! These chairs are hand crafted and specially contoured for ultimate comfort! The chairs were made and donated by Loren Hamilton of Hamilton Construction in Independence, with materials donated by Spahn and Rose. People may view the chairs at the Fontana Park Nature Center.

This raffle is being sponsored by the Buchanan County Chapter of Pheasants Forever, with all proceeds going to support the Friends

of Fontana Park – a nonprofit group that provides financial assistance to the Conservation Board's education programs. FFP provides funds for distribution of this newsletter, the live animal displays at Fontana Park, various camps and programs, nature center displays, and more!

To order raffle tickets, complete the form to the left, and mail it with your payment. Tickets also are available for purchase at the Nature Center or Spahn and Rose in Independence. The lucky winner will have a great seat during the July 4th weekend!

Raffle ticket Order Form

I would like to support Friends of Fontana Park and local conservation education efforts. Please enter me in the special Pheasants Forever raffle for chances to win two red cedar Adirondack Chairs:

Number of raffle tickets @ 1 for \$10 _____

Number of raffle tickets @ 3 for \$20 _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please send me a receipt (mark with X) _____

Names: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to: Buchanan County Pheasants Forever
Mail to: Friends of Fontana Park, 1883 125th St., Hazleton, IA 50641

2015 Campground Improvements

Last fall and early this spring, final touches were made to two new improvements in the Conservation Board's campgrounds at Fontana and Jakway Parks. Fontana now has seven new reservable campsites, tucked in amongst the white pines on the west side of the campground. The sites are high and dry, and have their own individual electric pedestals. Electric panels throughout the campground were upgraded.

A disc golf course was installed at Jakway Forest. The nine-hole course features concrete tee-offs and new tee signs and basket markers. The disc golf course provides another activity for campground users and other visitors at Jakway Forest.

Annual RASH Ride will be held June 13. Bicyclists ride at their own pace around Buchanan County. There are 25, 50, or 66-mile ride options, and stops every 10 miles or so with plenty of food and beverages. To register, visit www.rashride.org!

Unless otherwise indicated, call 319-636-2617 or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net to preregister for all programs!

Go GREENER Rain Barrel Construction

Saturday, June 6, 9 a.m.
Fontana Nature Center, \$25 per barrel



Go Greener this summer. Build your own rain barrel during this hands-on workshop.

Collect rainwater from your downspouts that you can use to water flowers and shrubs during dry spells. The rain barrel holds about 50 gallons

of rainwater – an amount that can be collected with just ½-inch of rain on a 300 sq. ft. section of roof. Rain barrels have a faucet that can connect to a garden hose to water plants by gravity. Overflow can be directed out through a downspout or into a second barrel.

Conservationists You Should Know

Friday, June 19, 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Fontana Nature Center

Enjoy a presentation about the men and women who proved to be influential in the fields of conservation and natural resources protection. Learn about some famous luminaries, such as Aldo Leopold, John Muir, and others.



Native Iowan Aldo Leopold is sometimes referred to as the father of modern conservation.

Hungry, Hungry Animals

Saturday, June 20, 8:30 a.m.
Fontana Park Wildlife Display



Watch and learn about animals in the Fontana Park live wildlife display, as they are being fed. The display contains black bear, red fox, raccoons, rabbits, owl, bison, eagles, vultures, and ducks – all of which are, or were, native to Iowa.

Preserving Local Foods

Tuesday, June 23, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, Independence
Registration limited to 15 people.
All ages welcome, 12 & under must be accompanied by an adult.

It's berry season. Strawberries are ripening in the county's natural areas, and at Bagge's Strawberries.



Raspberries will be right behind. Preserve the flavor of summer fruits to enjoy year-round as jam, frozen fruit, or dried fruit leather strips (roll-ups).

Participants will get hands-on practice in techniques and safety considerations for canning, freezing and drying summer fruit, and will go home with a sampling of each. If a grant application is approved, participants will be able to check out canning supplies and preservation equipment (pressure canners, dehydrators, equipment) for use in their home. This is the first in a proposed series of preservation classes sponsored by the Buchanan County Conservation Board and the Buchanan County Food Work Team. Upcoming series will be on the topics of salsas and garden vegetables; apples and pears; and game and farm-raised meats.

Creepy Crawlies

Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Fontana Nature Center

Learn about Buchanan County's "creepy" crawlies – the ones people often run from. Discover the mystery of spiders, bats, insects, vultures, and more. Come learn how these creepy crawlies help our environment with games, crafts, and hands on activities!

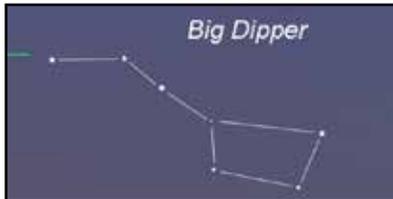


Unless otherwise indicated, call 319-636-2617 or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net to preregister for all programs!

Star Party

Friday, July 17, 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Fontana Nature Center

Join Astronomy Guru David Voigts for an up-close look at the wonders of the night sky. Venus and Jupiter, the two brightest points of light in the night sky, will be close together low in the western sky, with a thin crescent Moon below them. The beautiful ringed planet Saturn also will be well placed for viewing. The Lagoon Nebula, where stars are now forming, can also be seen, as can the Dumbbell Nebula and the beautiful binary star Alberio. The constellations of summer also will be pointed out. In case of clouds or rain, there will be a program indoors.



Hike and Shoot!

Saturday, July 18, 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Fontana Nature Center
Ages 10 to 16 years old

Ready for an adventure? Come participate in hiking, archery, and games on this Saturday afternoon. Please bring a sack lunch and water bottle along with appropriate footwear.



Project Aware River Art

Saturday, August 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Fontana Nature Center

Project Aware volunteers will be picking up tons – literally – of debris from the Wapsipinicon River in July. Local artist Ryan Halbur of Iowa Creations will be selecting items from those materials to construct an outdoor sculpture(s) that will reflect the spirit of the event. The design will use the public's input. Come watch and share your ideas. Fabrication will involve welding. All children must be supervised.



Monarch Tagging

Saturday, Sept. 5, 1 p.m.; Location TBD by blooming flowers
Cost: \$3 per person or \$7 per family



The monarch population in Mexico last winter was up slightly from the all time low in 13-14, but was still the second lowest recorded. With

good moisture in the southern U.S. this year, the monarchs should have reproduced well and are now arriving in the Midwest for the summer. If there are the moisture for continued sustained growth of milkweed and a warmer summer than the spring has shown, the outlook for a strong monarch migration this fall is good. Join the naturalists catching, tagging, and releasing the monarchs at the start of their fall migration to Mexico. Nets and tags will be provided.

We will contact those registered with the tagging location to be determined by nectaring flowers by August 27. If the weather cooperates, and monarch reproduction has been good, we can tag 100-200 butterflies in an hour.

Old Time Meal

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 5:00 p.m.
Richardson-Jakway House, Jakway Forest
\$20 per person - registration is limited to 26 people!

Enjoy a meal of leg of lamb, stewed tomatoes, fingerling potatoes, peppers, Amish bread with honey and strawberry-rhubarb jam, topped off with a Dutch



Gladys Richardson, and Rich and Barb Roepke, enjoy a past Meal.

Oven apple cobbler and ice cream, followed by an interesting program. If you would like a pork chop instead of lamb please request pork chop at time of reservation. Old Time Meals are sponsored by the Richardson-Jakway Foundation and Buchanan County Conservation Board. Checks should be made payable to the Richardson-Jakway Foundation, which is a nonprofit group organized to raise funds for the preservation of the Historic Site.

Call 319-636-2617 or email fontanapark@iowatelecom.net to preregister for programs!

Extreme Outdoors!

You and your family are invited to get off the couch, put away the electronic games and get out and experience these adrenaline-filled experience in the Iowa Outdoors, in ways you may not have tried or even known were options. There are exciting opportunities for all ages and skill levels.

Extreme Outdoors is a series of adventuresome, fun, challenging, exhilarating and safe outdoor recreational activities sponsored by naturalists in Buchanan, Benton, and Chickasaw Counties. Activities are led by experienced professionals, and are geared for ages 10 or 12, and up. You may participate in one or all events, but registration for each event will be separate and will be limited. Transportation to the adventure locations is generally the responsibility of the participant(s), but may be available from local county conservation boards. Check the Extreme Outdoors website at www.buchanancountyiowa.org/services/conservation/extreme_outdoors.php for additional details and registration information. The Extreme Outdoors upcoming events are...

Whitewater Kayaking

Friday, June 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Riverfront Park, Charles City, Iowa
\$40 per person; minimum age 10; limited to 14 participants

Take advantage of this opportunity to brave the rapids of Iowa's 1st whitewater park. The course is built on the Cedar River as a means to mitigate the danger of the old low flow dam at the site and now provides a safe - but challenging - whitewater experience. There are three main features to the course: Dam Drop, Doc's Drop and Exit Exam. All three have pools below for recovery and have alternate "safer chutes" on the left to bypass the bigger wave action. The event will be led by a certified instructor from Crowdaddy Outdoors. Participants will be taught the basics of kayaking and whitewater kayaking. Kayaks, life preservers and all other equipment will be provided. All participants need to bring their own sack lunch and of course plenty of water to drink throughout the day.



Cedar River Canoe

Saturday, August 1, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Benton County; \$10 per person (includes lunch)

Enjoy a leisurely float down the scenic Cedar River while observing local plants and animals. You will have time to do some beach-combing and then fix a simple lunch on a sandbar. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage.

Rock Climbing; Backbone State Park

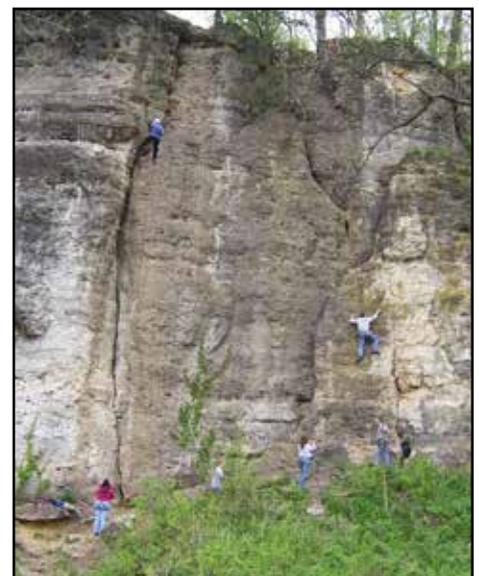
Saturday, August 29, Time TBD
\$30 per person - minimum age 12

University of Northern Iowa Outdoor Recreation will be teaching rock climbing. All equipment is provided.

Survival Skills

Saturday, Sept. 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Benton County
\$20 per person - minimum age 12, includes all materials and lunch

Could you survive in the outdoors without all your electronic gadgets? We'll show you how. Participants will learn how to build a shelter, make a simple fishing kit, start a fire, and make survival bracelets, just to name a few. Come prepared to learn the basics - basics that could save your life.



Summer Programs for Kids Ages 3 to 14

Now is the time to register for the Conservation Board's popular series of summer programs. Registration for each program is limited, so call (319-636-2617) or email (fontanapark@iowatelecom.net) soon to get your child registered.

Wee Nature Tales

Ages: 3-5 yrs, Fontana Park Nature Center Classroom.
 Mondays, June 8 - July 27 10 a.m.-11 a.m. OR
 Thursdays June 11 - July 30 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Fontana Nature Center
 Cost: \$30; Registration limited to 15/class

This hour-long session combines all new age-appropriate nature stories with simple nature projects and explorations. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Young Naturalists

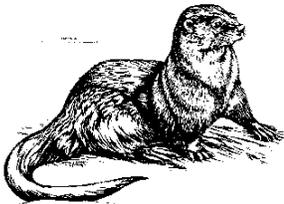
Ages: 9-12 yrs, Fontana Park Nature Center Classroom.
 Tuesdays, June 9 - July 29 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. OR
 Wednesdays, June 10 - July 29 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Fontana Nature Center
 Cost: \$30; Registration limited to 20/class



Children will discover the world in which they live, and their relationships with plants and other animals. All new activities will bring participants face to face with environmental issues, problems, and solutions.

Nature Explorers

Ages: 6-8 yrs, Fontana Park Nature Center Classroom; Cost: \$30;
 Registration limited to 20/class Thursdays, June 11- July 29 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m.



This all-new program encourages an early interest in science and nature through hands-on exploration of the Fontana Park environment. Adults are welcome to attend.

River Raiders Program for Youth – Kendallville to Decorah, IA

Fontana Training Day: June 10, 5-8 p.m.; Upper Iowa River: June 23-25
 Age: youth entering grades 6-8; Cost: \$80; Registration limited to 12 participants

Adventure awaits around every bend! Explore the Upper Iowa River from Kendallville to Decorah. Campers will canoe, camp, cook outdoors, and learn other wilderness skills on this two-night, three-day excursion. Participants will paddle their way around winding bends, rapids, scenic waterfalls, cold springs, and 200-foot chimney bluffs. The trip fee includes use of tents, food, canoes, life jackets, paddles and transportation. Enrollment is limited to 12 participants. Participants must attend the training day on June 10. The training will include camping and paddling basics, menu for the trip, trip itinerary and what to pack.



2015 Discover Wolves Bus Tour – A Weekend with Wolves!

International Wolf Center, Ely, Minnesota
 September 24-27; Reservation Deadline is TBD
 Registration information and trip brochure can be found at www.buchanancountyparks.com



Buchanan and Linn County Conservation Departments are offering opportunities to step into the wolf picture during a four-day journey. Participants will visit the International Wolf Center and take part in its programs as well as view other sites in Minnesota. The climax of the trip will be an experience of a lifetime – the chance to see and hear wolves in the wild during a guided evening wolf howl in the Superior National Forest. Complete information and registration materials can be found in the trip brochure available at the web site above, or by calling 319-636-2617.

Volunteer Corner – Elaine Hughes

Each year, the Conservation Board recognizes its many Conservation Volunteers by inviting them to a recognition luncheon. More than 60 people attended last spring's recognition in March, which featured a meal at Bill's Pizza and Smokehouse, followed by sharing of volunteer activities, prize give-aways, and some special recognition. More than 100 people volunteered during the year in some capacity. Below is a list of volunteers who received special recognition.



Elaine Hughes of Quasqueton received this year's Overall Volunteer Award. Elaine has put in many hours working on various activities. In addition to being a volunteer nature center receptionist (see below), she also has been monitoring an osprey nest, taking water samples for water quality monitoring, pulling invasive garlic mustard, and is serving as the secretary for the newly formed Upper Wapsipinicon River Watershed Authority. Most recently, Elaine has worked to coordinate water monitoring at locations throughout the 11-county watershed, and is sampling five locations herself in Buchanan County!

Annual Volunteer Award Recognition (NC = Nature Center)

Lorene Shonka.....Most Hours as NC Receptionist	Independence Senior Center
Judy Porter.....60-Hour NC Receptionist	Newsletter Folding
Joye Bower..... 50-Hour NC Receptionist	Millie Jensen, Janet Jessen, Kathy Karsten
Elaine Hughes40-Hour NC Receptionist	Long-time Newsletter labeling
Edith Biddinger.....40-Hour NC Receptionist	Fontana Herb Society, Gardens and Programming
Jane Watson.....40-Hour NC Receptionist	Buchanan County Wildlife Assoc.
Faith Rulapaugh.....40-Hour NC Receptionist	Education Programs
David Voigts.....40-Hour NC Receptionist	Faith Rulapaugh and Grandkids
Marybeth Jaggard.....40-Hour NC Receptionist	Wildlife Monitoring
Helen Hoefler.....30-Hour NC Receptionist	Don Shonka and Loren Hamilton Construction
Frankie King.....30-Hour NC Receptionist	Park Maintenance
Steve Schuelke.....30-Hour NC Receptionist	Jim and Linda Ridihalgh
Ruth Schlitter.....30-Hour NC Receptionist	Friends of Fontana Park
Shirley Rozendaal.....20-Hour NC Receptionist	Mary and Harvey Davis
Ellen Gaffney.....20-Hour NC Receptionist	Richardson-Jakway Historic Site
Joy Hintz.....20-Hour NC Receptionist	Ruby Bodeker..... New Volunteer
Vern Tiedt/Wanda Williams Tiedt	David Voigts, Joy Hintz, Marybeth Jaggard
Most days as a Campground Host	Long-time Commitment (>15 years)
Cassie Elliot..... Wildlife Display	Elaine Hughes..... Overall Volunteer

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

Buchanan County Natural Areas Photo Contest

Entries must be postmarked by September 9
Complete rules at www.buchanancountyparks.com

Keep your camera handy and snap those photos of Buchanan County's natural areas – whether in your own backyard or at one of the 40 Buchanan County Conservation



2014 Wildlife Category Winner by Tom Moon

areas. Enter your best images (up to six) in any or all of our four contest categories: Landscapes, Wildlife, Plants & Wildflowers, & People Enjoying Nature. There always are many wildlife and plant entries, but not as many Landscapes and People Enjoying Nature. Capture the blossoms, family gathering, or share with us your photos from this past winter's snow, ice, and frost! Overall winners will receive \$100 and category winners will receive \$50. For more information on the contest, or for a copy of the official rules, visit www.buchanancountyparks.com or call 319-636-2617.

Register Your Butterfly Garden



Buchanan County Conservation has partnered with Blank Park Zoo's (BPZ) "Plant, Grow, Fly" (PGF) program for 2015 (www.plantgrowfly.com). As a PGF partner, we have committed to work toward getting more than 50 local PGF

gardens registered in 2015. We currently have only 10 gardens registered! Registering a garden is easy: Go to the PGF website and click on the register your garden tab to the right. Enter your information and submit. All you need is one host plant and one nectar plant on the list to qualify. Be sure to list Buchanan County Conservation when asked "Did another organization encourage you to register this garden?"

Conservation Calendar!

- June 3 *Thursday Kayak Classes begin at Teachers Park*
Classes from Wapsi River Rentals
Call 319-327-4647 for details.
- June 5-7 *Free Fishing Weekend*
- June 6 *Go GREENER - Rain Barrel Construction*
Fontana Nature Center, 9 a.m. (P.4).
- June 8, 11 *Wee Nature Tales*
Fontana Nature Center, 10 a.m. (P.7).
- June 9, 10 *Young Naturalists begins*
Fontana Nature Center (P. 7).
- June 10 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 6 p.m.
- June 10 *River Raiders Training Day*
Fontana Nature Center, 5- 8 p.m. (P.7).
- June 11 *Nature Explorers begins*
Fontana Nature Center, 1 p.m. (P. 7).
- June 13 *RASH Ride*
Bicycle ride in Buchanan County (P. 3).
- June 13 *Creepy Crawlies*
Fontana Nature Center, 10 a.m. (P.4).
- June 15 *Father's Day*
- June 19 *Whitewater Kayaking*
Charles City, 9 a.m. (P. 6).
- June 19 *Conservationists You Should Know*
Fontana Nature Center, 5:30 p.m. (P.4).
- June 20 *Hungry, Hungry Animals*
Fontana Park, 8:30 a.m. (P. 4).
- June 23-25 *River Raiders Program for Youth*
Upper Iowa River (P.7).
- June 23 *Preserving Local Foods*
First Presbyterian Church, 6 p.m. (P.4).
- July 4 *Independence Day!*
- July 17 *Star Party*
Fontana Nature Center, 9 p.m. (P.5).
- July 18 *Hike and Shoot!*
Fontana Nature Center, 11 a.m. (P.5).
- July 21 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 6 p.m.
- Aug. 1 *Cedar River Canoe*
Benton County, 9 a.m. (P.6).
- Aug. 8 *Project Aware River Art*
Fontana Nature Center, 10 a.m. (P.5).
- Aug. 18 *Conservation Board Meeting*
Fontana Nature Center, 6 p.m.
- Aug. 29 *Rock Climbing*
Backbone State Park, Time TBD. (P.6).
- Sept. 5 *Monarch Tagging*
Location TBD, 1 p.m. (P. 5).
- Sept. 7 *Labor Day*
- Sept. 9 *Old Time Meal*
Jakway Park, 5:00 p.m. (P. 5).
- Sept. 9 *Photo Contest Deadline* (P. 9).
- Sept. 24-27 *Discover Wolves Bus Tour*
Ely, Minnesota (P. 7).
- Sept. 26 *Survival Skills*
Benton County, 9 a.m. (P.6).

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 (118)..... 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. Niebeck 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. Schneider-Heinick-Rowe Area (20)..... Troy Mills
25. Newton Township Natural Area (158)..... Quasqueton
26. Patton Prairie (45)..... Aurora
27. Hodges and North Wildlife Area (67)..... Jesup
28. Fairbank Fen (40)..... Fairbank
29. Anderson Addition to Cutshall (24)..... Jesup
30. Ham Marsh (54)..... Independence
31. Wehner Woods (30)..... Lamont
32. Guy Grover Timber and Tree Plantings (186)..... Quasqueton
33. Qigley-Slattery Heritage Prairie (33)..... Winthrop

Buchanan County River Accesses (acres)

34. Iron Bridge Woodland (34)..... Quasqueton
35. Troy Mills Wapsi Access (63)..... Troy Mills
36. Wapsi River Access (51)..... Independence
37. Three Elms Area (75)..... Independence
38. Cutshall Area (85)..... Jesup
39. Cortright Wildlife Area (190)..... Littleton
40. Robert "Chic" McGlauughlin Access (6)..... Littleton

Board Members

- Loren Hamilton..... Chair
 Ronnie Wolfe..... Vice Chair
 Karen Stephenson..... Secretary
 Pat Fencil..... Member
 Andy Crump..... 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
 Karen Ott..... Wildlife Caregiver/Park Tech
 Elaine Walker..... Office Manager
 Diane Johnson..... Secretary
 Ben Milius..... Seasonal Park Tech.
 Mack Kleitsch..... Seasonal Park Tech.
 Katy Cantin..... Naturalist Intern

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Extreme Outdoors participants prepare for whitewater kayaking (see page 6)!

