



The Otter Creek Quarterly

Spring, 2017
Vol. 32 No. 1

A Newsletter of the Buchanan County Conservation Board

2017 Master River Stewards Program (page 6)!

Everyone's Role in County Conservation

Dan Cohen, BCCB Director

Buchanan County Conservation Board has great staff working to provide maintained park facilities, managed natural areas, and quality education programs. The Conservation Board thus is able to offer a lot of conservation opportunities for Buchanan County Area residents and visitors. However, the Conservation Board and Staff cannot simply "do" conservation work for its citizens. Successful conservation relies on engaged citizens "doing" conservation in their own lives.

Conservation implies activity. Success occurs as people take action by planting trees and prairie plants, recycling and reusing materials that otherwise become "waste"; conserving energy and reducing pollution; learning about and experiencing nature and the environment; and spreading a better appreciation and understanding of conservation and the natural world to others.

The Conservation Board is able to assist and engage people interested in doing the good work of conservation.

Landowners who wish to implement conservation on their land can call for technical information and assistance. The Conservation Board has tree planters and prairie seed drills, and also has staff to do the planting for a small fee. Last year, more than a thousand acres of conservation plantings were conducted by private landowners with Conservation Board assistance.

Every week, Conservation Volunteers act as Nature Center Receptionists. They help keep the facility open as a place for the public to



Buchanan Trails Association volunteers maintain mountain bike trails at Three Elms Area.

learn about nature and get their conservation questions answered. Other "Conservation Volunteers" monitor nest boxes and conduct wildlife surveys; serve as campground hosts; help with park maintenance; work in park gardens; remove invasive plants; help fundraise; and more. A Conservation Volunteer Workshop is scheduled for anyone wanting to be active in any of these areas of conservation (see page 8).

Many people become active in conservation by attending the Conservation Board's education and recreation programs. Last year's attendance at these programs exceeded 20,000 people. Most programs reach youth from area schools, youth groups, and summer camps. There also are programs to further adult education and family recreational activities. Lifelong learning and engagement in the outdoors often are key to a conservation lifestyle.

Don't forget that each of us participates in conservation by being engaged in the natural world. The Conservation Board's offering of 40 parks, natural areas, and river accesses provide the bulk of outdoor recreation areas in Buchanan County - get out and enjoy!

Get Your e-Newsletter Quick and in Color!



Printing and mailing this newsletter four times a year generates more than 50,000 sheets of paper annually, and costs more than \$5,000. Associated environmental costs include the resources needed to produce or recycle the paper, fuel for transportation and shipping, etc. You can help reduce these costs by requesting to switch your mailing subscription to an email subscription. Simply email dljohnson@windstream.net and request to receive the newsletter via email, and indicate the old mailing address to delete. Your environmental footprint will get a size smaller.

Conservation Scholarships

Application Deadline: March 13!

The Buchanan County Area Conservation and Natural Resources Scholarship Committee will award a limited number of scholarships to area residents currently enrolled as seniors in high school, or at accredited colleges or universities. The top scholarship award will be \$1,500. Scholarship recipients also will receive complimentary tickets to the Buchanan County Pheasants Forever Banquet held on April 1. Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Will major in a conservation or natural resources-related field;
- Have a demonstrated interest in conservation and natural resources;
- Have been active in their communities;
- Have academic records that indicates a likelihood of success at their chosen schools.

Applicants must reside in one of the following School Districts: East Buchanan, Jesup, Independence, North Linn, Oelwein, Starmont, or Wapsie Valley. All applicants must complete an application form which must be received prior to the March 13 deadline. Application forms may be downloaded at www.buchanancountyparks.com. For more information, call or email Dan Cohen at 319-636-2617/bccbdan@iowatelecom.net.

Make Reservations Now!

With the beginning of warm weather, bookings for cabins, camp sites, and shelters fill quickly. To get your first choice of dates and sites, call now to make a reservation - 319-636-2617. Reservations for the two Sustainable Living Cabins at Fontana Park especially fill quickly. Shelters and the Chapel Area also may be reserved.

Reservable campsites at Fontana Park are located along the east side of the campground - nicely tucked in along the pine trees. For a layout of the campground and information about cabins, and to download all reservation forms, visit www.buchanancountyparks.com.

Attention Bicyclists!

The 24-mile **annual Fools' Ride** will be held April 1, 2017. The bicycle ride will begin in La Porte City at Getaway Bar & Grill at 11:30 a.m.



and travel to Phat's Pub and Grub in Brandon and back. Live bands will be featured at both locations. For more information, visit <http://www.bikeiowa.com/Event/11280/15th-annual-april-fools-ride>. **The annual RASH Ride** will be held June 10. 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 or for more information, visit www.rashride.org!

Sponsors of the Conservation and Natural Resources Scholarship

- Buchanan County Pheasants Forever
- Buchanan County Wildlife Association
- Lower 40 Sportsmen
- Friends of Fontana Park
- Littleton Hookanliners
- Tri-Rivers Waterfowlers
- Wapsi Flyway



Monarch Habitat Plant Sale –

Pre-orders begin March 1



Butterfly Milkweed



Swamp Milkweed

Friends of Fontana Park has ordered plant plugs of four milkweed species and a blazingstar species for those interested in increasing garden habitat for Monarch butterflies. Plants will be shipped to arrive in late May or early June (determined by the Nursery) and will be sold as starter plugs that need to be planted soon after arrival. Pre-orders on limited supplies will be accepted beginning March 1, until supply is exhausted.

Cost will be \$5 per plant, or 5 plants for \$20 – maximum 15 plants per household. Payment is due upon placing an order.

Species available: Swamp Milkweed; Butterfly Milkweed; Whorled Milkweed; Sullivant’s or Prairie Milkweed; and Rough Blazingstar.

Look for details at www.buchanancountyparks.com to select the correct plants for your soil and sun types.

Emailed orders will be accepted before phone calls. Please email your order to fontanapark@iowatelecom.net.



Rough Blazingstar

Banded Rocks

Jeremy Whittle, BCCB Park Ranger

The last couple years I started looking for banded rocks, called agates. I never thought I would get enjoyment from searching and finding a rock. Some family and friends got me started looking for agates, and now I’m hooked.

My favorite thing about agates is the different bands or lines within the agate and all the patterns found within each rock. No two agates are alike. Agates range in sizes, shapes, and colors, depending where they are found.

Many different varieties of agates are found all over the world. In Iowa, we have one of the most famous and widespread agate types - the Lake Superior Agate. These rocks originated in the Lake Superior region, and were transported across the Midwest by glaciers. Iowa agates can be found along rivers and streams, in gravel pits, and on agriculture fields in central and northeast Iowa. Anywhere you find gravel and rock can be a place to hunt agates. Lake Superior agates are generally red in color and have a waxy look. They have holes or pits on the outside, and bands or lines running through them. Getting the rocks wet can bring out the

lines if they’re hard to see.

With so many places to look for agates in northeast



Iowa, it’s a great way to get outdoors and enjoy the beauty of nature. Looking for agates can be enjoyed by the young and old alike, and has become a great family activity for my family.

It’s not hard to get started and doesn’t take a lot of fancy equipment. A pair of boots and a willingness to explore is about all you need. Taking a float trip down any of our northeast Iowa Rivers is another great way to get started. One piece of equipment that I have purchased is a rock tumbler, to polish my agates and reveal their true beauty. Polishing agates is a four week process. It is very rewarding to see how magnificent they look when completed.

So, next time you are exploring a creek, floating down a river, or just out on a walk, take a break to look down and find some rocks. You too might find one of Iowa’s gems.

Bald Eagles in Iowa

Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m.
Fontana Nature Center Classroom

The Bald Eagle is more than a national symbol. Come learn about this amazing bird and its population status in Iowa from Iowa DNR Wildlife Diversity Biologist Stephanie Shepherd. Discover how to help biologists monitor the population, and then take a visit to an eagle nest. Preregistration is required.



Pop Can Airplanes

Saturday, March 25, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Fontana Nature Center Classroom
\$5 per airplane
Registration is limited

Create a unique conversation piece when your 12-pack of empty cans becomes a decorative biplane with some cutting, shaping, and riveting. Participants will be required to bring 12 matching cans, cut the aluminum with a box cutter and scissors and handle the cut edges. Registration fee includes all remaining supplies needed. There will be some preparation instructions given after registering. Pre-registration is required.



Tug-a-Suckle and Early Spring Walk

Wednesday, March 29 6:00 p.m.
Fontana Park



Bush Honeysuckle is a plant that was brought to North America as a bird-friendly landscape plant. However, bird-dispersed seeds and vigorous growth allow the plant to spread, overshadow, and out compete native woodland plants. Join other conservation volunteers in pulling honeysuckle in the Fontana Park woodland, and then join the naturalist for a spring walk in the woods. Pre-registration is required.



Fontana Herb Society Program – Continuous Blooms in the Garden

Join Master Gardener Gaylord Shaeffer, a Master Gardener from Cedar Falls on Thursday, April 6, 7:00 p.m. in the Fontana Nature Center Classroom.



Earth Day With Live Birds of Prey

Saturday, April 22, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
St. John's School Gym & Multi-purpose room, Independence

See live birds of prey up close, and learn about these birds from Conservation Board staff and area falconers



Rick and Robin Woods. Birds will be jessed and on the glove during the presentation. Following the birds program, participants will learn about ways to be more "Earth Aware on Earth Day and Beyond". Several local groups will demonstrate projects and activities, and discuss how others can be involved and active in their own backyards. This is an event for families and individuals of all ages.

Fontana Herb Society Plant Sale

The Fontana Herb Society will conduct their annual plant sale May 6, 8-11 a.m., with some of the proceeds going to Friends of Fontana Park. The group of volunteer garden enthusiasts have long been a friend to the Conservation Board, spending time tending the gardens at Fontana Park and hosting an educational program the first Thursday of April (see article above).



Rhubarb Leaf Birdbath

Saturday, May 6, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
 Fontana Nature Center Classroom
 \$8 per birdbath
 Registration is limited

Make this creative concrete birdbath, with an impression of a rhubarb leaf, to keep in your own yard or as a great Mother's Day gift. The birdbaths will require at least three days curing before being ready to travel. Participants that have large rhubarb or other leaves are encouraged to bring those wrapped in a damp cloth to prevent drying. Preregistration is required.



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

Animal Camouflage: The Hidden Creatures in Our Yards

Monday, May 8, 6:00 p.m.
 Fontana Nature Center Classroom

Camouflage provides nature's version of hide and seek. Camouflage can be observed in a wide range of living creatures: birds that look like bark; butterflies that look like leaves; and fish that change their shape and color to match their surroundings. Children and adults will be interested in this fast-paced, illustrated talk about deceptive strategies commonly found in plants and animals. The program will be presented by Roy Behrens, Professor of Art and Distinguished Scholar at the University of Northern Iowa. Preregistration is required.



Princess Adventures

Wednesday, May 24, 5:30 p.m.
 Fontana Nature Center Classroom
 Cost: \$5 per child

Do you know one or more little people who love princesses? Want to encourage them to dress up and have fun exploring the outdoors at the same time? Children ages 3-8 are invited to come to the nature center dressed in "princess attire" (whatever that means to them) and learn about trees, make a craft to take home, and enjoy a tea party with a snack. Preregistration is required.



Old Time Meals

Wednesday, May 31 and Sept. 6, 5:00 p.m.
 Richardson-Jakway House, Jakway Forest
 \$20 per person - registration is limited to 26 people!

The May 31 Old Time Meal will feature smoked pork chops, garden greens, baked potato, brussels sprouts, green onions, Amish bread with honey and huckleberry jam, and topped off with a rhubarb dessert. A special after-supper program is being planned. Old Time Meals are sponsored by the Richardson-Jakway Foundation and Conservation Board. Checks should be made payable to the Richardson-Jakway Foundation, which is a nonprofit group organized to raise funds for restoration of the Historic Site. Preregistration is required.



Attention Civic Clubs!

Are you a member of a civic organization charged with planning a speaker for your group's meeting? Buchanan County Conservation staff are pleased to work with you to set up a conservation program. Programs are available on a variety of topics. To schedule a program, contact the Conservation Department well in advance, as schedules do fill up.

2017 Master River Stewards Program

Wapsipinicon River Watershed

Registration Deadline: May 2, 2017 (please inquire about availability after this date)

Contact: Sondra Cabell, Naturalist, fontanapark@iowatelecom.net, (319) 636-2617

Iowa Rivers Revival's Master River Stewards Program (MRSP) is a comprehensive river course focusing on riverine systems, including skills to paddle and navigate rivers, restoring aquatic habitat, improving water quality, and understanding policies related to floodplains, river protection and restoration. The MRSP uses a network of river experts in various partner agencies and organizations. Participants will better understand how to collaborate to protect and improve Iowa's rivers, so that current and future generations can enjoy these resources.

Feedback from past participants:

- "Great class, thoroughly enjoyed each and every session."
- "Great leadership. Great resources/readings. Great speakers. Great group."
- "Really enjoyed class. Had zero expectations coming in. Was surprised by the amount of river experience/Project AWARE tie in. Really enjoyed meeting such passionate people. Each week gave me something to think about and discuss with co-workers."
- "This was a fantastic program. I came in with no expectations, but left every night excited to share what I learned with others... Thanks so much for putting this together. I will become active in the stewardship of rivers at a far greater level due to this program."

Registration Cost: Participants will pay a fee of \$50 which will include program materials. Participants will be expected to attend each session and there will be "homework" assignments following each class – materials will be provided.

Sponsorships: There are opportunities for organizations and groups to sponsor aspects of the program, such as general program support, participant registration costs, a meal for one of the evening programs, or program materials and supplies.

Funding for this program has been provided by the Iowa DNR's REAP, IOWATER and River Programs.

Program Details: Dates (T=Tuesday; S=Saturday) and locations are subject to change.



<u>Session Topic</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Tentative Location</u>
• Intro. Pre-Meeting	May 9 (T)	5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Okoboji Grill (Independence)
• Watersheds & Ag Policies	May 16 (T)	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Fontana Nature Center (Hazleton)
• River Form & Function	June 6 (T)	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Wolfey's (Quasqueton)
• Navigating Iowa's Waters/Wildlife & River			
• Chemistry/Monitoring	June 24 (S)	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Three Elms Park to Old Iron Bridge
• Stream/Riparian Zone	July 11 (T)	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	UNI—Dry Run Creek (Cedar Falls)
• Restoration & Impacts on Fish/Wildlife/Ag Production			
• Treatment Plant Visits	July 29 (S)	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	TBD
• Review & Potential Projects	Aug. 8 (T)	5:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Heartland Acres Events Center (Ind.)
• Post Training /Follow-up, Project Sharing/Evaluation	TBD	TBD	TBD

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. Fees are due within 10 days of registering.

Wee Nature Tales

Ages: 3-5 yrs
 Tuesdays, June 6 – July 25 10 a.m.-11 a.m. OR
 Thursdays June 8 – July 27 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
 Fontana Nature Center Classroom
 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
 Tuesdays, June 6 – July 25 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. OR
 Wednesdays, June 7 – July 26 9 a.m.- 11 a.m.
 Fontana Nature Center Classroom
 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,
 Wednesdays, June 7 – July 26 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m. OR
 Thursdays June 8 – July 27 1 p.m. -2:30 p.m.
 Fontana Nature Center Classroom
 Cost: \$30; Registration limited to 20/class

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.

\$5 per child discount on youth summer programs for current members of Friends of Fontana Park!

River Raiders Program for Youth – Kendallville to Decorah, IA

Fontana Training Day: July 3, 5-7 p.m.
 Upper Iowa River: July 11-13 ; Age: youth entering grades 6-8;
 Cost: \$90; 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 July 3. The training will include camping and paddling basics, menu for the trip itinerary and what to pack.





Volunteer Workshop

Saturday, March 11, 9:00 a.m.
Fontana Nature Center
Preregistration required

This workshop is for everyone, from seasoned volunteers who would like a refresher, to those who may be newcomers; from nature center receptionists to those who like outdoor projects. All are welcome! Conservation

Volunteers are involved in a wide variety of activities. Of most immediate need are volunteers who act as weekend receptionists in the nature center. Other volunteer activities may include monitoring wildlife, pulling invasive species, serving as campground hosts, and much more.

Nature Center Volunteer Receptionists Hours

(as of 2/21/17)

- Edith Biddinger.....152 hours
- Ruby Bodeker.....88 hours
- Joye Bowers.....113 hours
- Margaret Damge.....28 hours
- Ellen Gaffney.....183 hours
- Helen Hoefler.....807 hours
- Elanie Hughes.....278 hours
- Marybeth Jaggard..... 848 hours
- Kathy Karsten.....99 hours
- Francis King.....206 hours
- Robert Miehe.....202 hours
- Patti Olmstead..... 264 hours
- Judith Porter.....399 hours
- Barb Roberson..... 77 hours
- Ken Roberson.....48 hours
- Shirley Rozendaal..... 259 hours
- Faith Rulapaugh..... 445 hours
- Ruth Schlitter..... 82 hours
- Lorene Shonka..... 194 hours
- Michelle Smith.....8 hours
- David Voigts..... 446 hours
- Jane Watson.....214 hours
- Clark Willoughby.....87 hours

Donations to be used for Wildlife Display Upgrades!



During their recent meeting, Friends of Fontana Park (FFP) approved budgeting donation dollars to go toward construction of a new winter duck building and improved sidewalks in the Fontana Park Wildlife Display. FFP is a nonprofit group that raises funds for the Conservation Board's Education Programs.

Plans still are being developed, but the new winter duck building will provide a better home to the waterfowl, and better viewing opportunities for winter visitors. The building also may provide winter quarters for other animals, some much needed storage, and display space during summer months.

Donations are needed for this project! Please consider making a donation as an individual, group, or business. Donations of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a plaque on the new building and in the Nature Center. Donations of \$100 or more will be recognized in the nature center at the level shown below.

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.

- Donor (\$1-99)
- Contributor (\$100-249)
- Supporter (\$250-499)
- Patron (\$500-999)
- Sponsor (\$1,000-4,999)
- Founder (\$5,000 or more)

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please contact me regarding making a donation as a memorial to a friend or relative.

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

Conservation Calendar!

March 1	<i>Monarch Habitat Plant Pre-orders Begins (P.3)</i>	May 15	<i>Conservation Board Meeting</i>
March 11	<i>Volunteer Workshop</i> Fontana Nature Center, 9:00 a.m. (P. 8).	May 14	Fontana Nature Center, 6 p.m. (subject to change)
March 11	<i>Eagle Program</i> Fontana Nature Center, 10 a.m. (P. 4).	May 24	<i>Mother's Day</i>
March 21	<i>Conservation Board Meeting</i> Fontana Nature Center, 6:00 p.m. (subject to change)	May 29	<i>Princess Adventures</i> Fontana Nature Center, 5:30 p.m. (P. 5).
March 25	<i>Pop Can Airplanes</i> Fontana Nature Center, 9:00 a.m. (P. 4).	May 31	<i>Memorial Day</i>
March 29	<i>Tug a Suckle</i> Fontana Park, 6:00 p.m. (P. 4).	June 6	<i>Old Time Meal</i> Jakway Park, 5:00 p.m. (P. 5).
April 1	<i>Pheasants Forever Membership Banquet</i> Independence; call 319-334-0255 for tickets	June 6	<i>Wee Nature Tales on Tuesdays begins</i> Fontana Nature Center, 10:00 a.m. (P. 7).
April 6	<i>Continuous Blooms in the Garden</i> Fontana Nature Center, 7:00 p.m. (P. 4).	June 7	<i>Young Naturalists on Tuesdays begins</i> Fontana Nature Center, 1:00 p.m. (P. 7).
April 18	<i>Conservation Board Meeting</i> Fontana Nature Center, 6 p.m. (subject to change)	June 7	<i>Young Naturalists on Wednesdays begins</i> Fontana Nature Center, 9:00 a.m. (P. 7).
April 22	<i>Tri-Rivers Waterfowlers Banquet</i> Quasqueton; call 319-350-9260 for tickets	June 7	<i>Nature Explorers Wednesdays begins</i> Fontana Nature Center, 1:00 p.m. (P. 7).
April 22	<i>Earth Day with LIVE Birds of Prey</i> St. John's School Gym, 1:00 p.m. (P. 4).	June 8	<i>Wee Nature Tales on Thursdays begins</i> Fontana Nature Center, 10:00 a.m. (P. 7).
May 6	<i>Fontana Herb Society Plant Sale</i> Fontana Nature Center, 8:00 a.m. (P. 4).	June 8	<i>Nature Explorers on Thursdays begins</i> Fontana Nature Center, 1:00 p.m. (P. 7).
May 6	<i>Rhubarb Leaf Birdbath</i> Fontana Nature Center, 9:00 a.m. (P. 5).	June 19	<i>Conservation Board Meeting</i> Fontana Nature Center, 6 p.m. (subject to change)
May 8	<i>Animal Camouflage</i> Fontana Nature Center, 6:00 p.m. (P. 5).	July 3	<i>River Raiders Training Day</i> Fontana Nature Center, 5:00 p.m. (P. 7).
May 9	<i>Master Rivers Stewardship Program Begins</i> Okoboji Grill, 5:30 p.m. (P. 6).	July 11-13	<i>River Raiders Program for Youth</i> Upper Iowa River, 8:00 a.m. (P. 7).
		Sept. 6	<i>Old Time Meal</i> Jakway Park, 5:00 p.m. (P. 5).
		Sept. 13	<i>Photo Contest Deadline (P. 9).</i>

Buchanan County Natural Areas Photo Contest

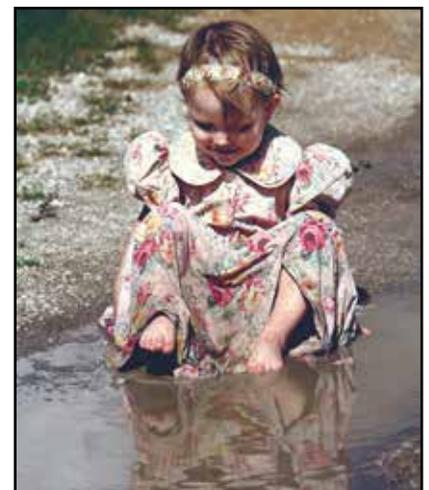
Entries must be postmarked by September 13; Complete rules at www.buchanancountyparks.com

Don't Forget! Keep your camera handy as you visit Buchanan County's natural areas this spring and summer and keep in mind the 4 categories for our 28th Annual Photography Contest: Landscapes, Wildlife, Plants & Wildflowers, & People Enjoying Nature. Entries are limited to 6 per photographer, and are free. Amateurs of all ages are welcome to enter and cash prizes are awarded. This year, preliminary judging will



2016 Landscapes Winner by Kim Wessels

be done by Buchanan County Conservation staff, and final selection of winners will be done online. Mark the deadline date on your calendar and start (or continue) snapping pictures for the September contest. For more information on the contest or for a copy of the official rules, visit our website at www.buchanancountyparks.com and click on photo contest or call 319-636-2617.



2016 Overall Winner by Tracy Belle

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 (40)..... 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 (201)..... Quasqueton
33. Quigley-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" McGlaughlin Access (6)..... Littleton

Buchanan County Conservation Board

Board Members

- Loren Hamilton..... President
 Ronnie Wolfe..... Vice President
 Karen Stephenson..... Secretary
 Anita Miller..... Member
 Andy Crump..... Member

Conservation Staff

- Dan Cohen..... Executive Director
 Sondra Cabell..... Interpretive Naturalist
 Angela Auel..... Interpretive Naturalist
 Mike Van Raden..... Park Ranger
 Jeremy Whittle..... Park Ranger
 Chris Hansen..... Conservation Technician
 Michael Maas..... Conservation Technician
 Elaine Walker..... Office Manager
 Diane Johnson..... Secretary/Volunteer Coordinator

The Otter Creek Quarterly is printed on Exact Offset paper manufactured by Wausau. This is a Green Seal paper - a mark of environmental responsibility. For more information about Green Seal paper, got to www.greenseal.org. The newsletter is edited by Dan Cohen. Contact the Conservation Department (319-636-2617/bccbdan@iowatelecom.net) for more information.

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.



Buchanan County residents stand up and speak out about the need for the Iowa Legislature and Governor to fund the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust. Iowans voted overwhelmingly to amend the Iowa Constitution to create the fund in 2010. A recent Des Moines Register poll shows a majority of all Iowans want to raise sales tax 3/8 cent to fund the Trust (including 67% of adults age 35 and younger!). Photos: Buchanan County Pheasants Forever Sponsors (above); Buchanan County Trails Assoc. (bottom-left); A program featuring "Alone" star Lucas Miller at Wolfey's in Quasqueton (bottom-right)

