



The Heron

Newsletter of Clinton County Conservation
Volume 40 Number 2 May - August, 2018



DisAbled Hunting: A New Opportunity

by Mark Roberts, Education Coordinator

The Clinton County Conservation Board is offering permitted hunting in a portion of *Ringneck Marsh Wildlife Area* for people that are disabled. Despite the name, the area the blind will be set in is not a marsh but a grassland and timber area in the Wapsi Bottoms, northwest of Calamus.

This new opportunity is a spin-off of our former "Purple Heart Hunting" and uses the blind built for that program. This is the Conservation Board's way to offer accessible hunting to folks who need it. There is no charge for hunting privileges, however the hunter is responsible for the purchase of all required licenses and tags.

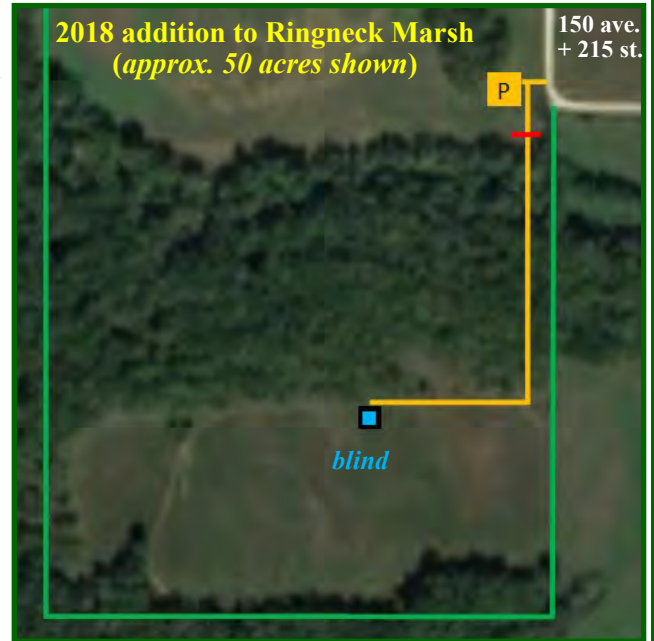
We are accepting applications currently for permits through the 2018 fall and 2019 spring hunting seasons. We will award permits on a first-come, first-served basis.

We are still hammering out all the fine details but we have the basic framework in place.

- ◆ Applicants will need to provide proof of disability. A disabled parking permit will be acceptable.



Accessible ground blind constructed by *Steel Tuff, Low Moor* and painted by *Illowa Marine, Clinton*.



- ◆ You may have another hunter with you to assist or share the hunt, but the permittee must be present during any use of the blind or for vehicle access.
- ◆ You may use a vehicle, ATV or motorized chair to access the blind or retrieve game. The blind is located about 400 yards from the parking lot.

Contributing Organizations: *Illowa Marine, American Legion of Iowa, Steel Tuff, Scott County Pheasants Forever, Scott County Waterfowl USA and Wapsi Bottoms Whitetails Unlimited.*

For information or application for EnAble Hunting, email conservation@clintoncounty-ia.gov or call 563-847-7202.

2018-19 Season Permits

1. Disabled & Youth Deer Sept. 16-Oct. 1
2. October 1-31 Deer or Turkey
3. Nov. 1-Dec. 1, Deer or Turkey
4. Shotgun Deer #1 Dec. 2-6
5. Shotgun Deer #2 Dec. 9-17
6. Late Deer Muzzleloader Dec. 18-Jan. 10

Spring Turkey, likely set for April-May

7. Youth Turkey
8. Spring Turkey #1
9. Spring Turkey #2
10. Spring Turkey #3
11. Spring Turkey #4



Eden Valley Treasure Quest

by Chip Brown and Alan Ketelsen

Looking for something new and exciting for the whole family to enjoy? This past winter the Eden Valley crew created a fun new way to enjoy the outdoors. Come out to Eden Valley Refuge to explore our *Treasure Quest*.

You will begin your quest in the parking lot next to the red gate trail. Start by opening the first bird house shaped cache. Inside each cache you will find the location and clue to opening the next cache on your hunt. Once opened, the fifth and final cache holds a souvenir for each seeker to take home. Each cache presents a unique and sometimes difficult challenge to open.

The caches are located all over the park; be prepared to do some hiking and enjoy the beautiful scenery Eden Valley has to offer. Make sure to return each box to its original form, so the next explorers can enjoy the challenge.



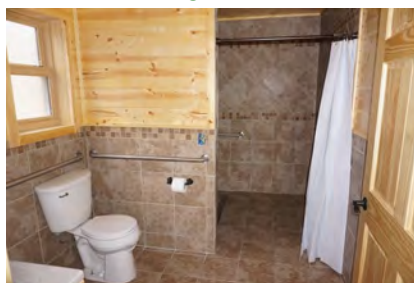
New Pintail Cabin

by Brad Taylor, Park Officer

With summer fast approaching we are excited to announce the opening of our newest addition to Rock Creek Marina & Campground, Pintail Cabin. We have had a lot of excitement around the park with this new addition. The process to build this cabin was not a fast one. It started several years ago by applying for grants and getting floodplain permits through the DNR and Army Corps of Engineers. Once the funding and permits were secured we could start



the construction process. Construction began last summer and was opened for business in March. The cabin has some great features that many people have been requesting for a long time. Pintail is fully ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant with some extra features that will make it even more comfortable for people with disabilities, starting with paved parking. The cabin will be easily accessed with nearly 80 feet of ramp. Once inside users will notice ADA compliant cabinets with a roll-under stove top, prepping area and kitchen sink. In the restroom there is a wheel-in shower stall with a high shower head and a lower removable shower wand to make showering easier. Connected to the bathroom is the master bedroom. This bedroom has a queen-sized bed that can be raised and lowered, along with head and feet controls. The second bedroom is furnished with a set of twin-sized bunk beds.



The living room area has a pull-out love seat with a full-size mattress. With these beds, the cabin is rated for 6 people maximum. Outside the cabin has a sidewalk leading to an ADA fire ring and ADA picnic table made of recycled plastic and a large deck overlooking the creek and woods.

When we started the design of this cabin we wanted a place that would fit the needs of people with disabilities and be very functional for everyone to use. You can look at additional pictures on www.mycountyparks.com and our Facebook page. The cabin can be booked for \$125 per night on www.mycountyparks.com. There are still prime dates throughout the summer open for reservations.



We would like to thank the many people and businesses that made this cabin possible. The Clinton County Development Association, Beckwith Roofing, Meggers Concrete, Mike May Electric, Rixen Painting, Kim Rixen, Iowa Concrete Products, RHA Services, Eastman House Furniture, Zirkelbach Home Appliance, Lyondellbasell and the Clinton County Conservation Foundation.

It's Official! Dave Stedwell is An Outstanding Volunteer!

by Jessica Steines, Interpretive Naturalist and FORC Liaison

If you know Dave, you know he is outstanding. If you don't, you should know that he selflessly gives back to his community (he volunteers at a meal site called Café on Vine and is on the community outreach committee for the Red Cross), he listens and laughs heartily, while also giving encouragement and direction. With his gentle presence, there is a commanding respect that attracts people to him.

Those attributes plus what he has physically contributed to Clinton County Conservation (CCC) has earned him the 2018 Outstanding Volunteer Award by the Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN) and Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC).

In the middle of March, Clinton County Conservation (CCC) had the honor of hosting the statewide IAN conference. After dinner, Dave received a beautiful wood engraved plaque and a nice round of applause while being surrounded by the CCC family. Including fellow *Friends of Rock Creek* and *CCC Foundation* members, Clinton County Conservation employees, plus 60 of the state's naturalists. **Everyone in attendance could attest to his contributions and know how priceless they are.**

After receiving the award, Dave said, "I am humbled and honored to be recognized from among the many [people] across the state who work to help carry out environmental education programs and activities. I am thankful to have



Dave surrounded by the CCC family on the deck of the Mississippi River Eco Tourism Center. "I am truly blessed to have found a place with the CCC."

the opportunity to do what I love and to work with the dedicated and knowledgeable naturalists of CCC. There is great satisfaction in being able to help bring young people to nature and see their excitement as they dive into new activities and experiences. The important lessons they learn, the curiosities they develop and the attitudes they take away from a routine class field trip are so valuable. **These [youth] are the current and certainly future stewards of nature and our environment.** I am already looking ahead for opportunities to work with young people in class field trips. As the weather finally begins to get warmer I am anxious to get back into teaching/helping mode with canoes, kayaks and pond study. I can't think of a better way to volunteer."

It's Our Anniversary!

by Jill Schmidt, Interpretive Naturalist



Five years ago this June, Fishing Has No Boundaries (FHNB) held their first event at Rock Creek Marina & Campground. Today, the event has over doubled in size and the Eastern Iowa Chapter has provided hundreds of people with great memories of spending the day fishing with new friends. FHNB is a non-profit organization that provides individuals with

disabilities the opportunity to experience the outdoors and learn to fish using adaptive equipment (electric reels, pole holders, dock ramps, etc.) provided by the chapter. Clinton County Conservation (CCC) has been a huge supporter of this organization for all five years and will continue to do so for future anglers.

We have had people from Illinois, the Quad Cities, Clinton County, and as far as Iowa City and Dubuque, travel to Rock Creek to be involved in such an awesome event. Every year the event is the first weekend in June, which is the free fishing weekend in Iowa. Last year, the event was postponed to August due to flooding and although volunteer numbers were down, the event was still a huge success.

Volunteers are the backbone to a successful day. People from all over eastern Iowa and as far as Des Moines and Fort Dodge have offered their time, experience and smiles to partner up with CCC and FHNB to provide an unforget-



table day! We have been fortunate enough to have hundreds of people volunteer.

In addition to volunteers, we have amazing corporate sponsors that have helped this Chapter get off its feet and grow. In addition to the personnel support from CCC; Rock Valley Physical Therapy, QCCA, In-fisherman Club, Davenport Izaak Walton League and the Mississippi Valley Sportsmen Club have played a huge part in making the event affordable for any angler.

Our 5th year anniversary means a lot to everyone who has been a part of this chapter since the beginning, but our work is not done. We hope this organization continues to grow and that each person who is involved in this awesome day will remember it forever. With that being said, **we are in need of volunteers for this year's event!** Please consider being a fishing buddy to an angler or help with set up or take down of the day's event. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please contact Jill Schmidt at 563-847-7202.

Hot Fun in the Summertime!

May Events

3rd ~ Music in the Loft ~ 6:30PM ~ Soaring Eagle Nature Center ~ 3923 N. 3rd St, Clinton Iowa ~ Local musicians will play, sing and lead you through a night of music, dance and fun. Musicians interested in playing should contact Chuck at 563-357-0759 before the event.

19th ~ Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM ~ The Nature Center will be open on Saturdays, through Labor Day.

19th ~ Riverside Jam ~ 2 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ This "coffee house-style" music event offers local talents and center guests an opportunity to gather together for a variety of music. Step up and lead or just play/sing along. Sit and listen or get up and dance. There is enjoyment for all and all are welcome. The entire family is welcome. Donations to support the center are always welcomed.

22nd ~ Friends of Rock Creek ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Come be a part of this great group!

25th - 28th ~ Memorial Day Weekend ~ Join us for a fun-filled holiday weekend. Reserve campsites and cabins online at www.mycountyparks.com



26th ~ Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM

26th ~ Jens-Wendt Observatory Open House ~ Dusk ~ Sherman Park ~ Starts at dusk (must be clear skies) in Sherman Park, at the north parking lot. Courtesy of the Quad Cities Astronomical Society, check them out www.facebook.com/QuadCitiesAstro/

Eco Tourism Fun! May 31st- August 19th

- ◆ **Thursdays ~ Nature Story ~ 10 AM** ~ Bring your kids to the Eco Center to learn about the great outdoors with a story and activities!
- ◆ **Saturdays ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 AM & 11:30 AM** ~ Come to the Eco Center's Nature Gallery to touch, hold and have photo ops with the animals. Adults must accompany children.
- ◆ **Sundays ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Borrow a net to catch frogs, fish and insects in the water just outside of the Eco Center!

June Events

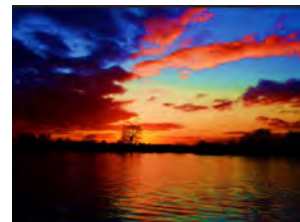
1st-3rd ~ Free Fishing Weekend ~ Iowa residents may fish and possess fish without a DNR fishing license.

2nd ~ Fishing Has No Boundaries Event ~ 8 AM-3 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Clinton County Conservation will be hosting the 5th annual Fishing Has No Boundaries event. This event will provide fishing opportunities for people with disabilities on and along the Mississippi River. We are in need of boat captain volunteers and fishing buddy volunteers! If you would like to be a part of this amazing event, please contact Jill Schmidt at 563-847-7202.

2nd ~ Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM

6th ~ Slithery Snakes ~ 11:15 AM & 1 PM ~ Camanche Public Library ~ Snakes may slither and possibly scare us but they are fascinating animals that play an important role in our ecosystem. Get a chance to see some of Iowa's snakes up close and face fears of these awesome animals!

7th ~ Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Thursday evenings through October, there will be naturalist-guided Mississippi eco cruises aboard the Blue Heron. Call 563-259-1876 to reserve a free spot.



8th-10th ~ Customer Appreciation Weekend ~ Rock Creek ~ We want to thank the visitors to our park and we will have some fun things planned this weekend.

- ◆ **Saturday, 9th ~ Food Specials and Drawing for Prizes** ~ We have prize drawings and food specials throughout the day. Stop in the camp store and sign up to win.
- ◆ **Saturday, 9th ~ Good Morning Cruise ~ 9 AM** ~ Every other Saturday this summer, there will be naturalist-guided eco cruises aboard the Blue Heron pontoon boat. Call 563-259-1876 to reserve a free spot.
- ◆ **Saturday, 9th ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 & 11:30AM**
- ◆ **Sunday, 10th ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM**

9th ~ Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM

9th ~ Campground Movies ~ Dusk ~ Eden Valley ~ The campground at Eden Valley will show family movies on the big screen for campers/park visitors.

12th - 14th ~ Pollywog Camp ~ 9:30 AM-2:30 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ *Children who have completed kindergarten and first grade will enjoy a camp exploring the back waters of the Mississippi River and all the amazing living things around it!* Cost is \$50 & registration is required online, www.mycountyparks.com for more details and to register your child. Registration deadline is June 5th.



13th ~ Building Better Birders Field Class & Eco Cruise ~ 6:30 AM ~ Rock Creek ~ Call 563-259-1876 to sign up!

14th ~ Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek

15th ~ Canoe Float ~ 6 PM ~ Walnut Grove ~ We'll meet at the boat ramp for registration and then car pool to Massillon Park for a relaxing 4-mile trip downstream back to the Park. Drivers will be shuttled back to Massillon Park to collect their vehicles. There is no fee to participate. Pre-register by calling 563-847-7202 by 4 PM, June 8th.



15th - 17th ~ **Father's Day Weekend ~ Rock Creek** ~ Grab your family and make memories camping.

♦ **Saturday, 16th ~ Half Price Canoe Rentals ~ 8 AM-11 AM** ~ Spend some quality time on the water with your dad. Stop in the Eco Center for details.

♦ **Saturday, 16th ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 & 11:30 AM**

♦ **Saturday, 16th ~ Riverside Jam ~ 2 PM**

♦ **Sunday, 17th ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM**

16th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

19th - 21st ~ **Creature Camp ~ 9:30 AM-2:30 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Children who have completed second and third grade will spend these summer days learning about Iowa's wildlife and the awesome adaptations they have that help them survive. Cost is \$50 & registration is required online, www.mycountyparks.com for more details and to register your child by July 5th.

19th ~ **Painting Class with "Fresh Paint" ~ 6-8 PM ~ \$35 ~ Rock Creek** ~ This is a "Paint and Sip" class (BYOB). It's a 2 hour event...step by step, painting class using a 11x14 canvas with *Fresh Paint by Christine Boeve*. Wild Wildflowers will be our painting. You choose your colors! Pick red, white and blue and they look like fireworks! All materials supplied & space is limited, register at www.mycountyparks.com asap.



21st ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek**

22nd ~ **Voyageur Canoe Trip ~ 9 AM ~ Swan Slough to Rock Creek** ~ We'll meet at the Eco Center and car pool to the put-in. From there we will paddle downstream 1.5 miles to Turtle Island for a shore party before we continue on to the Eco Center after paddling a total of 4.25 miles. Participants must call 563-847-7202 to pre-register by 4 PM on Friday June 15th. There is no fee and we will fill our 22-person capacity, first-come first-served.

23rd ~ **Building Better Birders Field Class & Eco Cruise ~ 6:30 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ 563-259-1876 to sign up!

23rd ~ **Morning Cruise ~ 9 AM ~ R.C.**

23rd ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

23rd ~ **Hayrack Rides ~ 4:30 PM ~ Eden Valley** ~ Ride to the back valley. Adults must accompany children.

26th ~ **Build a Fishing Rod ~ 5 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Local guild certified custom rod builder, Garry Land will be on hand to help you build your very own, unique fishing rod for \$45. Depending on skill level and hand/eye coordination, you may have to come back the next day to finish your rod. In any case, the rod will have to be picked up at a future date due to the epoxy having to cure on the "spinners" overnight. Please call Jess at 563-847-7202 with any questions. You must register for this class at www.mycountyparks.com



26th ~ **Friends of Rock Creek ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Come be a part of this great group!

28th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek**

28th ~ **Moonlight Music Cruise ~ 8:30 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Kick back and relax to live music aboard the Blue Heron as we cruise under the rising full moon. Local talents share their favorite tunes as we drift along. Interested musicians should call Chuck at 563-357-0759. Passengers can reserve their free seats by calling 563-259-1876.

29th ~ **Turtle Talk ~ 6 PM @ Eden Valley & 7:30 PM @ Walnut Grove**

~ June is nesting season for our turtles! Get a chance to see some of these "heroes in a half shell" up close and learn what you can do to help them!



30th ~ **Fairy House Competition ~ 10 AM ~ Soaring Eagle** ~ Build your best fairy or gnome home and bring it along for this family event. Prizes for different age groups will be awarded. Email sencinfo@gmail.com for rules and an entry form. Fun activities like paint your own garden decoration, make a nature fridge magnet and games will also be available. Grilled food and cool beverages will be sold for a summer picnic lunch.

30th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

30th ~ **Jens-Wendt Observatory Open House ~ Dusk ~ Sherman Park** ~ www.facebook.com/QuadCitiesAstro/

July Events

Independence Week ~ June 29th - July 8th ~ Rock Creek ~ Grab your family and friends and camp with us this holiday week. Reservable campsites and cabins are available at www.mycountyparks.com. Get your favorite site before the holiday rush. Buy 9 nights & get your 10th night FREE!!! All children must be accompanied by an adult at events.

♦ **Friday, 29th ~ Half Price Canoes ~ 3-5 PM** ~ Get your family together and spend some quality time on the water. Check out a canoe to use in the backwaters.

♦ **Saturday, 30th ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 & 11:30 AM**

♦ **Sunday, 1st ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM**

♦ **Thursday, 5th ~ Nature Story ~ 10 AM**

♦ **Saturday, 5th ~ Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM**

♦ **Saturday, 7th ~ Good Morning Cruise ~ 9 AM**

♦ **Saturday, 7th ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 & 11:30 AM**

♦ **Saturday, 7th ~ Sprinkler Fun ~ 1 PM** ~ Beat the summer heat with old fashioned water sprinkler fun.

♦ **Sunday, 8th ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM**

♦ **Sunday, 8th ~ Eco Center Fun ~ 10 AM** ~ Join us in the Eco Center for a nature inspired craft.

7th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

12th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek**

13th ~ **For Goodness Snakes ~ 6:30 @ Walnut Grove & 8 PM @ Eden Valley** ~ There are 27 different snakes that live in Iowa, come to meet some of them!



14th ~ **Half Price Canoe Rentals ~ 8-11 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Spend some quality time on the water with your family. Stop in the Eco Tourism Center for rental details.

14th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

17th - 19th ~ **Child vs. Wild Camp ~ 9:30 AM- 2:30 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ *Children who have completed fourth and fifth grade will take a walk on the wild side!* Campers will enjoy challenging themselves with fun outdoor skills such as orienteering, archery and swimming while spending time on and around the Mississippi. Cost is \$50 & registration is required online, www.mycountyparks.com for more details and to register your child by June 10th.

17th ~ **Friends of Rock Creek ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Come be a part of this great group!

18th ~ **Building Better Birders Field Class & Eco Cruise ~ 6:30 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Call 563-259-1876 to sign up!

19th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek**

20th ~ **Paddle Trip ~ 9 AM ~ Syracuse Access ~ 1429 Lincoln Way, Wheatland** ~ You must approach this access to the Wapsipinicon from the east now that the Old Hwy. 30 bridge over the river is closed. Registered paddlers will car pool the 9.5 miles to Walnut Grove and our put-in. It's an 8.5 mile trip downriver back to Syracuse Access. We'll shuttle the drivers back to their vehicles at Walnut Grove and all should be on their way by 3 PM. County paddle craft will be available free of charge while supplies last. Call 563-847-7202 by 4 PM July 13th to pre-register.

21st ~ **Good Morning Cruise ~ 9 AM ~ Rock Creek**

21st ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

21st ~ **Riverside Jam ~ 2 PM ~ Rock Creek**

21st ~ **Campground Movies ~ Dusk ~ Eden Valley**

24th-26th ~ **Kanoe Kids Camp ~ Rock Creek ~ Tuesday ~ 9:30 AM-2:30 PM and Wednesday ~ 9:30 AM until Thursday, 2:30 PM ~**

Children who have completed grades sixth and up will experience a day camp combined with an overnight canoe trip on the river that they'll never forget! Cost: \$50, registration required, www.mycountyparks.com for more details and to register your child. Registration deadline is July 10th.



26th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek**

26th ~ **Moonlight Music Cruise ~ 8:30 PM ~ Rock Creek**

27th ~ **Voyageur Canoe Trip ~ 9 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ We'll meet at the Princeton Boat Ramp (411 River Dr.) at 9AM and car pool to the put-in. From there we will launch into Shaff Creek Slough and paddle downstream to into the Mississippi's main channel past the mouth of the Wapsipinicon River and on to Princeton Beach after 4.25 miles. After shore leave we will continue on to Princeton and the take-out having paddled 6 miles. Participants must call 563-847-7202 to pre-register by 4 PM on June 15th. There is no fee. 22-person capacity, first-come first-served.

27th ~ **Birds of Prey ~ 6 PM @ Eden Valley & 7:30 PM @ Walnut Grove** ~ Birds of prey have awesome adaptations that allow them to rule the air. Meet one of these birds up close and personal!

27th - 28th ~ **Christmas in July Weekend ~ Rock Creek**

- ◆ **Friday 27th ~ Decorate Your Campsite** ~ Get yourself in the holiday spirit by decorating your campsite for Christmas in July. We will have site judging Saturday night with prizes awarded.
- ◆ **Friday 27th ~ Half Price Canoes ~ 3-5 PM** ~ Get your family together and spend some quality time on the water. Stop in the camp store and check out a canoe to use in the backwaters.
- ◆ **Saturday, 28th ~ Building Better Birders Field Class & Eco Cruise ~ 6:30 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Call 563-259-1876 to sign up!
- ◆ **Saturday, 28th ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 & 11:30AM**
- ◆ **Saturday 28th ~ Melted Snow Fun! ~ 1 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Beat the summer heat with old fashioned water sprinkler fun. Kids must be accompanied.
- ◆ **Saturday 28th ~ Hayrack Rides ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Join us for a lighted Wagon Ride around the park to view decorated campsites. Kids must be accompanied by adults.
- ◆ **Sunday, 29th ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM**



28th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open ~ 1-4 PM**

28th ~ **Jens-Wendt Observatory Open House ~ Dusk ~ Sherman Park** ~ www.facebook.com/QuadCitiesAstro/

August Events

- 1st ~ **Building Better Birders Field Class & Eco Cruise ~ 6:30 AM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Call 563-259-1876 to sign up!
- 2nd ~ **Grill & Chill ~ 6 PM ~ Soaring Eagle** ~ Bring your lawn chair and your appetite for grilled food and live music. This casual event on the lawn is fit for the whole family. Sit back and enjoy acoustic music from local artists and enjoy a nice selection of grilled food available for purchase. Plenty of space for the kiddos to run and play.
- 2nd ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek**
- 3rd & 4th ~ **Back-to-School Blues ~ Rock Creek**
- ◆ **Friday 3rd ~ Half Price Canoes ~ 3-5 PM** ~ Get your family together and spend some quality time on the water. Stop in the camp store and check out a canoe to use in the backwaters.
- ◆ **Saturday, 4th ~ Good Morning Cruise ~ 8:30 AM**
- ◆ **Saturday, 4th ~ Animal Encounter ~ 10 & 11:30AM**
- ◆ **Saturday 4th ~ Hayrack Rides ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek** ~ Join us for a Wagon Ride around the park.
- ◆ **Sunday, 5th ~ Critter Catching ~ 9:30 AM**

4th ~ **Crossroads Triathlon** ~ 8 AM ~ Killdeer Recreation Area ~ Starting at Lake Killdeer, swim 500 yards, bike 15 Miles and run 5 kilometers. crossroadstriathlon.com/

4th ~ **EnviroKids** ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek ~ Paddle boats, canoes, kayaks, critter catching and a chance to try ride the Blue Heron pontoon! Complete the fun with s'mores around a campfire. Adults are encouraged to accompany children. Call Judie Petersen at 563-357-6932 to sign up for this and other **EnviroKids Events**.

- ◆ June 2nd - Clinton Co. Area Solid Waste Agency
- ◆ June 9th - Clinton Izaak Walton
- ◆ June 23rd - LyondellBasell
- ◆ July 14th - Felix Adler Children's Discovery Center
- ◆ July 28th - The Sawmill Museum
- ◆ August 18th - Bickelhaupt Arboretum
- ◆ August 25th - Clinton Lumberkings Baseball Game

4th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open** ~ 1-4 PM

4th ~ **Hayrack Rides** ~ 4:30 PM ~ Eden Valley

8th ~ **Furry Friends** ~ 11:15 AM & 1 PM ~ Camanche Public Library ~ Cute and cuddly, Iowa is home to many different kinds of mammals. Naturalists will bring furs of native wild animals plus bring a long a furry friend to meet!

9th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise** ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek

10th ~ **Predators and Prey** ~ 6 PM @ Eden Valley & 7:30 PM @ Walnut Grove ~ It's either eat or be eaten in the wild! Predators and prey have their own unique adaptations that help them survive in this crazy world!

11th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open** ~ 1-4 PM

12th ~ **Tenth Annual Rock Creek Catfish Classic** ~ 7 AM ~ Rock Creek ~ The Clinton County Conservation Foundation is hosting this tournament to raise funds for nature center displays. Costs are \$50/boat and \$10 for the Biggest Fish Jackpot. 70% payout guaranteed to the top 3 boats. Check-in begins at 6 AM. Sign up & rules at www.mycountyparks.com/County/Clinton/Events.



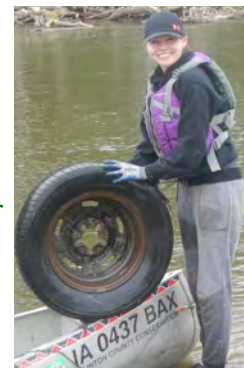
14th-15th ~ **Hunter Safety Camp** ~ 8:30 AM-5:30 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Do you want your child to learn how to operate and respect firearms? In this camp, they will do just that while having the opportunity to receive their hunting safety certificate! For this event, we will go beyond the basics of hunter education standards of archery, shotgun, muzzleloader and rifles. All these activities plus more will allow students to actually participate, not just listen to speakers or watch films. The course is open to ages 11-16. Cost per student is \$30 for transportation, meals, ammo & targets. Limited space, register at www.mycountyparks.com.



16th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise** ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek

17th ~ **Voyageur Trip** ~ 9 AM ~ Bulgers Hollow ~ We'll meet at Bulgers Hollow at 9AM and car pool to the South Sabula Lake put-in. From there paddle downstream to Big Slough Beach for shore leave after 3 miles. Then paddle into the Elk River Bottoms, Bird Islands, the Gomers and Bulgers Hollow after 9.75 miles. Participants must call 563-847-7202 to pre-register by 4 PM on Friday July 10th.

18th & 19th ~ **Lower Wapsipiconic River Cleanup** ~ An annual canoe-based river cleanup this year covering McCausland landing to Rock Creek and the bayou backwaters. Paddling gear and canoes provided free of charge. Participants primitive camp for free. Base camp will be Rock Creek Marina and Campground. Come for one or both days. Enjoy the satisfaction of beautifying our local river and making it a safer place to enjoy. For more information email coordinator@lwrcp.org



18th ~ **Good Morning Cruise** ~ 9 AM ~ Rock Creek

18th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open** ~ 1-4 PM

18th ~ **Riverside Jam & Community Fire** ~ 8 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ This special jam is done in honor of the LWRCP volunteers so come out and help us thank them for their efforts. All are welcome.

18th ~ **Campground Movies** ~ Dusk ~ Eden Valley

21st & 25th ~ **Standard Hunter Safety Course** ~ 6-9 PM Tues. and 8 AM-4 PM Sat. ~ Clinton Ikes ~ Register at register-ed.com/programs/iowa

23rd ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise** ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek

23rd ~ **Moonlight Music Cruise** ~ 8:30 PM ~ Rock Creek

24th ~ **And They're Off! Turtle Races** ~ 6:30 @ Eden Valley & 8 PM @ Walnut Grove ~ Borrow one of our turtles an exciting evening of racing!

25th ~ **Half Price Canoe Rentals** ~ 8 AM-11 AM ~ R.C.

25th ~ **Eden Valley Nature Center Open** ~ 1-4 PM

25th ~ **Jens-Wendt Observatory Open House** ~ Dusk ~ Sherman Park ~ www.facebook.com/QuadCitiesAstro/

28th ~ **Friends of Rock Creek** ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek

30th ~ **Sunset Eco Cruise** ~ 7 PM ~ Rock Creek

31st - Sept. 3rd ~ **Labor Day Weekend** ~ Rock Creek ~ Reserve campsites & cabins at www.mycountyparks.com

Save the Date

September 8th ~ **Youth Outdoor Skills Day, Clinton Ikes**

October 5th-7th ~ **Rock Creek Halloween Weekend**

October 13th ~ **Clinton Co. Pheasants Forever Banquet**

Fly Fishing ~ The Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association is planning on having a fly tying series at the Rock Creek this fall. It will consist of 4-evenings, tying larger panfish fly. The charge for the class will minimal. Please contact Jess at jsteines@clintoncounty-ia.gov. If there's interest we may offer a casting class and a rod building class as well.



Clinton County Conservation
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2308 255th Street
Grand Mound, Iowa 52751
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Email: conservation@clintoncounty-ia.gov
Web: www.mycountyparks.com

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Hen and Drake Pintails

CLINTON COUNTY CONSERVATION

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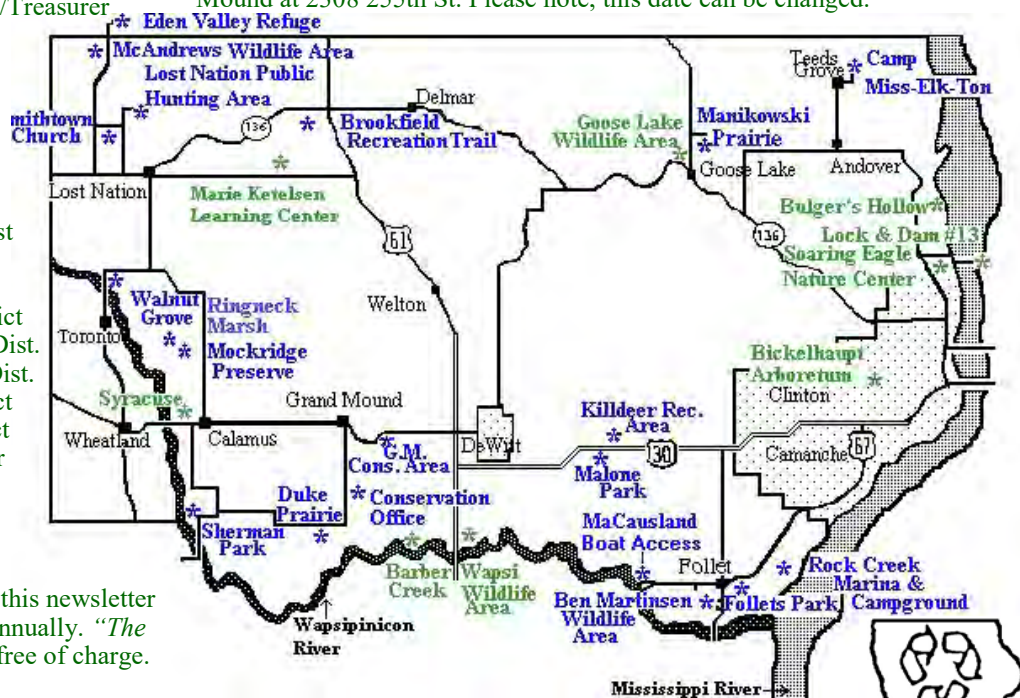
MAILING LIST

Clinton County residents may receive this newsletter at home, free. Others are charged \$5 annually. "The Heron" is on our website or emailed, free of charge.

The Clinton County Conservation Board in the provision of services and facilities to the public does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, age or handicap. If anyone believes he or she has been subject to such discrimination, he or she may file a complaint alleging discrimination with either the Clinton C.C.B. or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

BOARD MEETINGS

The Clinton County Conservation Board meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome. The Board regularly meets the second Tuesday the month, at 6 PM, in the Conservation Office, located 1 mile south of Grand Mound at 2308 255th St. Please note, this date can be changed.







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