

# Dallas County Conservation Board eNews



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Greetings from the Dallas County Conservation Board. This newsletter has been sent to people who have asked to receive it. If you would like to unsubscribe or change your email address, please contact: [conservation@dallascountyiowa.gov](mailto:conservation@dallascountyiowa.gov) or call us at 515-465-3577.



Like us on Facebook and stay up-to-date on all of our programs, events, and news.

## **Spend Smart, Eat Smart**

**Sunday** July 9,

1:30-3pm

Forest Park Museum

Trying to cut down on food costs? Maybe it's time to consider a more strategic approach to meal planning and shopping. This class will help you learn about the foods that give you the best taste and nutrition for your money. Participants will receive sample menus and grocery lists and practice writing delicious meal plans according to MyPlate principles. Class is taught by a registered dietitian. FREE. Optional "Healthy and Homemade" cookbook will be available for \$5. **Registration is required for this program. - To register please call the office—515-465-3577**

## **Monarch Rescue**

**Friday** July 14

8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Kuehn Conservation Area

Free

In order to protect ground nesting birds in Iowa, it is against the law for landowners to mow their roadside ditches (except in special circumstances and areas) until July 15. This law also protects the monarch butterfly eggs, larvae and pupa found on and around the milkweed in those same ditches. Rather than potentially lose part of one generation, we invite you to join us for a morning of tromping through the ditches around Kuehn looking for monarchs to transplant to our milkweed garden.

**Long pants and closed toed shoes are encouraged! Registration is required for this program. - To register please call the office—515-465-3577**

## **Water Quality Issues— Raccoon River & River Float**

**Middle Raccoon River - Redfield to Pleasant Valley**

**Saturday**, July 15

1 pm - 5 pm

Water Quality continues to be one of the pressing ecological stories of our time and place here in Iowa. This float is an invitation to you to step into your local waters and explore our water quality issues. What are the major pollutants of our waters, what are their sources, how are they measured, what ecological threats do they pose? As we paddle the 'Coon, we will introduce you to the equipment and field tests used to measure Iowa's water quality. You will have an opportunity to conduct the tests on the 'Coon's waters and we will interpret your results. Additionally, we will assess the water's quality by examining the aquatic bugs of the river. Each bug has a story to tell the observer concerning the quality of the waters. Let's turn over a couple of rocks and see who is home in your waters and listen to what they have to say about our water's quality.

The float will originate at the boat ramp below the Redfield Dam at 1pm and we will take out at the Pleasant Valley ramp. DCCB will provide a shuttle from take out, back to our put in for registered paddlers. **Registration is required for this program—To register please call the office—515-465-3577**

## **Little Wagon Train**

**Wednesday** July 26

9 - 11 a.m. Forest Park

FREE

Bring your little wagon packed with your favorite snack, drink, toys, books and blanket and have your whole family join the fun of a simulated miniature wagon train rolling through the prairie at Forest Park. The day's adventures will include activities and artifacts from when European settlers were first moving into the area. This program is weather dependent - **preregistration is requested. To register please call the office—515-465-3577**

**Make your cabin and camping reservations.** Call us at 515.465-3577 for available dates and prices. With the nice weather we are receiving many requests to book cabins and lodges. Book your reservations by contacting the Dallas County Conservation Board, 515-465-3577.

## **RRVT Trail Permits**

Trail Permits on sale for just \$10 each. Stop in our office, download an order form from our website, pick up a green envelope at any trail head and mail it to us or purchase online. We accept credit cards in our office or online. [Click here for more information!](#)

## **Facebook**

Join us on Facebook as we post "Trail Tuesday" and "Throw Back Thursday" plus updated information on programs! Click [here](#) for more information!

## **Dallas County Parks**

**Sportsman Park, Dawson:** Open 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. Reservations will be accepted for the camping, shelters and cabins. Primitive and modern camping will be allowed on a first come, first served basis. Restroom facilities will be open

**Kuehn Conservation Area, Earlham:** Open ½ hour before sunrise to 10:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities will be open. Primitive camping allowed on first come first serve basis. Primitive campsite #1 can be reserved.

**Voas Nature Area, Minburn:** Open ½ hour before sunrise to 10:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities will be open.

**Hanging Rock, Redfield:** Open 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities will be open. Reservations will be accepted for the shelter.

**Trindle Park, Van Meter:** Open from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities will be open. Reservations will be accepted for the shelters.

**MUSEUMS:** FREE! No fees to visit!

**Forest Park Museum, Perry:** Monday-Friday~8am-4:30pm Saturday, Sunday and Holidays~1pm-4:30pm

**Voas Rock & Mineral Museum near Minburn:** Open selected Sunday afternoons or by appointment anytime.

**Grand Army of the Republic, Redfield:** Open most Sundays ~ 1pm-4:30pm or by appointment.

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For more information, or to register for any of our programs, contact:

Dallas County Conservation Board  
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