



Dallas County Conservation Board eNews

March 11, 2019
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[News & Events \(more details on the DCCB webpage\)](#)

My County Parks Reservations



Now is the time to start planning and booking your summer rentals. Many DCCB properties including the Sportsman Park cabins, lodge, and camping, plus Glissman Lodge and Dayton Stagecoach Inn are available on the [My County Parks](#) online reservation system. Weekly rentals still require a phone call to our office at 515-465-3577. Sportsman rentals available year-round. Glissman and Dayton are closed in winter, but may be available starting in April weather permitting, call our office to check availability.

Spring Equinox Sunset with

Leopold Sand County Almanac Series Essays: The Geese Return, Burr Oak, & Sky Dance

Wednesday, March 20, 6:30—8:30 p.m. @ Hanging Rock

Registration is required for this free program.

On this “equal day” of our calendar year we will combine our traditional celebration of the Equinox sunset with the Leopold’s stories series. The songs of the spring’s migratory geese through the Raccoon River Valley will speak of “The Geese Return” essay. Standing under a savanna burr oak on the glacial knoll at Hanging Rock we can contemplate Leopold’s “Burr Oak” essay. Finally, we will cross our fingers, and hope that the woodcock will join our Equinox viewing as he did last year to bring the “Sky Dance” essay to life.

Voas Stewardship Day

Saturday, March 23 (rescheduled from 3/2/19), 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. @ Voas Nature Area

Registration is required for this free program.

Have you ever asked yourself if there was a good way to help wildlife? Not just temporarily picking up trash but something that had a long lasting impact. DCCB holds stewardship days throughout the year. One focus for the last few seasons has been clearing oak savanna habitat that has been overgrown at Voas Nature Area, and this stewardship day will expand this work clearing the understory at this site. We will be using handsaws and loppers to clear honeysuckle, dogwood, and small trees. Come help us liberate these smothered “wolf” oaks.

Dallas County Big Year Birding

NEW DATE Saturday, March 30, 8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. @ Voas Nature Area

Registration is required for this free program.

The first field event of our Dallas County Big Year Birding Challenge, we will be looking for migrating waterfowl. A few binoculars and field guides will be available. Dallas County citizens may be surprised at the number of different bird species that exist within the area. We have diverse habitats and unique geographic features that are attractive to many varieties of birds. DCCB staff is partnering with Dallas County citizens to document as many different kinds of birds within the county for the year 2019. In the birding community this is known as a Big Year. DCCB has a goal of finding 100 different bird species for 2019. We will continue to post and update our Big Year list on our website and Facebook pages.



Dallas County Conservation Board is on Facebook

Stay up-to-date on programs, events, and news. [Follow](#) along for Museum Monday, Trail Tuesday, and Throwback Thursday!

Animal Feedings

Mondays, 10:00 a.m. @ Forest Park Museum

Join us for a chance to see our snake collection eat their tasty weekly meal and learn about the other Dallas County critters in our live collection. These underappreciated critters play important roles in our ecosystems and have some “superpowers” to share. *Free. No registration required.*

Spring Search

Spring Search

Saturday, April 6, 1:00—3:00 p.m. @ Kuehn Conservation Area

Pre-registration is required for this free event.

After a long-lasting winter, it is time to get out and explore! Join a naturalist on a hike throughout Kuehn, looking for wildflowers, deer antlers, and maybe morels!

Program is weather dependent.

Seasonal Hours for Dallas County Parks: November 1 – April 30

Sportsman Park, Dawson: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily. Campground, cabins and lodge remain open year-round.

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 closed (except in rental cabins).

Dayton Stagecoach Inn: Will reopen in April weather permitting, call our office at 515-465-3577 for availability.

Glissman Lodge: Will reopen in April weather permitting, call our office at 515-465-3577 for availability.

Kuehn Conservation Area, Earlham: ½ hour before sunrise to 5:00 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: ½ hour before sunrise to 5:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities will be open.

Hanging Rock, Redfield: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities closed. Reservations accepted for the shelter.

Trindle Park, Van Meter: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities closed. Reservations accepted for the shelters.

MUSEUMS: FREE! No fees to visit!

Forest Park Museum, Perry: Monday-Friday ~8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Voas Rock & Mineral Museum near Minburn: Open by appointment and during programming including cross-country skiing when it snows.

Grand Army of the Republic, Redfield: Open by appointment.

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

Dallas County Conservation Board, 14581 K Avenue, Perry, IA 50220

Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

email: conservation@dallascountyiowa.gov phone: (515)-465-3577

www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation

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