



Dallas County Conservation Board eNews

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News & Events (more details on the [DCCB webpage](#))

21st Annual Prairie Awakening—Prairie Awoke Celebration: Much can be learned while watching children at play

Saturday, September 7, 3:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

@ Kuehn Conservation Area

[Watch the Prairie Awakening – Prairie Awoke video trailer online.](#)

The theme of Prairie Awakening–Prairie Awoke 2019 is youth. At this year's Celebration, the Meskwaki Nation will be featured. A Youth Drum, along with a contingency of youth dancers, will share the story of the Meskwaki Nation through their drumming, song, and dance. DCCB will unveil its "Buffalo Wallows" project, led by local youth. Dallas Chief Eagle will again share his messages through a Hoop Dance presentation and a bonfire audience participation Hoop Dance. A rehabilitated raptor and tagged migrating monarchs will be released from the Celebration's arena. Several local traditional drums will bring the drum and songs to the arena with dancers in regalia and more opportunities for you to join in the celebration with your dance. As traditions direct, we will sit together, in the tallgrass prairie arena at Kuehn. Bring your lawn chair for seating. The event is free. Concessions will be available onsite. *DCCB would like to recognize and thank the Bock Family Foundation for their support of the 2019 Prairie Awakening–Prairie Awoke Celebration.*

Hummingbird Happening

Sunday, September 8, 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Kuehn Conservation Area

Pre-registration required for this free program (weather dependent)

Every year as the hummingbirds migrate south for the winter, we see an amazing number of them in the lower prairie tracts at Kuehn. Join us this year as we marvel at their color and aerial dexterity, and try to entice them to come to hand-held feeders!

Butterfly Surveys & Tagging

May—September at Forest Park Museum (surveys) & Kuehn Conservation Area and Voas Nature Area (tagging)

To occur on warm (70 + degrees), sunny, calm days.

Walk along with a naturalist to see, identify and count butterflies along a dedicated 1.5-mile survey route that starts and ends at Forest Park Museum. In 2018, the survey was completed 16 times between May 16 and September 4, with 493 butterflies from 19 different species being counted. Unlike past years, we will not try to guess at the best date for the natural miracle of butterfly migration. Instead, this year we will simply rejoice in the date that the monarch's migration moves through, and contact our registered wild friends to join us at Kuehn or Voas. Past tagging programs have targeted weekday early evening and weekend mornings to connect migrating monarchs and registered taggers. The program will share of the mysteries of this migration and engage you in the tagging research project of the Monarch Watch Project. Net in hand, you will wander the prairies of Kuehn and Voas, capture a monarch, record the field data, tag and release a miracle. Call to learn more about voluntary training programs or to be put on the contact list for these free, recurring volunteer opportunities.

Animal Feedings

Most Mondays, 10:00 a.m.

@ Forest Park Museum

Free but call ahead to confirm

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.

Dallas County Conservation Board is on Facebook & Instagram



Stay up-to-date on programs, events, and news. [Follow](#) along for fun photos, throwback memories, and current conditions. Watch the seasons change throughout all of the Dallas County Conservation Board sites.

My County Parks Reservations



A few weekends are still open for tent sites, cabins, and lodges. Fall booking is open now, too. Many Dallas CCB sites 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

through November weather permitting, call our office to check availability.

Seasonal Hours for Dallas County Parks: May 1 – October 31

Online Reservations: www.mycountyparks.com

Sportsman Park, Dawson: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. daily. Reservations for campground, cabins and lodge. Primitive and modern camping allowed on a first come, first served basis.

Dayton Stagecoach Inn: A restored historic 1868 lodge available as a secluded rental house south of Bouton. Check availability online at [My County Parks](#).

Glissman Lodge: Southwest of Adel, this rental can sleep 8. Enjoy views from the porch and fishing in the pond. Check availability online at [My County Parks](#)

Kuehn Conservation Area, Earlham: ½ hour before sunrise to 10:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities 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 10:00 p.m. daily. Restroom facilities open.

Hanging Rock, Redfield: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. daily. Reservations accepted for the shelter.

Trindle Park, Van Meter: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. daily. Reservations accepted for the shelter.

MUSEUMS: FREE! No fees to visit!

Forest Park Museum, Perry: Monday-Friday ~8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday, and Holidays ~1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Closed July 4th)

Voas Rock & Mineral Museum near Minburn: Open by appointment and during programming.

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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