

THE CONSERVATOR

December, 2018

THE MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER FROM POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION



Become a Member Today!

Nature on Tap - December 15th



Join Pottawattamie County Conservation for a fantastic evening of trivia & fun during Nature on Tap. This 21 & over event will be held Saturday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m. at Uncle Buck's Grill at Bass Pro Shop located at 2901 Bass Pro Drive, Council Bluffs.

This annual event combines nature knowledge, food, drinks, & fun. Space is limited so pre-registration in advance is required to attend. Teams may consist of 2 to 5 participants and we reserve the right to combine smaller teams. Bring your thinking caps because there will be prizes

up for grabs from area breweries & wineries.

Some of the amazing prizes up for grabs include:

- A gift card to Confluence Brewing Company
- A 32 oz. growler + fill coupon, a hat, and a tulip glass from 515 Brewing
- A growler fill certificate from Farnam House Brewing Company
- A 6-pack of our bottled beer, two logo pint glasses, an assortment of stickers and bottle openers and a t-shirt from Empyrean Brewing Company
- Two pint glasses and koozies from The Casual Pint

More prizes are arriving daily!

Pre-registration is required by December 12th to attend this event. Register your team of up to 5 participants online in minutes using the link below.

[Click Here to Register Online](#)

This free event is open to the public & is sponsored by the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation. Free will donations are encouraged and appreciated. Donations support continued free & low cost programming opportunities in Pottawattamie County. For questions not answered online please call Hitchcock Nature Center at 712-545-3283.

2018 Programming Sponsored by the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation

A Pottawattamie County Almanac

Our monthly programming series, *A Pottawattamie County Almanac*, doesn't end when the weather gets cold. You still have one chance to join before the end of the year and you won't want to miss out on these amazing topics.



Program Director Ron Cisar

This programming series is in its inaugural year & is guided by Aldo Leopold's iconic work, *A Sand County Almanac* & follows the natural rhythms and timings of Pottawattamie County's Midwestern setting. Activities will provide students with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the natural world. Each program session will cover a seasonal topic & highlight upcoming natural events that occur in our region each month. Additionally, each session includes a discussion on essays and writings by Aldo Leopold that highlight the monthly focus.

These programs are designed for participants of all skill levels & from all walks of life. The cost is \$15.00 per person, per session & includes admission to the park.

Space is limited & online pre-registration is highly recommended.

December 15th - 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The final class of the year-long series will discuss "Animal Adaptations in Winter" including a discussion on winter bird feeding and the types of feeders and bird seed that will help attract a diversity of avian species to your backyard. Participants will then head outdoors for a winter hike into the woods looking for inspiration for their nature journals. This class will conclude with sharing the important contributions and words of wisdom of various important naturalists such as Jane Goodall, Sigurd Olson & Rachel Carson along with a very special Native American story about the earth.

[Click Here to Register for the December 15th Program](#)

Loess Hills Lodge Winter Hours, Holiday Closures, & Trails Closure

Loess Hills Lodge Winter Hours

Beginning December 1st, 2018 the Loess Hills Lodge Interpretive Gallery & Welcome Desk at Hitchcock Nature Center will begin observing their winter hours:

Closed Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Friday & Saturday
1:00 to 5:00 p.m. - Sunday

Winter Weather Closures

Inclement weather may bring about additional closures during the winter months. All unexpected closures will be posted to our Facebook page as soon as they are known. [Click Here to Follow Hitchcock Nature Center on Facebook.](#)

Trail Access & Closures

Hitchcock Nature Center's trails, outdoor public spaces, & campground remain open during all of the above noted closures. Park hours are 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily throughout the winter. Annually, the trails close the first Saturday of December through the first Wednesday of December to support management of the deer population.

TRAIL CLOSURE

**ALL HITCHCOCK NATURE CENTER TRAILS
WILL BE CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS
DECEMBER 1ST - 5TH, 2018**

THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING



Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation

It's been a wonderful year for the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation membership committee. On January 1st, 2018 we began a brand new membership program & it has been a terrific success.

In 2017 we had a roster of 50 amazing members, since rolling out our new program on January 1st, 2018 those 50 members have been joined by over 1,150 more! This huge boost in membership will support even more projects at your county parks.

Memberships are valid for a full year from your date of purchase so that means our January memberships are approaching their expiration dates. Don't forget to hop online & renew your membership in minutes so you don't miss out

on another amazing year at your county parks.

[Click Here to Renew Your Membership Today!](#)

We would like to thank each of our members, long-standing & brand new, for your support of the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation & we look forward to another year together.

Membership to the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation Makes the Perfect Holiday Gift!

Looking for the perfect holiday gift for that special someone? A membership to the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation provides a year of outdoor fun & supports important conservation projects in Pottawattamie County. Memberships come in three levels, each with their own benefits!

Annual Membership - \$20.00 each

- One annual permit to all PCCB county parks
- A certificate for a free 1/2 day boat or canoe rental at Arrowhead Park in Neola
- A subscription to our monthly e-newsletter
- Email notification of exclusive members only events

- A 10% discount on gift shop merchandise at the Loess Hills Lodge (excluding concessions)

Family Membership - \$50.00 each

- Includes all Annual Membership benefits
- An additional annual permit to all PCCB county parks
- A certificate for two nights of RV camping at a PCCB county park or a 1 night cabin rental at Hitchcock Nature Center or Arrowhead Park (advance reservation required)

Supporter Membership - \$100.00 each

- Includes all Annual & Family membership benefits
- Two tickets to the annual PCF auction & beer tasting
- Recognition in our e-newsletter & at the PCF auction & beer tasting

**Click Here to Purchase a
Membership Online Today!**

Upcoming Programs

The 2018 Hitchcock Experience

Saturday, December 8 & Sunday, December 9
Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join the Greater Omaha Area Trail Runners (The G.O.A.T.z) for the 4th annual Hitchcock Experience at Hitchcock Nature Center. [Read More ...](#)

A Pottawattamie County Almanac: December Session

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 15

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join us at Hitchcock Nature Center for a new program guided by Aldo Leopold's classic work, *A Sand County Almanac*. December's program will discuss "Animal Adaptations in Winter" including a discussion on winter bird feeding. [Read More ...](#)

Nature on Tap

7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 15

Uncle Buck's Grill at Bass Pro Shop, Council Bluffs

This annual event combines nature knowledge, food, drinks, & fun. Register your team of 2 to 5 participants and bring your thinking caps because there will be prizes up for grabs from area breweries & wineries. [Read More ...](#)

Holiday Open House

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday, December 21 & Saturday, December 22

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 23

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join us for some family fun with indoor activities, make & take crafts, discounts & more as we celebrate the season at the Loess Hills Lodge at Hitchcock Nature Center! [Read More ...](#)

Winter Adaptations Hike

10:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 22

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join us for an adventure in to the winter world! We will search for the clues left behind by creatures that slumber and those that remain restless. [Read More ...](#)

[Click Here for More Upcoming Programs & Events](#)

Visit Our Website

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STAY CONNECTED:

 Hitchcock Nature Center  Arrowhead Park  Botna Bend Park  Narrows River Park

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