

THE CONSERVATOR

April, 2017

THE MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER FROM POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION



Visit Our Website

Register Online for Summer Nature Camp!



Registration for Pottawattamie County Conservation's 2017 Summer Nature Camps is open. This year's camps offer programming for students from Pre-K through 8th grade with a variety of outdoor experiences. [Please click here for more information on how you can register for our 2017 Nature Camp Series.](#)

[Visit our Website for More Information](#)

Help Pottawattamie County Conservation Design our New T-Shirts!

Pottawattamie County Conservation invites you to create and submit a design for an official Hitchcock Nature Center t-shirt. The winning design will be used on t-shirts that will be sold at the Loess Hills Lodge gift shop and at our parks around Pottawattamie County.

Contest Rules:

- The design must include Pottawattamie County Conservation or Hitchcock Nature Center and use a maximum of 4 colors
- Please email a pdf of your design to katherine.simmons@pottcounty-ia.gov
- Submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 15th, 2017
- Designs will be judged by Pottawattamie County Conservation staff
- The winning designer will be contacted directly and announced June 1st, 2017 by Pottawattamie County Conservation's Community Relations Coordinator via Facebook and on the Pottawattamie County Conservation website.
- All designs submitted become the property of Pottawattamie County Conservation
- Pottawattamie County Conservation may alter your design to aid in production
- The winner will receive two free t-shirts, one annual Pottawattamie County Parks

- Permit & a 2 night cabin stay at Hitchcock Nature Center
- Designs must be wholly original and must not infringe upon copyright, trademark, or other proprietary or intellectual property
- Limit one entry per contestant

Please email a pdf of your design to katherine.simmons@pottcounty-ia.gov by 5:00 p.m. on May 15th. For more information please email katherine.simmons@pottcounty-ia.gov or call 712-545-3283.

Family Campout to be Held at Hitchcock Nature Center

Perfect for first time or relatively new campers! Join us for a guided campout at Hitchcock Nature Center in our picturesque group tent campsite.

This new program is designed for families with children who are interested in exploring the world of camping as a family. Let Pottawattamie County Conservation help! We provide the tents, food, and fun activities including attendance at our annual Night Sky Event to view the exciting Perseid meteor shower. All you need is a sleeping bag & a sense of adventure!



Arrival is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on August 12th. Our Naturalists will be on hand to guide you to our special group campsite & assist with camp set-up as they help you discover the world of camping. After a peaceful night in the park we will be up early for some breakfast and will break camp at 10:00 a.m. on August 13th.

Space is limited & pre-registration is required for this family event. Due to staffing limitations and equipment requirements we will not be able to admit any walk up participants. Pre-registration is open and will be limited to the first 6 families. Please register by emailing Naturalist Rene Stroud, rene.stroud@pottcounty-ia.gov or call 712-545-3283 for more details.

There is no fee for this event thanks to the support of the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation. Free will donations are encouraged and will be accepted to support continued programming opportunities in Pottawattamie County. All attendees will need a valid Pottawattamie County Parks annual permit or will need to purchase a \$2.00 per vehicle daily entrance pass to enter the park. Daily passes may be purchased with cash or check at the front entrance the day of the event. Annual permits may be purchased for \$10.00 from staff at any of our parks or at the Loess Hills Lodge at Hitchcock Nature Center during regular business hours.

This all ages event is family friendly but not pet friendly, please leave your canine friends at home. Service animals are always welcome.

Living Loess & Harvest Spoon Tours to Kick Off 2017 Seasons in May



The Harvest Spoon Tour will be kicking off it's 2017 season on Saturday, May 6th, join us and experience Iowa's picture perfect Loess Hills. Drive the Loess Hills National Scenic Byway and visit all 7 partner businesses between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first Saturday of the month in May and October and celebrate the food and culture of western Iowa. Learn more at www.theharvestspoon.com or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/theharvestspoon).

Connect with the culture of the Loess Hills on the 2017 Living Loess Tour. Join all of our partner businesses from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the third Saturday of the month, May through October,

to experience Iowa's Loess Hills. Each of our partner businesses will be open and each month will feature a new attraction offering a unique perspective & experience for visitors of all ages. Watch artists in action, visit working farms, and take in the beauty and history of the Loess Hills. Learn more at www.livingloess.org or on [Facebook](#).



Click the Images Below for Details on Two Upcoming Programs

Pottawattamie County Conservation

From phenology to field marks, a how-to for beginning birders.

**B
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With
Nic Salick
Featuring
Jason Andersen
and
Michelle Biodrowski

MAY 20TH
8AM-NOON

Pre-registration required.
\$15/Person (includes Sibley field guide)

101 At **HITCHOCK NATURE CENTER**

For more information and to register, log on to www.pottcoconservation.com or call 712-545-3283.

POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION

INTRODUCTION TO LAND MANAGEMENT

FEATURING PCCB NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST CHAD GRAEVE

SIX-CLASS SERIES PROVIDING THE BASIC KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO MANAGE HEALTHY NATURAL AREAS

THE SERIES IS \$75/PERSON OR \$15/CLASS/PERSON

SERIES CLASS DATES:
5/27, 6/24, 7/22, 8/26, 9/23, AND 10/28
AT HITCHCOCK NATURE CENTER

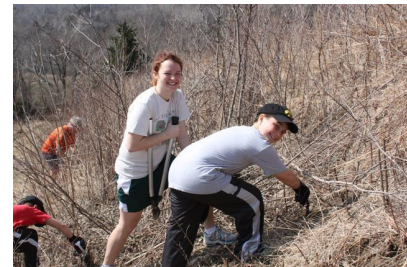
FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER, LOG ON TO
WWW.POTTACOCONSERVATION.COM OR CALL 712-545-3283



Join us in April for Two Volunteer Opportunities

Join Pottawattamie County Conservation staff as we hit the trails at Hitchcock Nature Center for a day of volunteer service on Saturday, April 29th. Get ready to make a difference!

We kick off Saturday, April 29th with our all-ages Volunteer Field Day from 8:00 a.m. to noon. This event is perfect for participants of all ages and experience levels including families, civic groups, & individuals looking for a way to give back. [Click here to register online for this event.](#)



From 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on April 29th we invite adults, 18 & over, with a love of nature to join us for the Prairie Rescue Single Mingle. This fun event will combine a love of the outdoors and volunteering with a chance to mix and mingle with other like-minded single adults as you volunteer. [Click here to register online for this event.](#)

Both events will consist of a training session and volunteer hours in the field and a chance to participate in active prairie restoration. Staff will provide tools for use but feel free to bring bow saws or loppers if you have them. Please bring gloves, water, and dress for the weather. Both events will require hiking & participants must have the ability to navigate uneven terrain.

There is no fee for these events and participants do not need to pay the \$2.00 per vehicle daily fee or have an annual park permit. We appreciate your support! To ensure proper staffing and supplies we are asking you to register in advance for this event.

Hoo Doo Days and
Arrowhead Park Present

ARROWHEAD

OBSTACLE

TRAIL RUN

Benefiting Pottawattamie
County Trails Association

5k (3.1 mile) Trail Run with 12
Obstacles
Saturday April 22nd, 2017 11:00
AM
\$35 Registration, No Hidden
Fees

Upcoming Programs

The Naturalist School Spring Field Season

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

Saturdays, April 1st through May 13th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Council Bluffs

Join us for the first session of the 2017 spring field season of The Naturalist School at Hitchcock Nature Center. [Read More ...](#)

2017 Speaker Series: Climate Change with Cornelia Mutel

4:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 9th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join us for our first session of our brand new 2017 Speaker Series as we welcome Cornelia Mutel to Hitchcock Nature Center for a lecture on "Climate Change" and take a look at climate change from the viewpoint of an Iowa woodland. Refreshments will be served after the speaker. [Read More ...](#)

Arrowhead Obstacle Trail Run

11:00 a.m. Competitive Wave

11:45 a.m. Open Wave

Saturday, April 22nd

Arrowhead Park, Neola

The Arrowhead Obstacle Trail Run is a 5K (3.1 mile) event on the scenic trails of Arrowhead Park featuring 12 obstacles. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Pottawattamie County Trails Association & their effort to build a paved bike and running trail connecting Neola, Underwood & Council Bluffs, Iowa. [Read More ...](#)

KinderNature: Welcome Spring

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 22nd

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Children ages 3 to 5 are invited to join us as we explore where animals went for the winter and what they do when the weather warms. [Read More ...](#)

Volunteer Field Day

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

Saturday, April 29th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join Pottawattamie County Conservation staff as we hit the trails at Hitchcock Nature Center for a day of volunteer service. Get ready to make a difference! [Read More ...](#)

Prairie Rescue Single Mingle

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 29th

Hitchcock Nature Center

Single adults, 18 & over are invited to join Hitchcock Nature Center staff for this brand new event aimed at connecting conservation minded individuals through volunteering and their love of the outdoors. [Read More ...](#)

Kate Simmons, Community Relations Coordinator
Pottawattamie County Conservation
katherine.simmons@pottcounty-ia.gov

STAY CONNECTED:

 Hitchcock Nature Center  Arrowhead Park  Botna Bend Park  Narrows River Park

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