

THE CONSERVATOR

August, 2018

THE MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER FROM POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY CONSERVATION



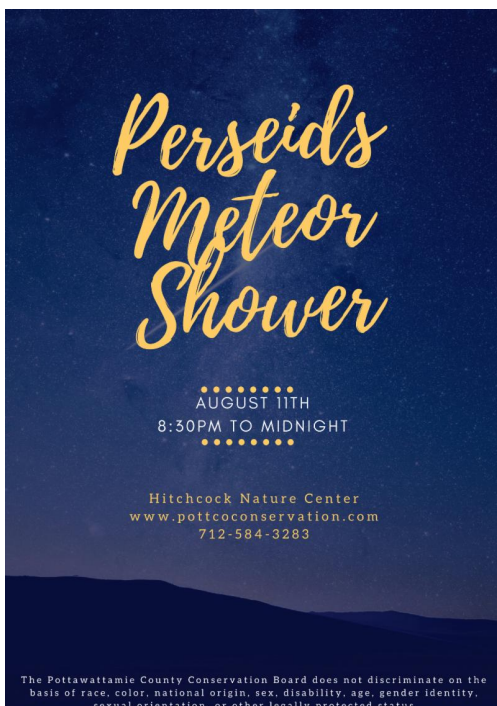
Become a Member Today!

Narrows River Park Update

After a brief closure we are happy to announce Narrows River Park is again open to visitors. High water caused some damage to the park but we are very lucky. The Missouri River access boat ramp and adjacent parking area sustained the worst damage & will remain closed until water levels drop and repairs may be made. All other park facilities including the Overlook Shelter, playground, archery range, & restrooms are open and ready for use.

Thank you for your support!

Annual Night Sky Event at Hitchcock Nature Center, August 11th



Take in the beauty of the annual Perseid Meteor Shower at on Saturday, August 11th at Hitchcock Nature Center. This spectacular display of lights and falling meteors is an event you don't want to miss.

Join us from 8:30 p.m. to midnight on Saturday, August 11th at the park entrance. No pre-registration required.

This annual event has grown in popularity during recent years. With these large crowds have come new challenges for park staff and we have some tips for you to help you make the most of this fantastic astronomical event.

1. This event is free with a valid membership to the Pottawattamie Conservation Foundation. Pick up your membership at any of our parks before the event or purchase yours online at www.pottawattamieconservationfoundation.com in advance to make entering the park faster.

2. Don't want to become a member? Admission for non-members is just \$3.00 per vehicle. Bring exact change for the front gate to make your

entrance to the park quick and easy.

3. Please follow staff directions to the nearest available parking. Due to the popularity of this event this may mean you and your party have to walk from a more removed parking spot to our viewing area. Please be prepared for this and let park staff know if anyone in your party has mobility issues, we will do our best to accommodate.

4. This event begins at 8:30 p.m. & we plan to close the gates at midnight. Vehicles remaining in the park after the gates close will be locked in until 6:00 a.m. so watch that clock as the evening wears on.

5. Guests are welcome to bring lawn chairs, blankets, binoculars & telescopes to view nature's fireworks. Insect repellent is also a very good idea!

6. Picnic dinners are always welcome & no concessions will be available for sale during the event. No alcohol please. And remember, if you pack it in, please pack it out.

7. We don't recommend bringing your pets to this event but well behaved dogs on short leashes are permitted should you decide to bring them. Please pick up and remove all pet waste so we can avoid any messy situations. Please use your best judgement when deciding to bring your pooch. Disruptive pets will be asked to leave the event.

8. This is an outdoor event. Should we make any changes to the event due to inclement weather we will post that news to Facebook first. [Follow us on Facebook for all event news.](#)

9. Looking to arrive early and avoid the crowds? Consider joining us at 4:00 p.m. for our Speaker Series event, Iowa Watersheds: A Lasting Legacy with Dr. Peter Levi. This event is also free and will feature a reception following the speaker. Come early, get a prime parking spot, and enjoy and evening at the park! [Register online for the Speaker Series event by clicking here.](#)

We can't wait to see everyone at what is quickly becoming one of our most popular events. If you have any questions or need additional information please call the park at 712-545-3283 to speak with Hitchcock Nature Center staff. See you at the park!

Pottawattamie County Conservation Speaker Series Presents



*Dr. Peter
Levi*

HITCHCOCK NATURE
CENTER
SATURDAY AUGUST
11TH, 2018 4PM

"IOWA
WATERSHEDS:
A LASTING
LEGACY"

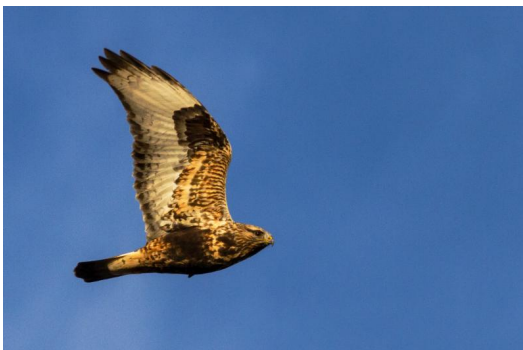
HEALTHY WATERSHEDS
IMPART MANY ECOSYSTEM
SERVICES TO HUMANS,
PROVIDING WATER
FILTRATION, FLOOD
PROTECTION, AND
RECREATION AMONG
OTHER BENEFITS.

Please register at www.mycountyparks.com
or by calling 712-545-3283
Free-will donations encouraged



This program is supported by Humanities Iowa and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The views and opinions expressed by this program do not necessarily reflect those of Humanities Iowa or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Volunteer Opportunity: Hitchcock HawkWatch



Fall is on its way and that means the return of the annual Hitchcock HawkWatch! This dedicated team of volunteers occupy our observation tower from September through mid-December scanning the skies for migrating raptors. And they need your help!

We are always on the lookout for birding enthusiasts to join this outstanding team as they count and document these passing raptors.

Be a part of this nationally recognized HawkWatch! Training is provided for all interested

volunteers. Please email Kate Simmons, Community Relations Coordinator for more details at katherine.simmons@pottcounty-ia.gov.

Photo by Ryan Johnson



*Real Maple
Syrup
Pancake Feed*

B O T N A B E N D
P A R K

A U G U S T 1 8 T H
8 : 3 0 A M - 1 1 : 0 0 A M

Free-will donations encouraged.
www.pottcoconservation.com
712-741-5465

The Pottawattamie County Conservation Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other legally protected status

Upcoming Programs

2018 Summer Concert Series: SkreTTa eTc

4:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 5th

Narrows River Park, Council Bluffs

Help us welcome back returning artists SkreTTa eTc. for an evening of music at Narrows River Park. [Read More ...](#)

A Pottawattamie County Almanac: August Session

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

Saturday, August 11th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

A Pottawattamie County Almanac, instructed by Ron Cisar, is a monthly series of classes inspired and guided by Leopold's best known work, his lasting legacy, and his challenge to future generations. [Read More ...](#)

2018 Speaker Series: Iowa Watersheds, A Lasting Legacy

4:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Join us in welcoming Dr. Peter Levi, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science & Sustainability at Drake University as he discusses Iowa's watersheds and the many benefits they provide to Iowans. [Read More ...](#)

Family Camp Out

3:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Perfect for first time or relatively new campers! Join us for a guided camp out at Hitchcock Nature Center in our picturesque group tent campsite. [Read More ...](#)

Night Sky Event

8:30 p.m. to Midnight

Saturday, August 11th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Take in the beauty of the annual Perseid Meteor Shower from a Loess Hills ridge top. [Read More ...](#)

Real Maple Syrup Pancake Feed

8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 18th

Botna Bend Park, Hancock

Enjoy grilled pancakes, sausage and homemade real maple syrup at this annual breakfast. [Read More ...](#)

August Living Loess Tour

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 18th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

And various partner businesses

Connect with the culture of the Loess Hills on our August 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 the culture of Iowa's Loess Hills. [Read More ...](#)

August Hitch Hike

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 21st
Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Explore the northern section of Hitchcock Nature Center during this guided hike & view a remnant of the original Old Lincoln Highway. [Read More ...](#)

August Insect Club Meeting

5:30 p.m. Pre-Meeting Hike

6:30 p.m. Meeting

Thursday, August 23rd

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

Everyone is welcome to join in the fun with the new Hitchcock Nature Center Insect Club at their monthly meetings. [Read More ...](#)

Introduction to Land Management: August Session

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

Saturday, August 25th

Hitchcock Nature Center, Honey Creek

All members of the public including students, land owners, and anyone interested in learning responsible land management practices are invited to join us for our Introduction to Land Management program. [Read More ...](#)

2018 Summer Concert Series: Towne

4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 2nd

Narrows River Park, Council Bluffs

Join us for an outdoor concert set against the stunning Missouri River on Sunday, September 2nd at 4:00 p.m. [Read More ...](#)

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

Visit Our Website

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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