

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hitchcock Nature Center: Monarch Tagging & Children's Monarch Tagging

Honey Creek, IA – How in the world do you tag a monarch butterfly? Find out at our annual Monarch Tagging event at Hitchcock Nature Center. Join us on Saturday, September 16th for a unique learning adventure. Discover more about monarch butterflies, their unusual lifestyle and life cycle, and their miraculous migration to Mexico. Learn how to catch and handle monarchs, determine gender and properly tag them in the wild as part of a national research project. All monarchs will be released to continue their migration once they are tagged.

We will be hosting three sessions of our all ages event on Saturday, September 16th at 9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. This family friendly program will begin with a short training & demonstration before participants are welcomed to explore the park in search of butterflies to tag.

New for 2017, we will also be hosting one session of Children's Monarch Tagging at 10:00 a.m. This brand new event is designed for families with children 6 & under and will feature hands on activities, crafts, and learning as we explore the world of the monarch butterfly.

You are welcome to bring your own butterfly net & we will have nets available for use in the park. We will also have a limited number of butterfly nets available for purchase in the gift shop. Please dress for the weather and don't forget the insect repellent, sunblock, & water as much of this program is outdoors.

There is no fee for this event & free will donations will be accepted to support continued programming opportunities in Pottawattamie County. All attendees will need a valid annual park permit or will need to purchase a \$2.00 per vehicle daily entrance pass for admission to the park. Pre-registration is required by September 6th as space is limited. Please register for your spot in our all-ages Monarch Tagging session or our brand new Children's Monarch Tagging online at www.mycountyparks.com or on our website www.pottcoconservation.com. Please call 712-328-5834 for more information. Due to the popularity of these programs we recommend early registration and remind you that walk in space may not be available on the day of the event. Thank you for understanding. Weather Permitting.

Hitchcock Nature Center 27792 Ski Hill Loop, Honey Creek, IA 51542

Directions: From Interstate I-29 take the Crescent exit and travel east to The Old Lincoln Highway. Hitchcock Nature Center is located 5 miles north of Crescent off of The Old Lincoln Highway.

Visit us on the web at: www.pottcoconservation.com and www.facebook.com/hitchcocknaturecenter

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