



Newsletter

Volume 62
Issue No. 11
May 26, 2021

SAVE THE DATES:

The ICCS Calendar &
Zoom Meeting Room
Bookings
are available online via

mycountyparks.org

- * June 9 - District 2 Mtg.- Howard CCB
- * June 15 - Winterfest Planning Committee
- * June 16 - District 6 Mtg.- Dubuque
- * July 26-29 - MEEC/IAN - Decorah @ Luther
- * Aug. 17 - Winterfest Planning Meeting
- * Aug. 18 - District 3 Mtg.- Sioux CCB
- * Aug. 25-27 - ISAC Annual Conference - TBA
- * September 15-17 - ICCS Annual Fall Conference
- * Oct. 4-6 - CCPOA 35th Annual Wksp. & Anniv.
- * Nov. 3-5 - Fall IAN - Woodbury CCB
- * Jan. 25-27, 2022 - The WINTERFEST 2022!!

Indicates Online
Registration Available

2021 ICCS
65th Anniversary +1
Fall Conference
September 15-17, 2021

Ames, IA



Another WOW Moment for 2021!

As though the drafts and prototypes were not enough, the actual hard-copy end-product is just nothing short of **AWESOME!** If you have yet to either get your hands on a copy OR view it online – your connections to do so are below. We encourage you all to share a copy (or link) with everyone in your communication circles as this singular piece certainly brings it all together with story after story of success, challenges and why County Conservation deserves support and enhancement now and into the future! **KUDOS and THANKS** to the many of you that participated in the construction and review of this collaboration with ISAC over the past several months – the enthusiasm and pride is well-evident! 😊

LINK TO MAY 2021 EDITION OF IOWA COUNTY MAGAZINE:

https://www.iowacounties.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/297209_IA-CTY_May-2021_SP-OPT.pdf

LINK TO INSERT TO IOWA COUNTY MAY 2021 MAGAZINE (PROJECTS):

<https://www.iowacounties.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/ISAC-The-Iowa-County-Magazine-May-2021-Conservation-Project-Details-Small.pdf>

LINK TO 5/19/21 WEBINAR ON YOUTUBE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3N0RhOsKcc>



2021 Fall Conference Registration!

T- Minus less-than-three-months to the **August 15th DEADLINE** for registrations – we already have folks registered from 7 CCBs....and You? (*Advance to PAGE SIX of this newsletter for more conference information!*)

GET REGISTERED HERE: <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>

FY2022 ICCS MEMBERSHIPS

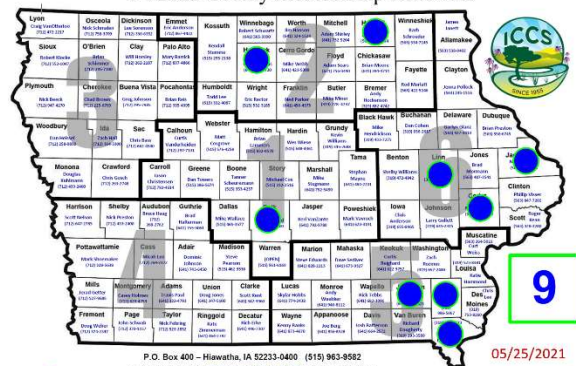
Yes, it IS pretty early in the process for FY2022 ICCS Membership Renewals – but thought we would warm-up the ol' membership renewal mappage anyway! As of April 27th, all CCBs should have received their renewal notifications via email.

We are much appreciative of the nine CCBs having already renewed – and look forward to the other 90 of your memberships in advance of the August 1st deadline. Let us know if you need another issuance of your email renewal notice.....many thanks!

IACCB@mycountyparks.org

(515) 963-9582

Iowa's County Conservation System FY2022 County Membership Renewals

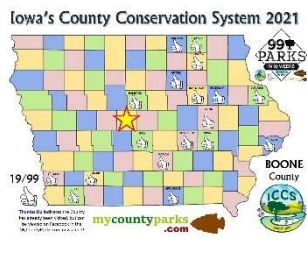


P.O. Box 400 - Hiawatha, IA 52233-0400 (515) 963-9582
Tom Hazleton, CEO - IACCB@mycountyparks.org (319) 521-5962 (Cell)

● - FY2022 PAID IN FULL

05/25/2021
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5/31/2021	Bremer
6/7/2021	Buena Vista
6/14/2021	Calhoun
6/21/2021	Carroll
6/28/2021	Cass
7/5/2021	Cerro Gordo

WEEK # 20 IS NEXT WEEK! — 157,459 REACHED TO-DATE!

Did you happen to catch **Adair CCB's** unique outreach competition by offering up a drawing for one free weekend of camping? All the F.B. visitors to their page had to do was to share and "like" the May 8th promo post for Adair CCB! Kudos to them for their innovative thinking! We are currently marching through the "Class of 1958" (CCBs voted in that year) – which will take 34 weeks to accomplish as that was the single most prolific year of CCB formation in our history. Great recent assistance from **Boone & Bremer CCBs** as they have sent in fresh, current pictures along with some proposed text – very much appreciated! Please note the listing above through the July 4th weekend.....no sense waiting until the last minute...we have a digital file with your CCB's name on it - awaiting your submissions! 😊

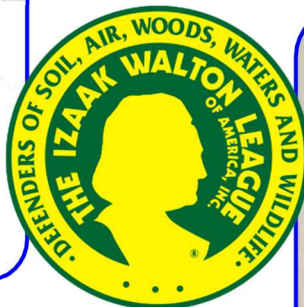
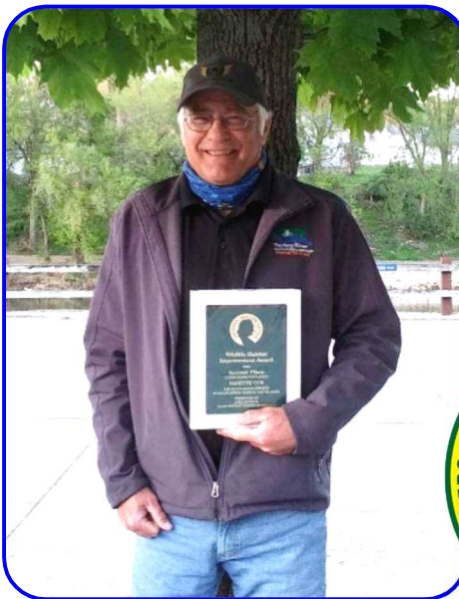
ALLAMAKEE CCB JOINT MTG.

It was pretty special to make a presentation to the joint meeting of the Allamakee County Conservation Board, Board of Supervisors, AND the Allamakee County Conservation Foundation on May 4th at their Driftless Area Education & Visitor Center along the Mississippi! All those great folks at one event – WOW!thanks to the ACCB staff for orchestrating and hosting! 😊 We couldn't help ourselves but to take a group picture with the recently awarded Keep Iowa Beautiful Organization Award of Excellence. *"Providing better Iowa Counties through conservation, education and recreation – making Iowa a better place to live and work."* – embodied by all these groups at the meeting!



FY2021 IWLA HABITAT IMPROVEMENT AWARDS

We continue to get the last of the FY2020 IWLA Habitat Improvement Awards distributed around the state, and already find ourselves on the cusp of getting the nomination forms out for FY2021! CCB Directors should be on the lookout for the nomination form to arrive to their inboxes in early June – with the **submission deadline of August 1st**! As a reminder, information and statistics should only be for the 12-month period of 7/1/20 thru June 30, 2021 (FY2021). We look forward to your nominations! 😊



2020 AWARD WINNERS PICTURED

(Under 20,000 population category)

1st PLACE to Mitchell CCB

2nd PLACE to Fayette CCB





ABOVE (L to R): DeVos (Plymouth), Mormann (Jones), and Shafer (Wapello)

ICCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

For the first time since November 2019, the **ICCS Board of Directors** had the opportunity to meet in-person on May 20th at the Jester Park Nature Center in Polk County. Three new members were sworn-in by Board President – Mark Shoemaker (Pottawattamie): **Victoria DeVos** (Plymouth), IAN Representative; **Brad Mormann** (Jones), IACCB Representative; and **Paige Shafer** (Wapello), AFIRM Representative. **Welcome Aboard!** 😊

Annually, this spring quarterly meeting is generally all about finances as the proposed budgets for both ICCS and MyCounty Parks.com for the upcoming fiscal year are reviewed and approved. The ICCS Operating Budget for FY2022 was approved at \$206,450; and the separate budget for MyCountyParks.com operations was approved at \$183,900. The Board also endorsed some conceptual planning towards FY2023 as they prepare to transition to a new CEO at the end of 2022.

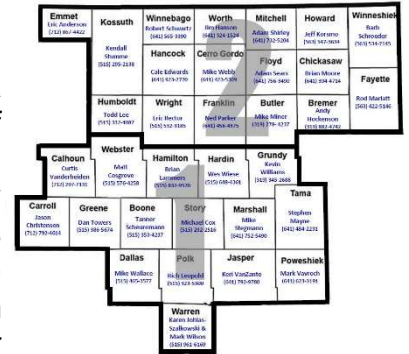


A reminder that **Western Region CCBs** (Districts 3 & 4) have **until May 31st to cast their ballots** for the Region's Conservation Board Member Representative to the ICCS Board of Directors. The link to the Survey Monkey Ballot was sent to all CCB Directors in the Region on April 1st via email. To-date, 11 of the 34 CCBs in this Region have cast ballots. There is one vote allowed to be cast per county. Please contact Tom if you have any questions. 😊



CALL FOR BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATES

The **ICCS Central Region** (Districts 1 & 2) has an opening for a Conservation Board Member Representative to serve on the ICCS Board of Directors. The three-year term for this service will be from Sept. 2021 thru Sept. 2024, with the option to serve one additional consecutive term. We already have one board member candidate that has applied. If any of the CCBs in this Region have a conservation board member that may be interested – please have them get in touch with Tom Hazelton at IACCB@mycountyparks.org with their questions or to obtain an application. Balloting for this election will occur in July & August – with announcement of the successful candidate to be made at the 2021 ICCS Annual Meeting at the fall conference in September.



ICCS CENTRAL REGION



2017

Craig VanOtterloo has served as the Director for the Lyon CCB for the past 23 of his 32 years with the Conservation Board. The post-and-beam-style structure will be 48-by-120 feet and have a walkout deck and basement. The estimated cost of the project is \$1.93 million.

CONGRATS to the Lyon County Conservation Board & Staff! 🎉

LYON COUNTY – DREAMS DO COME TRUE!

Remember the **Lyon CCB Tour at the 2017 Fall Conference** when the Lyon CCB staff were holding up the banner for a proposed new office and nature center at Lake Pahoja Park? Join us for our Open House! May 29, 2021 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM with a dedication at 2:00. We will have lots of fun family activities available that day too.

"It's the culmination of a lot of years of planning and fundraising," VanOtterloo said. "It's one of the biggest projects I've ever worked on. We want to do it right the first time."



2021



CREEK AWARENESS FOR IOWANS VIA COUNTIES

The Iowa DNR is interested in getting Iowans more connected with their landscapes – especially their waterways and creeks. And we're interested in assisting them with their efforts in counties! A few counties have already been signing creeks for some time – the hope is to expand this effort. Look forward to more information coming this summer for a grant program to commence this fall. This looks to be a good partnering effort between CCBs, the DNR and your County Engineer. Directors will have a chance to learn more about this program as the CCDA gathers this summer at ISAC – and also stay tuned for additional communiques from ICCS. 😊

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PORTAL

CONTACT REPORT

QUARTERLY PORTAL CONTACTS HARVEST COMPLETED

Earlier this month we completed our quarterly email scoop of the CONTACTS in the Portal. We appear to have 1,004 "good" email addresses across the system – a slight uptick from the previous harvest. We have 374 of 495 Board Members (76%); 531 of 575 Employees (93%); and all 100 Directors (100%). While this is quite awesome - considering from where we started in 2013 – we still encourage you to be diligent about keeping your CCBs portion of the CONTACTS up-to-date, especially for Board Members. We did, however have to correct about a dozen that were missing characters or had other errors in the address, and toss another 3 dozen as they bounced on our initial distributions....so always room for improvement! 😊

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PLANNING SHAPING UP!

ICCS welcomed the opportunity to join in on recent planning meetings for both the **CCPOA 2021 Fall Workshop on October 4-7, 2021**, and the **2022 IACCB Winterfest Conference on January 25-27**. Both events are forming up very nicely as "normal" in-person gatherings, and you can anticipate online registration availability for CCPOA in August, and for Winterfest in October. Registration fees for both look to remain the same as the previous editions.

The **Winterfest Planning Committee** still invites you to provide them with suggestions for sessions, along with potential presenters that you may have seen that would be a good fit. They aim to finalize the overall agenda and conference planning/layout by August. The two keynote presenters have been identified and negotiations are now in progress. Feel free to be in touch with the leadership of either Division via the email connections below. ALL ICCS Divisions are appreciative of your patience and cooperation as we have collectively navigated the past year of pandemic challenges.

WINTERFEST: IACCB@mycountyparks.org

CCPOA: CCPOA@mycountyparks.org



MIDWEST ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

July 26-29, Luther College – Decorah, IA "Exploring Community – Land, People, Water"

The conference keynote and sessions will focus on the ideas of re-defining community to include all land, water, and people, and building healthy, resilient, vibrant communities for all. Early bird registration ends June 13th!

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION:

<https://meeconference.org/registration/midwest-ee-conference-2021/>



Monica (L) and Emily at the 2019 ICCS Fall Conference in Muscatine

CHANGE-UP AT SHIVE-HATTERY

Monica Converse and Emily Naylor of Shive-Hattery have become familiar faces over the years. They developed and led a growth initiative to provide architecture and engineering services in a customized way to County Conservation. Monica has decided to move on from Shive-Hattery to pursue a unique opportunity. One of the things she'll miss the most is the friends and contacts she made working on projects and attending conferences. Please connect with Emily Naylor at enaylor@shive-hattery.com and she'll be happy to pass along your well-wishes!

ABCreative, Inc
 Boland Recreation
 Central Iowa Distributing
 Design Homes, Inc
 Elkhart Plastics, Inc.
 ERO IOWA, LLC
 Ever-Green Landscape Nursery & Supply
 Iowa Agricultural Mitigation
 Iowa Native Trees and Shrubs
 Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Assoc.
 JEO Consulting Group, Inc.
 Kay Park Recreation Corp.
 Keep Iowa Beautiful
 Kunau Implement Co., Inc.
 LT Leon Associates, Inc.
 Martin Gardner Architecture, P.C.
 R.J. Thomas Mfg. Co.
 Shive-Hattery
 Snyder & Associates, Inc.
 Star Equipment, Ltd.
 Turf Power, Inc
 WHKS & Co.

2021 ICCS PREFERRED VENDOR MEMBERS

Assisting with “making us tick” since 1960 are the businesses involved as the **Preferred Members of ICCS!** You can find a full listing of these members on our administrative website –

MyCountyParks.org at the following link:

<https://www.mycountyparks.org/preferred-vendors.html>

Not only are they a network of businesses that provide products and services of interest to our industry, but they are also HUGE supporters and sponsors of all that we do! From conferences and workshops, to training, education and legislative outreach – they really are an important piece of our CCB persona!

As always, we encourage you to visit our listings and consider them FIRST as you envision your annual supply needs or specific project details. UPDATED for 2021 – application forms, databases, letters of invitation and membership benefits are all available in the “PREFERRED VENDORS” file in the **IACCB Portal** – most of which are also available via the link provided above.

Our COLLECTIVE THANKS to these businesses and organizations that frequently go “above and beyond” each year to provide services and networking for our industry! It is reassuring to know that these supporters look out for our best interests and share their best practices for the betterment of our industry! 😊



*Enjoy the Outdoors™
...with Pilot Rock Bike Racks*

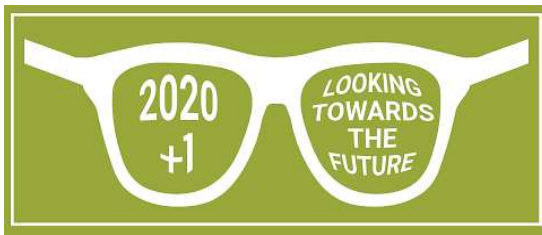
- Simple to Stylish; Traditional to Modern.
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- Parking Options for One Bike or up to Twenty Bikes.
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2021 ICCS FALL CONFERENCE RAFFLES

Don't miss your chances to win some AWESOME prizes at the **2021 ICCS Annual Fall Conference** this **September 15-17 in Ames**, hosted by the **Story CCB**! You can be the proud owner of classic CCB history by way of the IACCB 60th Anniversary commemorative hand-hewn canoe, a brand new 2020 Benelli Montefeltro 12 ga. Shotgun, or any number of special packages via the Annual ICCS Silent Auction! Start saving those raffle/auction dollars today!

CANOE: Handcrafted in 2015 especially for the 60th Anniversary of IACCB by the Covered Bridge Country Canoe Works (Winterset), this beautiful canoe was masterfully crafted with walnut accents – including two stunning paddles. Documented to be on the water only once, it is as new as it was 6 years ago! Winner of the canoe in 2015, Tom Hazelton – has donated the package back to ICCS for the fund-raising efforts this fall. (*Canoe/paddles valued at \$5,000+*) (Special thanks **Jim Liechty**, former Director of the Madison CCB and his business partner, the late Bob Lafollette for creating & donating their incredible demonstration of craft in 2015!)

SHOTGUN: The Benelli 12 ga. Shotgun has been donated by our friends at Brownells in Montezuma (Poweshiek County). Brownells have been a stalwart supporter of conservation efforts around the country, and especially here in Iowa! (*Shotgun is valued at \$1,100+ MSRP*) (Thanks to Mark Vavroch, Director of the Poweshiek CCB for recruiting this donation – which was made possible via long-term partnerships with Brownells)



2021 ICCS SILENT AUCTION

Equally as exciting as any raffle at the Fall Conference is the competitive Silent Auction! The **Silent Auction Donation form** is now available via the link below. NOW! is the time to be conjuring-up those creative baskets, cabin or camping get-a-way gift certificates, local craft projects, wood carvings or donations from local vendors, CVBs, etc.

This will be the **16th Annual ICCS Silent Auction** that has raised tens of thousands of dollars due to the generosity of our collective CCBs and individuals over the years. Thanks in advance for considering a donation for 2021 – it really assists us with keeping our costs low and conference excitement levels high!

We look forward to receiving your donation form soon.....**THANKS!**

	Iowa's County Conservation System SILENT AUCTION DONATION 61 st ANNUAL ICCS FALL CONFERENCE – Ames, IA September 16, 2021
Name of Item: _____ <small>(Please provide an item per basket or separate auction item)</small>	
Donated by: _____ <small>(Name of County Conservation Board)</small>	
Brief Description of Item: _____	
Suggested retail value of item \$: _____	
If you are donating a gift certificate, please include a brochure/flyer for our table display.	
• Auction items will be displayed during the conference thru Thursday, Sept. 16 th . • Arrangements must be made to have all items paid for and picked up by close of the evening social time, after the banquet on Thursday. • All proceeds from the silent auction will assist in defraying conference costs, with all profits going to the IACCB general fund to support IACCB training programs.	
CONTACT INFORMATION:	
Contact Name: _____ County: _____	
Address: _____	
Phone: _____ Email: _____	
Signature: _____ Date: _____	



2021 ICCS FALL CONFERENCE LINK:

<https://www.mycountyparks.org/conferences.html>



SELFIE STATIONS IN KANSAS?

Next time you find yourself in a city park in Shawnee, KS – be on the lookout for a familiar sight.....*an Iowa CCB selfie station!* Just another example that “tourism works” as we are sharing designs, signs and process with the Neighborhood Planner for the City of Shawnee. They found our selfie stations connection on the Iowa Tourism Website – and thus the conversation!

BTW – have you managed to visit [#mycountyparks](#) recently?? There are over 500 posts there – many of them being some fun ones from YOUR selfie stations! Some of those two-year old stations are also getting a healthy “weathered” look to them too! 😊 Thanks for keeping the 2019 “99 PARKS” celebration rolling – *selfie stations are simply timeless.....more is better!*



REMEMBERING JIM PETERS, BREMER CCB

In January, Jim was appointed to his seventh 5-year term on the Bremer County Conservation Board, and was elected to serve as Chairman – a position he held 12 other times since his initial appointment in 1987. Sadly, Jim passed away in early February, leaving behind a lasting imprint on the parks and wildlife areas in Bremer County. He rarely missed a meeting in these 34 years, and was always available to chat on the phone or send an email. He knew his role as a conservation board member, and took that roll very seriously. Jim was passionate about conservation and wanted to do his part to make the parks and wildlife areas better places to visit. Jim had been instrumental in much of the expansion of the BCCB over the past 3.5 decades – from 20 areas and 1,051 acres to 31 areas and 4,400+ acres.....along with many upgrades in services and infrastructure. The time, effort and knowledge that he graciously shared all these years was greatly appreciated and will be truly missed. May he rest in peace.....

“You don’t need to practice social distancing from Mother Nature: Enjoy Iowa’s County Parks!”



[mycountyparks.com](https://www.mycountyparks.com)



■ Full Time
■ Seasonal/Part-Time

<https://www.mycountyparks.com/Jobs/Default.aspx>

1. APPANOOSE Co. – Natural Resource Technician
2. WARREN Co. – Conservation Technician
3. JOHNSON Co. – Mechanic
4. GREENE Co. – Director
5. LEE Co. – Administrative & Outreach Coordinator
6. CERRO GORDO Co. – Natural Resource Biologist
7. CLAYTON Co. – Office Asst./Director of Sales
8. POTTAWATTAMIE Co. – Promotions & Outreach Coord.
9. POLK Co. – Conservation Laborer – Construction
10. POTTAWATTAMIE Co. – Natural Resource Technician
11. SEASONAL POSITIONS – 40+ opportunities listed on website

5/26/2021



Where’s your **99 PARKS** backpack taking you this year?