



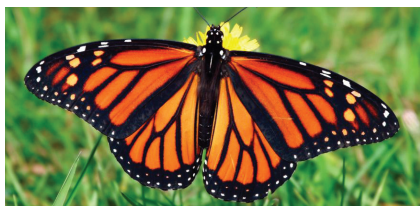
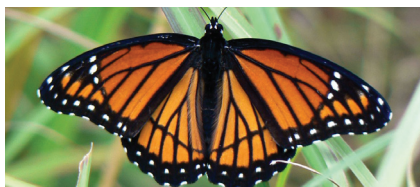
JOURNAL

Warren County Conservation Board

Fall 2018

Case of Mistaken Identity

Animals have many forms of defensive behavior that they develop in order to prolong their survival and reproduction. A few types of animals also use mimicry to fool other animals into thinking they are something they are not. Mimicry is characterized by the resemblance in appearance of organisms that are not closely related. This resemblance is advantageous for one or both organisms, and is used to deceive other organisms. This mimicry is typically more beneficial for one of the parties than the other, but in some cases can be mutually beneficial.



Viceroy (top left) and monarch (bottom left) butterflies are an example of mutually beneficial mimicry. Both butterflies have bright, distinctive markings warning potential predators that they contain a toxic chemical if eaten. It was originally believed that the viceroy was a harmless, sole beneficiary mimic of the monarch. However, recently it has been discovered that viceroys can synthesize their own toxin that makes them unpalatable. This is why they are mutually beneficial in their similar coloration and warning patterns.

Both bull snakes (below left) and rattlesnakes (below right) have similar markings, having dark blotches running down their backs. Rattlesnakes kill their prey by biting and piercing them with fangs. Rattlesnake fangs are similar to curved hypodermic needles, and can inject venom. (Some bites, called dry bites, do not

inject venom.) Rattlesnakes have distinctive hollow segments on the end of their tail that make a buzzing, rattling sound as a warning. Bull snakes are commonly found in Iowa and are constrictors, meaning they kill their prey by wrapping around and squeezing it before consuming it. Bull snakes are nonvenomous, but are often confused for the venomous rattlesnakes. While they do not have a rattle, they will quickly vibrate their tail among dead leaves and debris in order to mimic the rattlesnake and try to dissuade any potential threat from bothering them.



Almost everyone has seen a wasp flying around and done their best to avoid them! This is because they have a well-known defense of stinging potential threats! The hoverfly (top right) mimics the looks of anything from a honey bee to a hornet! One way to tell the difference is that the hoverfly doesn't have the narrow waist that a wasp (bottom right) has. A hoverfly gets the benefits of the immediate desire to leave a flying, wasp-looking insect alone in the offchance that it is capable of stinging. This is very beneficial to the harmless mimic!



Fighting the Mesa Fire

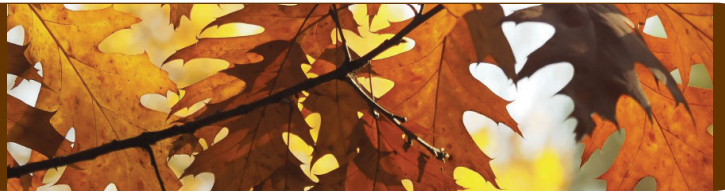
Warren County Conservation Board recognizes Conservation Technician Tyler Seuferer for his part in fighting the wildfire this summer. Below he shares his account of fighting the Mesa Fire in Idaho.

“In April of this year I went to get certified for prescribed fires we do for the WCCB. During my training the instructor talked about the next steps I could go through to fight wildfires anywhere in the country for a maximum of 14 days on the fire. After getting approval from my supervisors, hours of online certifications, and a physical test, I was certified to go.

On July 28th I was contacted by Ring of Fire’s engine boss and was told we were headed to Idaho. Already being fully prepared and packed, I had 3 hours to get to Des Moines, where we started our 27.5-hour journey to Council, Idaho.



The 30th we arrived in Council, Idaho at the Mesa wildfire base camp. We spent two days in staging, where we would get called in for assistance if needed. On day 3 we received orders we were joining division Yankee, 18 miles up in the mountains of the Payette National Forest. We spent the next 13 days, 7 of those days in a spike camp (where we camped out in the mountains) working 14 hour shifts doing anything from holding fire lines, moping up fire, laying hose lays through timber and over dozer lines, and assisting hotshot crews doing burnouts. We were demobed on August 14th.”



Fighting the Mesa Fire Cont'd

“Over 500 fire wild land fire fighters were fighting the Mesa Fire and by the time it was contained on August 27th it had burned 34,719 acres. Seeing new country and wildlife made becoming a wild land firefighter one of the most hardworking and rewarding experiences of my life. It gave me an entirely new appreciation for the power of fire and the destruction it can cause. I can't wait to go back next year!”



Volunteering Opportunities

Are you passionate about the environment or education? Do you like to encourage children to explore and enjoy the outdoors? Then volunteering with WCCB could be the perfect fit for you! Volunteers opportunities include: front desk volunteer, Iowa butterfly survey, maintaining the trails, butterfly garden, or bird feeders, being a greenhouse volunteer, or event volunteer at one of our events like the Osprey 5K, Native Plant Sale, Halloween Hike, Kids Fish Day. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Karen at karenjohlas-szalkowski@warrencb.org or call 515-961-6169.



Events

November

Nature Holiday Crafts with Ted Lare Gardens

Tuesday, November 13th | 6:00–7:30 p.m. | ANC

Melissa from Ted Lare Gardens will be your guide for making various nature themed holiday crafts. Featured crafts are: a birch succulent planter, evergreen centerpiece, or glass filled with festive rocks & succulent plant. Prices vary from \$10-\$20 per craft. Registration is required. To register visit tedsgardens.com

Fall Hike & Homemade Gifts

Saturday, November 17th | 2:00–5:00 p.m. | ANC

WCCB and Young Living Essential Oils are teaming up to get you exploring outside and using essential oils. Bring the whole family out for an afternoon of making homemade gifts for the holiday season. Roller bottles, lotions, diffuser necklaces, and bath salts would make an easy, fun, and excellent gift for your friends, family, or teachers. Young Living Essential Oil members will be available to explain the benefits of oils, how to use them, and answer any questions. There will be a scavenger hunt to help you learn more about essential oils. The cost is \$20 per family, with the option to purchase additional gift items.

December

Candy Cane Hike

Saturday, December 1st | 1–3 p.m. | ANC

Bring the whole family out to hike the trails of Annett Nature Center in search of hidden candy canes. Submit your guess for how many candy canes are on the trail and get entered to win a wintery surprise. There will be refreshments, hot cocoa, and exhibits to explore inside. This is a self-guided hike, so you can come and go between 1:00–3:00 p.m. Check in at the front desk for instructions. Please register by November 29.



Forest Therapy Walk

Saturday, December 8th | 1–4p.m. | ANC

Immerse yourself in nature and experience the benefits of being fully present in the medicine of the forest. This gentle three hour forest therapy walk offers a rich experience in nature that can improve mood and provide relaxation. Shinrin-yoku or forest therapy offers researched based health benefits such as lowered blood pressure, decreased anxiety, and improved cognitive functioning. Certified guides from Forest Therapy Pathways, will guide you to become sensitized to the healing environment of the forest. You'll have the opportunity for self-reflection, social interaction and a little child like fun! We invite you to slow down and unplug with mindfulness based nature connection invitations on this one of kind nature excursion. Join us for this unique wellness activity to rejuvenate and experience nature in a new way!



Oola Infused: Finding Balance

Thursday, December 13th | 6–7:30p.m. | ANC

Have you ever wished you could clone yourself? Do you ever get so completely overwhelmed by the day-to-day things that you don't feel like you could ever find the time or energy to switch and ditch the toxic chemicals in your home or live a more "green" and earth-friendly lifestyle on top of it all? You need Oola! This class is about focus, priorities, lower stress, and more balance. By the time you leave, you'll have a good handle on the areas of your life you need to key into and I will give you the tools to help you focus as you juggle all those plates in the air.

For more details and information, or to register for events, please visit www.warrencb.org/events or call 515-961-6169.

Events



December cont'd

Kids Day Out

Friday, December 28th | 10a.m.-2p.m. | ANC

Are your kids going stir crazy from being inside this winter break? Need to go run some errands after the holidays? Send your kiddos out to a fun filled winter day camp! Kids ages 6-12 can come out and expect a fun day exploring the outdoors, making a craft, and playing games. There is a \$10 fee per camper. Lunch and a craft will be provided. Please register each child by Thursday, December 20th.

For more details and information, or to register for events, please visit www.warrencb.org/events or call 515-961-6169.



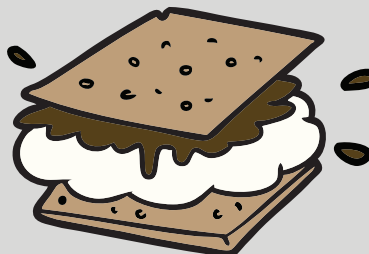
Fall Hike and Homemade Gifts

November 17, 2018

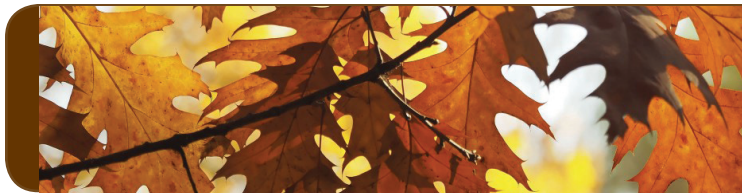
2PM-5PM

Annett Nature Center

Bring the family out for a guided fall hike, scavenger hunts, make & take homemade gifts, hot chocolate & smores, and nature center exploration. For \$20 your family can participate in the activities, enjoy snacks, and make the following gifts: diffuser necklace, lotion, bath salt, and roller bottle. Additional gifts can be made for a small charge.



For more specifics and to register visit warrencb.org or contact 515-961-6169.



News



Thank You!

Monarch Program

Peg Hutchison
Jane Colavecchi
Ashley Vanderflight
Theresa Finken



FWCC Prairie Picnic

Steve Weaver
Mary Weaver
Donna Fink
Bill Fink
Blair Lawson
Lisa Niedermayer
Peg Hutchison
Steve Derman
Polly Glascock
Ashley Vanderflight
Shawn Szalkowski
Monty Freeman
Lori Freeman
John Krogmeier
Kathy Krogmeier
Putney Auction Staff
Cortez Daniel
Austin Griswold
Lewella Riker
Zach Howarth

Prairie Picnic Donations

Crimson Anchor
Steve Derman
Nancy Engle
Doug Gaumer
Local Vine
Mish Mash
Milo Locker
Outside Scoop
Donita Petersen
Bob & Jackie Sarasio
Lori Shepard
Simply Straws
Skoycloth
Strawsome
To-go Ware
Blank Park Zoo
Downey Tire Pros
Warren County IKES



A large, mature tree with dense, bright yellow foliage, likely a deciduous tree in autumn, standing in a grassy field under a clear blue sky. The tree's canopy is full and vibrant, with some darker branches visible through the leaves. The ground is a mix of green grass and dry, yellowish-brown patches, suggesting a late autumn setting. The sky is a clear, pale blue.





Fall 2018

Warren County Conservation Board



The Warren County Conservation Board manages over 2,200 acres of land for the benefit of its citizens. Visitors can enjoy a variety of outdoor activities on areas being conserved for this generation and generations to come.

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Doug Gaumer	Conservation Technician
Tyler Seufferer	Conservation Technician
Karen Johlas-Szalkowski	Naturalist II
Kelsey Longnecker	Naturalist I

The Warren County Conservation Board does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, age or handicap. If anyone believes he or she has been subjected to such discrimination, he or she may file a complaint alleging discrimination with either the Warren County Conservation Board or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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