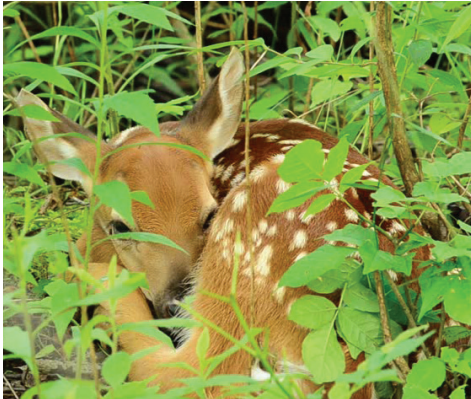




JOURNAL

Warren County Conservation Board

Spring 2018



How to Help: Baby Animals

Spring means it is that wonderful time of year when new life is popping up all around us! Trees start budding, green grass starts sticking its blades through the brown soil, and animals start having babies.



Baby animals are pretty cute. Adorably cute. It is common and natural to want to help them as much as we can. However, we want to be sure that we do indeed help them, rather than unknowingly put them at risk or harm them. Most people have the best intentions of helping, rescuing, or making a baby animal's life better. Unfortunately, without the proper knowledge, many times the opposite ends up happening. Please take advantage of the tips and information below to make an informed decision about what to do with wildlife!

Usually the best thing to do for wildlife is to leave it alone. Many animal mothers will leave the baby by itself while they forage for food. It is safer for the baby to be stashed and for the mother to come back, than for the baby or babies to be out with her. These babies might be alone all day and only be fed at dawn or dusk. Just because you don't see the mama doesn't mean she isn't coming back for her baby. Wildlife do not make good pets. Not only is it illegal to keep wildlife as pets (rehabilitators need special licensing and training and do their best to help wildlife be releaseable), it is dangerous for the animal. Many times people take in a baby thinking it is cute and cuddly, but as it grows and develops its wild tendencies, it becomes too much to handle. Animals that have imprinted on humans can struggle to feed and fend for themselves in the wild. They don't always know how to interact with other animals of their species, and they see humans as "food-bringers," which can have its own consequences if they approach a human from the wild. For the good of the animal, please enjoy wildlife in the wild.

If you find a baby animal and are not sure if it is okay, try to determine if the baby is injured, bleeding, was harassed by a dog or cat, or seems sick. (Look for vomiting, blood, apparent broken limb or wing). If the baby has its eyes open, they are usually able to fend for themselves. Remember, handling a baby animal causes a lot of stress on it. Being with its mother is the best option for the survival of that baby.

If you still think the baby may need human help, contact a rehabilitator, wildlife rescue organization, naturalist, or Iowa DNR officer for a referral or to answer questions. It is best to call BEFORE handling or interfering with the baby.

Wildlife Care Clinic, Ames: 515-291-5310

Wildlife Rehabilitation Network of Central Iowa: 515-339-4325

SOAR (Saving Our Avian Resources):

712-830-6116

News

2018 Reptile Geocaching Adventure Begins



Grab your GPS, your hiking boots, and get ready to explore! Find all 25 geocaches and collect the trading cards from April 1, 2018 through December 1, 2018.

There are 25 Geocaching Reptile Adventure Caches hidden in county, state, and city parks around Warren County. Your challenge is to explore parks and find them all using a GPS. Each reptile cache includes an instruction card, a logbook, and a stack of reptile trading cards. Sign the logbook to show that you found the cache and take a reptile trading card for your collection. Explore the park around you to see if you can find that reptile nearby.

After finding all 25 caches, take your 25 collectible cards to the Annett Nature Center. We will give you the coordinates to find the last cache and take a picture of you with the very last card or all of your trading cards. Feel free to include family, friends, your dog or anyone else that helped you finish the challenge. All participants who successfully finish the challenge by December 1, 2018 will receive a finishers medal. Check back for a new adventure theme next year!



FWCC NATIVE PLANT SALE



Spruce up your landscaping with some native plants. Join FWCC for the native plant sale. There will be lots of native prairie and woodland plants available to choose from.

A few favorites are common milkweed, butterfly milkweed, purple coneflower, white indigo, prairie dropseed, New England aster, columbine, jack-in-the pulpit, and many more.

Saturday, May 19th: 8 a.m.–12 p.m.

Sunday, May 20th: 12 p.m.–4 p.m.

At the Annett Nature Center

All proceeds from the plant sale will benefit Warren County Conservation Board educational programming. For more information call 515-961-6169.



GRANT PARK CAMPGROUND OPENING

Check out the great new campground now open at Grant Park. There are 150 beautiful acres to explore!

Located at:
2439 Fenton Street
Swan, IA 50252





Meet a Member

Friends of Warren County Conservation (FWCC) is a non-profit, volunteer group that provides fundraising and volunteerism to support the educational programs and outreach of the Warren County Conservation Board. This enables thousands of Warren County residents and visitors to enjoy conservation education and quality outdoor experiences year round. They hold monthly meetings that are open to the public. Anyone interested in joining can check out our website: www.warrencb.org/support or call 515-961-6169 for more information. This month's Meet a Member is Steve Derman.

Steve has been a Friends of Warren County Conservation (Friends) board member since the non-profit organization was first formed approximately 25-years ago, and served as the Friends first board President. Steve has been retired from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources since March of 2013. His 36-year career included 32-years with the Iowa DNR and 4-years prior to that as Director of the Lee County (Iowa) Conservation Board.



Steve has a Bachelor's degree in wildlife sciences from Buena Vista University and has called Iowa his home for all of his 64 years, and he currently resides in Indianola. Steve's educational and career background helps provides valuable perspective and input during meetings and other Friends activities or events. Some of the things Steve particularly enjoys about being a Friends member:

"I like the fact that I can volunteer and help with so many outdoor related activities and events that I have a personal interest in as well. It gives me a good feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment, and after all, it is good to stay active when you are retired."

When not volunteering or hanging-out at the local coffee shop Steve may be found hunting, fishing, gardening, doing yardwork, spending time with his 2 grandsons, or helping friends with projects or playing pickle-ball and basically doing what retired guys do.

In addition to serving on the Friends board, Steve also sits on the executive board of two other non-profit organizations; Turn-In-Poachers (TIP) Of Iowa and the Warren County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Steve is a member of several other organizations including Pheasants Forever; Ducks Unlimited; Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation; National Rifle Association; and is an honorary member of the Iowa State Sheriff's and Deputy Association.



If you see Steve, please help us thank him for all that he does for the Warren County Conservation Board as well as the residents of Warren County!



Events

May

Grant Park Campground Opening

May | Grant Park

Go check out the new campground at Grant Park! 10 new camping sites have been added. Explore this 150 acre park in northeast Warren County!

Storywalk

May | Annett Nature Center

StoryWalk is a fun idea to get communities outside and reading. Each month, we will put new nature-themed children's stories along trails in different parks. Stories will all be nature-themed and fun to read! Bring your whole family out to hike and read a page of the story every few feet as you go along.

Creating a Native Butterfly Garden

Tuesday, May 15th | 6 p.m. | ANC

April showers bring May flowers, and what better way to celebrate spring being in full bloom than to look at getting some of your own? Come out and enjoy an evening learning about native plants in butterfly gardens.



FWCC Native Plant Sale

Saturday, May 19th | 8 a.m.–12 p.m. | ANC

Sunday, May 20th | 12 p.m.–4 p.m. | ANC

There will be lots of native prairie and woodland plants available to choose from. A few favorites are common milkweed, butterfly milkweed, purple coneflower, white indigo, prairie dropseed, New England aster, columbine, jack-in-the pulpit, and many more. All proceeds from the plant sale will benefit Warren County Conservation Board educational programming.

Priscilla Gaumer Butterfly & Pollinator Exhibit Ribbon Cutting

Wednesday, May 23rd | 6 p.m. | ANC

Celebrate the Annett Nature Center's newest exhibit that features educational information about the world of insects. Check out the observational honeybee hive, try on the beekeeping suit, and learn all about honeybees. Don't miss the seasonal live butterflies or spy them outside on the deck flowers. The kids will enjoy the hands-on features of the exhibit. Don't forget to have your photo taken as a butterfly and enjoy all the insect fun. There will be refreshments and insect crafts for the kids. The exhibit will be open for viewing until 7:30 p.m.

Blank Park Zoo Program

Tuesday, May 29th | 5 p.m.–7 p.m. | ANC

Bring the whole family out for an evening of free fun. Blank Park Zoo will be our guest speaker and teach us about some of their live animal friends. Enjoy a hot dog picnic, crafts, and tour the Annett Nature Center at 5 p.m. The program will start at 6 p.m. This event is sponsored by Friends of Warren County Conservation and Friends of Indianola Public Library.

June

Storywalk

June | Bank Swallow Bend

Each month, we will put new nature-themed children's stories along trails in different parks. Stories will all be nature-themed and fun to read! Bring your whole family out to hike and read a page of the story every few feet as you go along.

Kids Fish Day

Saturday, June 2nd | 8:30 a.m. | ANC

Celebrate Free Fishing weekend and have some fishing fun with us! Bring the whole family out to learn the art of fishing. Participants will learn the proper way to tie knots, cast and fish safely before we head out to see what we can reel in. Registration and instruction will begin at 8 a.m. Fishing will begin at 9 a.m.

Check our website for details and registration deadlines: <http://www.warrencb.org/events>

Events

Yoga In the Park

Tuesday, June 5th | 5 p.m. | ANC

Get in tune with your spiritual side, while also challenging yourself mentally and physically. Enjoy the beautiful sights and sounds of nature. This class is open to all experience levels.

WCCB Parks Tour & Wine Tasting

Sunday, June 10th | 1 p.m.–3 p.m. Tour | ANC
3 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Wine Tasting

Hop on the bus at the Annett Nature Center for a guided tour and prizes. This year's tour will feature Grant Park, Woodland Mounds, and the Annett Nature Center. Return to the ANC for free wine samples & appetizers along with music. The cost is \$15 per person and includes the bus, appetizers, wine glass, and free tasting. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

Wild Women of the Woods

Friday, June 15th | 6 p.m. | ANC

Saturday, June 16th | 7 a.m. | ANC

Would you like to meet other women with similar interests, attend classes to learn new skills and enhance older ones, or just kick back in the great outdoors? If so, this is the event for you. The registration fee is \$45 and includes Friday night camping and activities, breakout sessions on Saturday, meals and a Wild Women of the Woods gift!



Family Park Explorers

Thursday, June 21st | 6 p.m. | ANC

Explore nature family style with the WCCB naturalist. We will provide fun, educational, hands on activities that your family can do together at a different Warren County park each summer month. You will be guided on how to explore different habitats, wildlife, and nature. Registration is required so that we can have enough equipment and snacks.



Stand Up Paddleboarding

Friday, June 22nd | 3 p.m. | ANC

Get out on the water and give stand up paddleboarding a try. A WCCB naturalist will go over the basic equipment, paddle strokes, and get you paddling around Lester Pond at Annett Nature Center. An adult must accompany children. Space is limited and registration is required.



July

Storywalk

July | Woodland Mounds

StoryWalk is a fun idea to get communities outside and reading. Each month, we will put new nature-themed children's stories along trails in different parks. Stories will all be nature-themed and fun to read! Bring your whole family out to hike and read a page of the story every few feet as you go along.

Stand Up Paddleboarding

Sunday, July 8th | 1 p.m. | ANC

Get out on the water and give stand up paddleboarding a try. A WCCB naturalist will go over the basic equipment, paddle strokes, and get you paddling around Lester Pond at Annett Nature Center. An adult must accompany children. Space is limited and registration is required.

Check our website for details and registration deadlines: <http://www.warrencb.org/events>



Events

July continued

Bowfishing

Friday, July 13th | 6 p.m. | ANC

Bowfishing is a fun sport that combines the skill of archery and the fun of fishing. Join a Naturalist to find out how it's done, learn about the species you can bowfish, and try your hand at shooting into the water!

Family Park Explorers

Thursday, July 19th | 6 p.m. | Otter Creek

Explore nature family style with the WCCB naturalist. We will provide fun, educational, hands on activities that your family can do together at a different Warren County park each summer month. You will be guided on how to explore different habitats, wildlife, and nature. Registration is required so that we can have enough equipment and snacks.

Stand Up Paddleboarding

Sunday, July 22nd | 1 p.m. | ANC

Get out on the water and give stand up paddleboarding a try. A WCCB naturalist will go over the basic equipment, paddle strokes, and get you paddling around Lester Pond at Annett Nature Center. An adult must accompany children. Space is limited and registration is required.

Warren County Fair Booth

Friday, July 27th

Saturday, July 28th

Warren County Fairgrounds

Swing by our booth at the Warren County Fair and check out all of the upcoming events, programs, and neat opportunities!

Midwest Glacial History

Tuesday, July 31st | 6 p.m. | ANC

Come learn more about how our great state was formed. Help us welcome Phillip Kerr from the Iowa Geological Survey. This program is open to all knowledge levels. Find out why geology rocks!

Check our website for details and registration deadlines: <http://www.warrencb.org/events>

Thank You!

Priscilla Gaumer Butterfly & Pollinator Exhibit

Installation:

Shawn Szalkowski

Doc Rundle

Friends of Warren County Conservation

Scholarship Committee:

Randy Edwards

Donna Fink

Monty Freeman

Front Desk Volunteer:

Tim Anderson

Spring Egg Hunt Volunteers:

Ashley Vanderflaught

Steve & Mary Weaver

Donna & Bill Fink

Monty & Lori Freeman

Katie Jakes

Grace Jakes

Sydney Braun

FWCC Osprey 5K Volunteers:

John & Kathy Krogmeier

Ashley Vanderflaught

Monty & Lori Freeman

Steve & Mary Weaver

Randy Edwards

Lisa Niedermayer

Shawn Szalkowski

Donna Fink

Thank You to our FWCC Osprey 5K Sponsors:

Athletico Physical Therapy

Anytime Fitness

Joe's Gym

Fleet Feet Des Moines

Fitness Sports

Fareway

Hy-vee

Subway

Warren County Izaak Walton League

Iowa Hunter Education Instructor Association

Iowa Outdoor Expo

Ace & Judy Hendricks

Bill & Donna Fink

News



Exhibit space before construction began (left.) Expanding the room and moving the deck (above.) Staff members Mark Wilson and Tyler Seuferer install the “waggle dance” tiles (right.)



Priscilla Gaumer Butterfly & Pollinator Exhibit Update

We are happy to announce the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Priscilla Gaumer Butterfly and Pollinator Exhibit. This new educational exhibit features information about the world of insects. There’s something for the whole family to explore.

The exhibit has an observational honeybee hive. Children can become a beekeeper and check on the honeybees. Open the drawers to discover the life cycles of various insects. Everyone can join in on the dance floor and perform the waggle dance. After learning about honeybees, there is still more to investigate.

Honeybees are important pollinators but so are butterflies and moths. Can you tell the difference between a butterfly and a moth? Test your knowledge with our flip up panels. Marvel at the butterflies and moths commonly found in Iowa. Discover which butterflies migrate in addition to the popular monarch. The exhibit will also house live monarchs in the summer.

You can learn about the importance of pollinators, native plants, how to help protect our pollinators, and so much more about the insects.

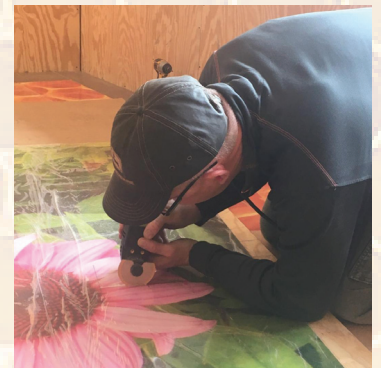


Staff member Doug Gaumer unloads the panels for the new exhibit from the delivery truck.

We would love to have you celebrate at the ribbon cutting on May 23, 2018 at 6 PM.

The exhibit will be open until 7:30PM. The kids can enjoy insect themed crafts and refreshments for the whole family.

Please RSVP by calling
515-961-6169 or at warrencb.org



Staff member Mark Wilson cuts outlet holes from the panels for the new exhibit.

Wise Words...

“The wilderness and the idea of wilderness is one of the permanent homes of the human spirit.”

Joseph Wood Krutch



Spring 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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David Youngblut	Operation Coordinator
Mark Wilson	Natural Resource Specialist
Doug Gaumer	Conservation Technician
Tyler Sueferer	Conservation Technician
Karen Johlas-Szalkowski	Naturalist II
Kelsey Longnecker	Naturalist I

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