

Naturally LOUISA COUNTY

Rich in Nature, History and Culture

SPRING 2023
VOLUME 16
ISSUE 1

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EDITED BY
Lana Artz-McComb

Virginia Grove Timber Harvest

By: Lisa Louck, DNR District Forester

If you spent time walking the trails of Virginia Grove in the last few months, you likely have seen some different markings. Luckily, there is no tree disease that causes blue paint lines to form on the trunk, so it must be the forest management plan in action!

Virginia Grove is managed for multiple goals including recreation, wildlife, access, and overall forest health. I have had the pleasure of walking Virginia Grove many times over the last decade to develop and update a forest management plan. Having a healthy forest means maintaining and managing for the widest range of habitat and animal resources.

Oak hickory forests have been a dominant forest type in Iowa but lack of management has allowed oak trees to age while different trees gained a foothold under the oaks.



Maple trees growing mid-story and shading out future oaks.

Different forest types don't need full sunlight and can thrive in the shade of old growth oak.



Without harvesting some of the mature trees, there will be little hope for new oaks to have enough space and sunlight to grow to maturity. As older oak trees age or die naturally the other forest type will become dominant.

Not all areas of Virginia Grove will be oak forests, but maintaining some oak trees fits best with the goals and conditions of this park. Having some of these majestic oak trees for the future is important. Some existing trees will always remain while many new oak trees will be started with this and future work.

Trees at Virginia Grove were chosen for harvest on a tree by tree basis. Age, species, tree condition, proximity to other mature and young oaks were all factors in the decision.

After harvest work is completed, all areas will be monitored and assessed for needed follow up management such as weed tree removal, invasive plant control and prescribed fire.

The shorter term results after harvest will be some brushier areas where young oaks could start growing. There will be an overall healthier forest because declining and overly dense trees have been removed. Farther reaching results of this work will hopefully be a more diverse, vigorous, and healthy forest for the current and future park users.

If you have any questions or concerns as this management gets underway, please don't hesitate to reach out to me using the contact info below.

lisa.louck@dnr.iowa.gov 319-759-1108.

www.LouisaCountyConservation.org

Birding Year Round

By: Laura Semken, Naturalist

Louisa County is an incredible place to go birding! So many opportunities abound. Last year, Louisa County Conservation hosted an Audubon Christmas Bird Count within the *Louisa Y Circle*. If you look at a map, you can see how the spot was named. The confluence of the Cedar and Iowa Rivers form a “Y” shape in Columbus Junction. From that center, a circle was created with a 7.5-mile radius. This circle includes birding hotspots like Cone Marsh, Cairo Woods, Chinkapin Bluffs, Eden Park, The Nature Conservancy’s Maytag Access, and Cedar Bluff in Muscatine County. Fifteen (15) volunteers drove 6 routes within the 15-mile circle and recorded 5,011 total individual birds and 61 different species.

These community science volunteers contributed over 56 hours driving or hiking their route and recording every bird seen. This data is combined with data from all over the country where thousands of people are counting birds over a 3 week period and recording their observations.

The data collected in this long-running, wildlife census allows biologists and researchers from Audubon and other organizations to assess the health of bird populations. When combined with other surveys such as the Breeding Bird Survey, it provides a picture of how the continent’s bird populations have changed over the past hundred years. This long-term perspective is vital for conservation. It informs strategies to protect birds and their habitat and helps identify environmental issues with implications for people as well.

Even through you might have missed the opportunity to help this year, save the date for December 14, 2023. Louisa County Conservation is offering several programs to help people hone their birding skills and “Build Better Birders!”

Louisa County is excited to be hosting 3 **[Building Better Birders Workshops](#)** in the coming months. Whether you’re a beginner, expert, or somewhere in between, these award-winning workshops prepare you for the next step in your birding education. Each day has both indoor and outdoor sessions. Participants are welcome to come for as much or as little of the programs as they choose.

The workshops will be conducted by birding experts, Kelly McKay from BioEco Research and Monitoring Center, with assistance from Mark Roberts, Brian Ritter and James Wiebler from Nahant Marsh Education Center.

Funding for the workshops is provided by the Resource Enhancement and Protection- Conservation Education Program (REAP-CEP).



Common Yellowthroat, Geothlypis trichas, with a caterpillar.

[Building Better Birders: Waterfowl Migration](#)

Saturday, March 4; 8:00 am-5:00 pm
Langwood Education Center with field trips to Port Louisa, NWR and Cone Marsh

[Building Better Birders: Warblers](#)

Monday, May 8; 6:00 am-3:00 pm
Langwood Education Center
with a field trip to Klum Lake

[Building Better Birders: Songbirds and Migratory Insects](#)

Saturday, September 9; 7:00 am-5:00 pm
Big Sand Mound Nature Preserve and
Louisa County Complex



Transportation available from the meeting locations. For more information and to register online, visit

LouisaCountyConservation.org

Thank You Donors and Volunteers!

*Your service and dedication to Louisa County
Conservation is so appreciated!*

- Jake Shoppa
- John Guyer
- Kay Perkins
- Chris Swanson
- Dick Sayles
- Janelle Swanberg
- Don Fish
- Kelly McKay
- Shawn Hawks
- Linda Quinn
- Linda Rudolph
- Eliza Willis
- Monie Hayes
- Elizabeth Owens

YCC Returns for 2023!

By: Ron Knopik, Acting Refuge Manager

Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is again offering its Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program after a brief hiatus.

The 8-week summer work program for young people between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age. Participants must be a US citizen or permanent resident of the United States and must provide a valid US Social Security number.

The YCC experience allows teen enrollees and staff the opportunity to learn, work, and recreate in a national wildlife refuge. The program is challenging, educational, fun, and offers participants opportunities to expand their horizons while building skills that will benefit them for a lifetime.

No previous conservation/wilderness experience is required, but a willingness and ability to work in a physically active outdoor program, get along well with others, and maintain a positive attitude are essential for success. Supervision is provided by permanent and seasonal refuge staff trained in equipment use and first aid.

Four enrollees will be randomly selected from submitted applications from the local area to participate in this summer program.

Enrollees will work 40 hours a week and receive \$9.50/hour. YCC participants will work in a variety of weather and terrain conditions while completing projects which may include: trail construction and/or maintenance; posting boundaries and installing trail signage; assisting with environmental education programs; general maintenance work; painting/staining; non-native plant control; and collecting data for community science projects and for visitor use management.

Additionally, each week enrollees will spend time participating in resource education, recreation, and career orientation activities. The activities may include hiking, kayaking, fishing, staff presentations, and field trips to partner organizations.

Applications will be available on the [Port Louisa NWR Facebook page](#) beginning March 1, 2023 and will be accepted until April 15, 2023.

Please contact the refuge if you have any additional questions.



YCC Crew Member banding geese with the Iowa DNR

PORT LOUISA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE



10728 Cty Rd X61,
Wapello, Iowa 52653
319-523-6982

Office Hours:
M-F, 7:30 - 4:00 PM
[fws.gov/refuge/port_louisa](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/port_louisa)
facebook.com/portlouisaNWR

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.



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Toolesboro Museum Improvements

By: Lana Artz-McComb, Naturalist

Louisa County Conservation is excited to share that visitors to the Toolesboro Museum will be treated to a whole new look.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Community Foundation of Louisa County, there are 10 new interpretive displays and a fresh coat of paint to brighten the interior of the museum! We were able to purchase a second set of panels

and a carry case so that we can easily take them to programs, county fair, or field trips.



This was a fun project because I got to work closely with the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) and the OSA Tribal Advisory Council to create these display panels titled “*Louisa County: Life Along the River.*” Museum visitors will be able to take a journey through time with up to date information, photos, and maps. The displays also provide an introduction to archaeology as well as information on the Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa, the Meskwaki Nation.

LCC would like to thank Cherie Haury-Artz with OSA for her work finding maps, images, and editing the panels. Special thanks to Lance Foster, Suzanne Wanatee-Buffalo, Joe Coulter, and Julie Martineau for their input and expertise.

Thank you, everyone, for your work to update the museum and provide the best experience possible for visitors from around the state and from around the world!



Interior improvements included painting the walls and new interpretive panels to supplement the existing information.



Exterior work was completed in the Fall of 2022 through the State's major maintenance fund, by the State Historical Society of Iowa. The Museum building received new windows, doors, and siding. Though the color remained the same, the structure has been much improved.

Plan your visit for Spring 2023!

Toolesboro Mounds
National Historic Landmark
6568 Toolesboro Ave
Wapello, IA 52653

Memorial Weekend - Labor Day:

12:30-4:30 pm, Wednesday - Saturday

Labor Day - October 31:

12:30-4:30 pm, Saturdays only

Grounds open year round

Museum open, by appointment, for groups.

Call 319-523-8381 or email
conservation@louisacountyia.gov.

Available year round

LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION



12635 County Road G56, Suite 101
Wapello, IA 52653

319-523-8381; Conservation@louisacountyia.gov

LouisaCountyConservation.org

LCC STAFF

Katie Hammond
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Lana Artz-McComb
Dani Boysen
Laura Semken

BOARD MEMBERS

Elizabeth Kling
vacant
Joellen Schantz
Brad Quigley
Josh Hardin

Pheasants Forever/Quail Forever

Pheasants Forever's mission is to conserve pheasants, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public access, education, and conservation advocacy.

Unique among national conservation organizations, chapters of Pheasants Forever retain 100% decision-making control over their locally-raised funds. This allows chapter volunteers to develop wildlife habitat projects and conduct youth conservation events in their communities, while belonging to a national organization with a voice regarding state and federal conservation policy.

Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever host more than 750 fundraising events annually, most commonly annual chapter banquets. These banquets are an important source of revenue and provide chapters with the funds needed to accomplish thousands of wildlife habitat projects annually.



The only money forwarded to the national office is the annual \$35 membership fee. This funds Pheasants Forever's award-winning magazine, professional services of regional biologists and representatives, our national conservation education programs and state and federal legislative advocacy.

The Pheasants Forever's Farm Bill biologist program is designed to educate farmers and landowners about the benefits of conservation programs, as well as assist those landowners after programs have been implemented.

Your Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist is Holly Shutt who works out of the Wapello NRCS office.

Louisa County PF/QF Chapter

The local chapter holds monthly meetings the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Meetings are usually held at the Mediapolis Savings Bank (formerly State Bank of Wapello). Please come join us!

Quail Management Workshop

Tuesday, April 4; 6:00 pm

Louisa County Fairgrounds

Join Holly Shutt, Wildlife Biologist, to learn about managing habitat for quail. Dinner will be provided.

Reservations required.

RSVP Louisa County NRCS Office - 319-527-8068

Louisa County Chapter Highway Cleanup

Sunday, April 23

Volunteers needed!

Contact Holly Shutt for more info or to sign up.



Louisa County PF/QF Banquet

Saturday, June 24

Louisa County Fairgrounds

Contact the banquet chair, Matt Shutt at 785-294-2004, for more information about purchasing tickets.



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LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION EVENTS

Hunter Education

Thursday, March 9; 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, March 11; 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Langwood Education Center

This free class includes classroom lessons and field experiences. Students must be 11 years or older to attend.

Registration required through the Iowa DNR website: license.gooutdoorsiowa.com.



Mother's Day on the Marsh

Sunday, May 14; 9:00 am - 11:30 am

Port Louisa Inlet Tubes

\$10 canoe, \$5 kayak, \$2 bring your own boat

Prepare to see birds and other mothers as we leisurely paddle, viewing wildlife and listening to the sounds of nature.

Pre-registration required by Friday, May 12.

Spring Break Picnic in the Park

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Thursday, March 16; Chinkapin Bluffs Recreation Area

Monday, April 10; Virginia Grove Recreation Area

Celebrate Spring Break at a park near you! Have lunch with the box turtles, feel furs and skulls, and enjoy the fact that Spring is here!

Bring your lunch and a drink. Be sure to dress for the weather (we do still live in Iowa...)

No registration required



Langwood Adventure Day

Saturday, June 3; 8:00 am - Noon

Langwood Education Center

Find adventure fishing, paddling, pond scooping, shooting bows and arrows and more! This is your chance to climb to new heights at the Langwood Challenge Course. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration is requested for this FREE event!

Star Lab

Letts Library Wednesday, March 15

10:30 am - Constellation Story Time

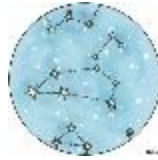
4:30 - Astronomy Exploration

Columbus Junction Library Monday, March 13

10:30 am - Constellation Story Time

2:30 pm - Astronomy Exploration

No registration required



Big Sand Mound Field Day

Saturday, June 10; 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Big Sand Mound Nature Preserve
via Bayer Rec Building

The opportunity to explore Big Sand Mound only comes along every 3-years! Keep an eye on LCC social media and the newspapers for registration information.



Langwood Comes Alive

Friday, April 7; 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Langwood Education Center

Spring is all around! Let's get outside and enjoy it! Hike, scoop in the pond, bird watch. Come and go as you please to this free family event.

No registration required

Unless otherwise stated, all registration and program information can be found at

LouisaCountyConservation.org

Call our office: 319-523-8381

Send an email: conservation@louisacountyia.gov



Stay Connected with LCC

Louisa County Summer Rec

Summer Rec is sponsored by each city and provided by Louisa County Conservation.

9:00 am - Noon; Cost: Free!

Columbus Community - Grade K - 6

July 3, 5 - 7: Chautauqua Park Shelter

July 10 - 14: Monkey Run Park

Grandview - Grade K - 6

June 12-14: Academy Park Shelter

Morning Sun - Locust Grove Park

June 19-23: Grade K - 2

June 26-30: Grade 3 - 6

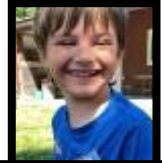
Wapello - Grade K - 6

July 17- 21: South End Park Shelter

July 31 - August 4: North Park Shelter

**Louisa County Conservation
2023 Summer Nature Camps**

Camps include nature exploration, hiking, games, crafts, and hands-on activities. Included in the camp fee are a daily snack and camp t-shirt.



Nature Camp Registration Information

Registration begins on **Monday, April 10 at Noon.**

Unless specified, camps are held at Langwood Education Center.

Contact conservation@louisacountyia.gov or 319-523-8381 with any questions! See you this summer!

Online registration and payment can be made through MyCountyParks.com.

Caterpillar Camp

June 12-16; 8:30 am-11:30 am
Entering K-1st Grade; Cost: \$40

Explore nature! We will adventure through Langwood as we learn about plants, water, animals, and the sky.

Tadpole Camp

June 26-30; 8:30 am-11:30 am
Entering 1st-2nd Grade, Cost: \$40

Feathers, Feet, and Food! This week is all about Animal Adaptations. We will camouflage, wade, walk, and explore all there is to learn about animals!

Nature Detectives

July 10 - 14; 8:30 am-12:00 pm
Entering 2nd-3rd Grade, Cost: \$45

Discover the different ecosystems at Langwood. There are whole worlds beneath our feet, high in the trees, under the surface of the water, and hidden in the prairie grasses.

Outdoor Explorers

July 31-Aug 2; 9:00 am-2:00 pm
Entering 3rd-4th Grade, Cost: \$50

Meet at the Conservation Office each day and travel to a different Louisa County park. We will explore Toolesboro, Eden Park, and Virginia Grove!

Great Escape

August 3-4; 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Entering 4th-5th Grade; Cost: \$50

Let's learn outdoor skills! We'll learn how to safely build a fire and cook lunch. Practice map reading and using a compass, try archery, paddle a canoe and kayak and more. Lunch is included for this camp.



River Paddlers Louisa County

July 5, 9:00 am - July 6, 4:00 pm
Entering 6th- 8th Grade. Cost: \$65

This overnight adventure includes paddling the beautiful Iowa River in Louisa County and an overnight campout at Langwood Education Center.

River Raiders Upper Iowa River

Training day: June 7, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Trip dates: July 18-20
Entering 8th- 12th Grade. Cost: \$90

Explore the Upper Iowa River like never before! Campers will paddle, camp & cook outdoors during this three day, two night trek. Campers must attend the training date in June to allow all the campers to meet each other, go over paddling basics, and plan for the trip.

Doing the Right Thing with Appliances

By Laura Semken, Naturalist

Appliances are not safe to landfill. When you bring your appliance to the Louisa County Transfer Station, the \$12 fee covers the cost to recycle them safely.

Appliances include refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dryers, microwaves and stoves plus dishwashers, dehumidifiers and air conditioners.

How are appliances recycled? First the materials have to be separated for proper disposal or reuse. For example, refrigerators and freezers are made up of several different components, some of which are hazardous if not handled correctly.

In a fridge or freezer's cooling system there is chemical refrigerant, which is typically a greenhouse gas called hydrofluorocarbon (HFC). There will also be oil. If the fridge or freezer is an older unit, there may be mercury in its switches and thermometers, and the foam insulation will also likely contain ozone-depleting substances.

Any of the chemicals contained within an appliance can cause damage to the environment if placed in a landfill with the potential of leaching into the surrounding soil or bodies of water.

The refrigerant, oil, and mercury can be recycled and used in other appliances or else disposed of at a hazardous waste facility. As for the foam, new recycling technology enables this material to be turned



into pellets that can be safely burned as fuel, rather than end up in a landfill.

Fridges and freezers also contain easily recyclable components, such as copper, aluminum, steel, glass, and plastic. These materials can be used to build other everyday items. The same aluminum that was once part of your fridge could be used to create your next beverage can!

When visiting the transfer station, be sure to separate your e-waste from your appliances.

E-waste goes under the metal carport and includes electronics like computers, televisions, monitors and keyboards.

The components that make up electronics are just as dangerous in the landfill as appliances. However, E-waste is kept separate from appliances because the recycling process is different. E-waste recycling often includes extracting valuable resources from the electronics.



Transfer station costs for E-waste are as follows. Televisions cost \$15 to recycle and monitors cost \$10 to recycle. E-waste without a screen like keyboards cost \$2.

If you are unsure where to put your items, just stop in and ask or call the Louisa County Transfer Station for more information 319-523-5013.

Thank you for doing the right thing!

Louisa County Transfer Station

Drop Off Recycling and Waste Disposal

Open Monday-Friday: 8 am - 4 pm

Open Saturday: 9 am - Noon

14048 70th St., Wapello, IA 52653

Questions? 319-523-5013



Household recycling – FREE

Tires, e-waste & appliance recycling – small fee

louisacountyia.gov

Facebook: Louisa County Transfer Station



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Local Water Protection Program

By Josh Sieren, District Conservationist

The [Local Water Protection Program \(LWPP\)](#) offers low interest loans through participating lenders to Iowa landowners for projects to control the runoff of sediment, nutrients, pesticides or other nonpoint source pollutants from entering Iowa waters.



Eligible Projects are:

- Contour buffer strips
- Field borders or windbreaks
- Filter strips
- Grade stabilization structures
- Grassed waterways
- Terraces
- Other practices that are shown to improve or protect water quality

LWPP loans can be combined with or without cost share. Loans that are approved with cost share funds, the cost share amount is subtracted from the total estimated cost amount to arrive at the total cost eligible for the loan.

The Division of Soil Conservation and Water Quality (DSCWQ) of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship administers the program through its local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD).

The Iowa Finance Authority (IFA) acts as the financial agent. Prior to receiving a loan, the landowner must receive project approval from the local SWCD. Projects shown to improve or protect water quality include contour buffer strips, field

borders or windbreaks, filter strips, grade stabilization structures, grassed waterways, terraces, and other practices are eligible .

The lender originates the loans in amounts ranging from \$5,000 to \$500,000 with a maximum term of 10 years. The loan amount may not exceed the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) estimate by more than 10%. The interest rate charged the borrower will not exceed 3%. IFA will deposit funds equal to the principal amount of the loan at 0% interest. The deposit does not guarantee the loan nor is it collateral for the loan. The deposit is only to reduce the interest rate charged to the borrower.



Annually IFA will withdraw from its deposit account an amount equal to the principal repayment of the outstanding loan. As a result, the amount in the deposit account will equal the principal outstanding on the loan. All costs directly related to the implementation of local water protection projects are eligible. Costs for the purchase of land are **not** eligible.

The borrower works with the local Soil & Water Conservation District on the project. The borrower will work with a participating lender to complete the lender's loan application process. IFA accepts new participating lenders on an ongoing basis. Most local ag lenders have participated in this program and are enrolled. When the loan is approved by the lender, the lender completes the online application.


Louisa County SWCD contact information can be found at idals-farms.iowa.gov



**109 N. Curve Street
Mediapolis, IA 52637
(319) 394-3964**

Monday - Friday: 7 am - 5 pm
Saturdays: 7 am - Noon

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
260 Mulberry St., Suite 2, Wapello, Iowa 52653
319-527-8068



SWCD Commissioners:

Jonathon Ball
Kathy Dice
Dan Vogeler
Tim Knutson
Drew Yotter

Conservation Scholarships Available

Tri-Rivers will be giving out two \$1,000 scholarships. Winners will be announced at The RUSH Cocktail Party. Both will be given to applicants who are either high school seniors or college students, pursuing a degree in natural resources or a related field.

A person could receive both scholarships if qualified and candidates are eligible to receive the scholarship more than once.

If your field is not conservation or natural resources, explain to us on the application how you will use conservation in your future career.

William (Bill) Paris Scholarship is for students living in Louisa County or attending a Louisa County High School who plan to attend an Iowa college or university.

This legacy started in 2009 to honor the life of William "Bill" Paris, a lifelong outdoor enthusiast. His family will be present at RUSH to present the award.

Tri-Rivers Director's Scholarship is for students who live in the Louisa Resource Area (a little bigger circle, including Louisa County and neighboring cities). Participants may attend any college or university for this scholarship, applicants are not limited to an Iowa school.

Fillable scholarship applications can be found on the Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation website at: Tri-rivers.org/scholarships/

Applications are due by noon on March 15th!

Thank You!

Thank you to all of our Tri-Rivers supporters. Your continued dedication to conservation and natural resources in Louisa County is a blessing.

We appreciate each and every one of you.

Al & Dianne Bohling	Kenzie Hammond
Community Foundation of Louisa County	Larry & Karen Minnis
Doug & Becky Paris	S&J Tube
Don Kline	Sherry & Wayne Humphreys
James Scott	Steve Johnson
Joe Furlong	Steve & Janie Schomberg
Kamdyn Hammond	Verl & Earleane Lekwa

Trident Explorer Raffle



Solo Boat for Hands-Free Fishing
1 ticket for \$10 or 3 for \$25

**Drawing to be held June 3, 2023
at Langwood Adventure Day**

Tri-Rivers will be selling raffle tickets from now until June 3 on this hands-free fishing boat.

There are several ways to get your tickets:

- They will be on sale at the RUSH Cocktail Party
- Fill out the form (Page 11) and mail a check
- Online at tri-rivers.org
- Contact one of the Tri-Rivers Directors
- At Louisa County Conservation paddling events.

We also plan to have the boat available for a test paddle at Mother's Day on the Marsh (May 14) & Langwood Adventure Day (June 3), where the drawing will take place.

Get your tickets and come take this hands-free fishing boat, the Trident Explorer, for a test paddle!



12635 County Road G56, Suite 106
Wapello, Iowa 52653
319-523-8381

tri-rivers@louisacountyia.gov

www.tri-rivers.org

The Mission of Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation is to provide funds for the protection and enhancement of the natural resources in the environmentally rich area of the confluences of the Cedar, Iowa and Mississippi Rivers in eastern Iowa.

The Foundation will employ enjoyment and use of these resources to educate and instill an appreciation for good land stewardship. It will seek to distribute these funds to carefully chosen public, civic, institutional and quasi-public programs.

RUSH Cocktail Party

Sunday, April 2, 2023
 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Buckman Guesthouse
 Cost: \$25/person



The RUSH is Tri-River’s biggest fundraiser of the year. This year’s event is a Cocktail Party at the beautiful Buckman Guesthouse near Morning Sun!

The event will feature Hors d’Oeuvres and drinks. There will be plenty of time for visiting with the doors open at 1:00pm. At 3pm there will be a short presentation, scholarships awarded and silent auction & raffle winners announced.

The silent auction will feature experiences and unique items not found anywhere else. Items include: homemade meals, guided hunting and fishing trips, local artwork and more!

Funds raised support conservation projects in the Louisa Resource Area including scholarships, improved boat accesses, conservation education, and more.

Make your reservations today!

Register online at Tri-Rivers.org or by using the form (right). An invitation will be sent out in early March to those who have attended in the past. Please reserve your seats by March 24!

For more information, 319-523-8381 or email us at Tri-Rivers@louisacountyia.gov.

RUSH Cocktail Party - R.S.V.P

Please respond by March 24, 2023

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City/ State/ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

- I cannot attend, enclosed is a donation of \$ _____
- I would like Trident Explorer Raffle tickets \$ _____
- I would like RUSH Tickets
 _____ People at \$25/person
 _____ RUSH Sponsor - \$300 (Inc. 2 reservations)

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Return to: Tri-Rivers RUSH
 12635 County Road G56, Suite 106
 Wapello, IA 52653

MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO SUPPORT CONSERVATION EFFORTS IN LOUISA COUNTY

Enclosed is my donation for:

___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$250
 ___ \$500 ___ \$1,000 ___ Other _____

Name or Business _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Return this form and payment to:

Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation
 12635 County Road G56, Suite 106
 Wapello, IA 52653

Please earmark my donation for:

- ___ Langwood Improvements
- ___ Louisa County Trails Council
- ___ TRCF Scholarship
- ___ Environmental Education
- ___ Use my donation where needed most
- ___ Other: _____

General Donations are payable to:

Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation

Endowment Funds are payable to:

- Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine* (for Iowa Tax Credit)
- ___ Tri-Rivers Endowment Fund
- ___ Trails Endowment Fund
- ___ Paris Scholarship Endowment



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 PERMIT NO 23



“The earth laughs in flowers.”
 —Ralph Waldo Emerson

Camp Louisa County Conservation



**Flaming Prairie
 Snively Access
 Virginia Grove Recreation Area**

NEW this YEAR

- Flaming Prairie - will remain first-come, first served. Campers will self-register at the pay box.
- Snively & Virginia Grove - all camp sites require online reservations. Please do not set-up without a reservation.

Online Reservations Available NOW

Camping reservations can be made online, 1-year in advance at Snively and Virginia Grove campgrounds.

www.mycountyparks.com/County/Louisa/Facility/Search.aspx

Snively Access



Use the QR codes to go directly to the website reservation page for where you want to camp!

Virginia Grove



Contact our office in advance for assistance.

319-523-8381 conservation@louisacountyia.gov



RUSH Cocktail Party
 Sunday, April 2, 2023

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Buckman Guesthouse

Cost: \$25/person

Reservations can be made online at

Tri-Rivers.org

or by mailing in the form on page 11.



Naturally Louisa County is an innovative collaboration between government agencies, private organizations and individuals interested in showcasing the natural and cultural resources of Louisa County, Iowa.