

Naturally LOUISA COUNTY

Rich in Nature, History and Culture

SUMMER 2024
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IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 *Louisa County's Hidden Treasures*
- 3 *Cicada-pocalypse 2024*
- 6 *Upcoming Events*
- 7 *Flyway Fridays*
- 9 *Pawpaw Planting at Chinkapin Bluffs*
- 11 *Scholarship Awards Announced*

INDEX OF CONTRIBUTORS

- 2 *Guest Author: Brittney Tiller*
- 4 *Naturally Louisa County*
- 5 *Community Foundation of Louisa County*
- 8 *Louisa County Conservation*
- 10 *Louisa Regional Solid Waste Agency*
- 11 *Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation*

EDITED BY
Lana Artz-McComb

From the Director's Desk

By: Jacob Ewart, LCC Executive Director

I am Jacob Ewart, and I am the new Executive Director for Louisa County Conservation. I graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Agronomy in 2022 and was hired on full time as the LCC Natural Resources Technician. I'd worked seasonally with LCC for two years prior and fell in love with the conservation system so much that I shifted my college studies to include a minor in Forestry. I attended Morning Sun Elementary and Wapello High School. I have lived here in Louisa County my whole life, and my wife and



I have put our roots down here as well. I am very excited to have been selected as the new director, but truth be told, it has been very much a team effort here in the conservation department. Our staff members have all worked exceptionally well in times of budget cuts, departmental changes, and various other challenges. I am beyond proud to

work alongside our entire staff and call them my colleagues.

Moving forward, I hope to build upon and strengthen these great relationships not only within our department but with the whole community. We will strive to better our parks, recreations areas, boat ramps, and wildlife areas to the best of our abilities while continuing to draw people to Louisa County to utilize our areas and spend time enjoying such a beautiful place.



Conservation of resources is extremely important to me because, without our natural areas and wildlife habitat, we, as a human race, don't stand a chance of

thriving. Being good stewards of the land and understanding our past and future actions is crucial to a healthy environment in which the children of tomorrow can thrive. From producing healthy drinking water to reducing carbon emissions, Mother Nature is fighting her battle, and as a conservation department, we are here to help.

I am proud to call Louisa County Conservation my home, and I am very excited to see our growth in the coming years.

"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."
- Sir Isaac Newton

www.LouisaCountyConservation.org

Unveiling Louisa County's Hidden Treasures: A Journey Through Nature and History

By: *Brittney Tiller, Guest Contributor*

Reflecting on the cherished moments of my childhood, I often find myself reminiscing about the adventures shared with my siblings exploring the wonders of the wild in our backyard. From the creek to the timber, each corner held the promise of discovery. Yet, in today's age, we witness a generation ensnared by screens, losing touch with the allure of nature. Even in my own parenting, I see how it is easy to be short-sighted. To be caught up in the fast pace our society calls normal. And at that, I would like to put my dirt-covered foot down.



My journey has been woven with adventures alongside remarkable companions in breathtaking locations. A pivotal chapter unfolded during my time as a naturalist in Louisa County, where countless outdoor opportunities intersected with rich stories of the past. It was here that my passion for exploration was kindled, whether paddling the Upper Iowa River or venturing into

the depths of Maquoketa Caves, momentarily questioning if I was still in Iowa. Drawing from my environmental education background and a desire to reconnect families with nature, *Outdoor Adventures Made Easy* was born.

Through the years I have discovered that the largest hurdle to families spending time outside is getting them there. Seems obvious, right? Our meticulously crafted trip guides are designed to equip adventurers of all ages with the knowledge and confidence to navigate the great outdoors effortlessly. Our most recent trip guide is, you guessed it, the *Louisa County Loop*.

Each destination promises an immersive journey into nature's wonders and the echoes of history. Although the trip guide is packed with more information, here is an overview of some of our favorite locations in Louisa County!

Even though this may seem like an odd stop, **Mallory Cemetery** is one of the most fascinating cemeteries in Iowa. Be sure to use the trip guide to uncover some of its fascinating history and find the scavenger hunt designed specifically for this location.

Be sure to also stop at the **Toolesboro Boat Ramp** to discover the captivating story that links the area back to the Mallory Cemetery. Beyond the history, my family enjoyed finding fossils and mussel shells on the banks of the Mississippi River.



The iconic **Swinging Bridge** in Columbus Junction was what caught our attention, but the unexpected delights of Possum Hollow Trail added an extra layer of excitement to our adventure. It was especially beautiful to visit in the fall with the vibrant leaf colors.

A two for one special, our stop at the **Toolesboro Mounds & Museum** was also paired with the Littleton Brothers Memorial. Here, amidst the remnants of an ancient civilization, visitors are transported back in time to an era of innovativeness and elaborate death ceremonies. We also visited the 11-foot granite monument honoring the six Littleton Brothers who made the ultimate sacrifice. Their deaths are believed to be the largest known loss of life from an immediate family in the history of all U.S. wars.

In the trip guide you will also find out more information about Eden Park, Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge, and the Langwood Interpretive Trail which are among our favorite stops.

Our trip guide offers a comprehensive resource, complete with historical insights, engaging activities like the Mallory Cemetery Scavenger Hunt, camping details, and park locations. Whether you're a local resident seeking to rediscover your backyard or a curious traveler eager for new horizons, let the Louisa County Loop be your compass for an unforgettable adventure.

To download the Louisa County Trip Guide, you can head to our website. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

https://linktr.ee/outdoor_adventures_made_easy

What's the buzz? Cicada-pocalypse 2024

By: Sarah Martinez, LCC Naturalist

By this point, we have all seen or heard a news broadcast or article warning us to prepare for the end times, as millions and millions of cicadas emerge this spring. I'm here to set the record straight, it is not the end of the world, it's a marvelous display of nature!

This spring, as Iowa once again comes alive with the return of birds, bees, and blooming flowers, we will see the return of billions of cicadas, the likes of which will not be seen again until 2245!



Our "normal" cicadas that emerge every year around July are annual cicadas of the genus *Neotibicen*. The periodical cicadas are genus *Magicada* and emerge in May. *Magicada* will be finished with their lifecycle before the annual cicada's emerge.

These bugs, part of the genus *Magicada*, also known as periodical cicadas, are famous for their long-lived lifecycles, allowing them to emerge every 13 and 17 years. Periodical cicadas have the longest known insect lifecycle, spending the majority of their lives underground in an immature nymph form before surfacing from the ground for a brief adult life.

All periodical cicadas of the same life cycle type, that emerge in a given year are known collectively as a "brood". Each brood can contain multiple species of cicadas, so long as they are all adults in the same 13-or-17-year cycle. This spring, much of the Midwest and Eastern United States will be visited by Broods XIX and XIII.

This double-emergence is a particularly rare occurrence. The numbers 13 and 17 only overlap once every 221 years, making this truly a once-in-a-lifetime event. To put that into perspective, the last time these two broods emerged simultaneously, Thomas Jefferson was the President and the United States had just ratified the Louisiana Purchase, doubling the size of the continental U.S. Entomologists have long debated the actual significance of these numbers (both are

prime), some even suggesting that emerging on prime-numbered years make periodical cicadas less likely to be killed by predators that have 2-3 year life cycles, although there is no real evidence to support this claim.

The periodical cicadas will make their appearance when the soil temperature (at 8 inches deep) reaches 64 degrees Fahrenheit, likely happening sometime in mid-May. Although the individual bugs' adult life cycles are just a few weeks long, their emergence will be staggered, giving us about six weeks of cicadas.

Not all regions will experience both broods this spring; with the majority of Brood XIII staying in the northern Illinois, southern Wisconsin, and northwest Indiana areas and Brood XIX staying more scattered to the northeastern/southern states such as, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas. However, there are parts of central Illinois and eastern Iowa where the two broods' geographic ranges historically overlap.

Although major overlap of the two cicada broods is unlikely, getting even one brood in the area still means countless bugs.

Continued on page 4.....



Magicada freshly emerged from the larval stage



NATURALLY LOUISA COUNTY

Continued from page 3....

So, what exactly should you expect? First off, you should expect to hear lots of noise. During this month-and-a-half long period the cicadas will be doing three things: singing, mating, and then dying. Aside from the obviously jackhammer-loud sounds, you will be able to observe tons and tons of cicada exoskeletons covering your trees and shrubs (most likely to be in wooded areas near water).

While millions of flying, red-eyed, two-inch-long insects tend to make people squeamish, **these cicadas are harmless**. They pose no risk to your garden plants or trees, besides possible habitat to lay their eggs on. Are they going to bite me? Also no. The periodical cicadas are much more interested in feasting on tree sap and “plant juices”, than taking a bite or stinging you or any of your pets. And if your dog is tempted to taste-test a cicada or two, they will be just fine. You might become tempted as well, and you should go ahead! People have been eating cicadas for thousands of years and they are said to have a natural, sweet-nutty flavor, although I’ll just take your word for it.

Beyond the bigger, nerdier, scientific story of the cicadas’ lifecycle, we hope that you will appreciate this rare chance to see some weird bug behavior and enjoy this unique natural phenomenon that you won’t get anywhere else.

Recipe for Cicada Stir-Fry

Ingredients:

- 1 onion, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh coriander (cilantro), chopped
- 1 tablespoon fresh ginger, minced
- 3/4 cup sliced carrots
- 3/4 cup chopped cauliflower and/or broccoli
- 1 can water chestnuts
- 3/4 cup bean sprouts
- 3/4 cup snow peas

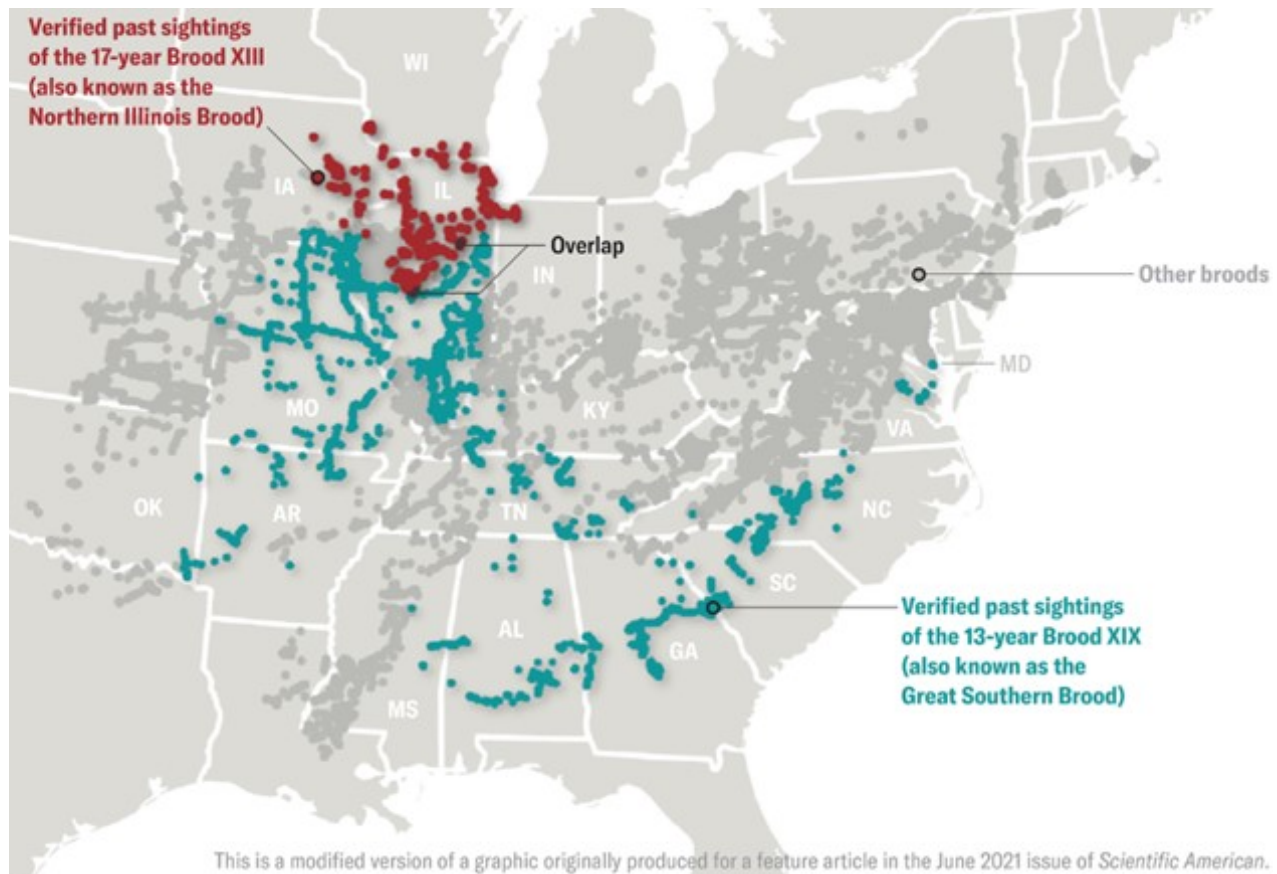
40 blanched newly hatched (teneral) cicadas

Directions:

Capture cicadas at night as they emerge from the ground. Blanche for 1 minute in boiling water. They can now be stored in freezer or used immediately in recipes. In a wok or other suitable pan, heat a couple tablespoons of vegetable oil. Add ingredients in the order listed above when those in the most recent addition are partially cooked. Serve over rice and add soy sauce to taste

Yield: 4 main course servings

Courtesy of Cicada-Licious: Cooking and Enjoying Periodical Cicadas



Louisa County Hunter Education Instructors Receive State Award

By: Lana Artz-McComb, LCC Naturalist

The Iowa Hunter Education Instructor Association (IHEIA) is recognizing the Louisa County Hunter Education Instructors as the Statewide Hunter Education Teaching Team of the Year. The award was announced at the IHEIA awards banquet and the Louisa County



Instructors will be presented with the award at the annual Conservation picnic in the Fall.

“This award recognizes a team of hunter education instructors who go above and beyond to provide an exceptional learning experience. The

Louisa County Team hosts two, 12 hour, courses a year at Langwood Education Center. Their courses include a safety trail, survival skills, basic archery instruction, shot gun skills, tree stand safety and more. Louisa County’s instructors have over 150 years combined teaching experience and ensure every student graduates with the skills necessary to hunt safely and ethically.” - Rose Danaher, Outdoor Skills Specialist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Louisa County Conservation would like to sincerely thank the amazing team of volunteer Hunter Education Instructors Tracy Lott, David Boysen, Greg Terry, Eric Tackenberg, Doug Brown, Jerry Heater, Mike Todd, and John Guyer. Without these instructors volunteering their time and enthusiasm over the years, the Louisa County Hunter Education Program would not be what it is today. Thank you!



If you have a young hunter (must be at least 11 years old) needing to take Hunter Education, the next class will be August 8 and 10, 2024.

Registration will be available on goutdoorsiowa.com in June.



NOW HIRING

AFFILIATE DIRECTOR

Job Description:



Interested? Email your resume to humphreys.sp@gmail.com.

The Affiliate Director provides leadership and support to the local Advisory Board and its committees to implement charitable activities, services, and programs to improve quality of life for residents of Louisa County. This is a part-time contract position for an estimated 30-40 hours per month. Stipend commensurate with experience.

Connection to the Louisa County area, either through residence or professional role, is preferred. Weekend and evening hours are sometimes required. Attendance, punctuality, professional appearance, and conduct required. Must have proven attributes of confidentiality, honesty, and integrity. Must have own transportation. Ability to lift and carry 20 pounds. Successful candidates may undergo skills verification at Temp Associates.

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LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION EVENTS

Weekend Campground Adventures!

Let's add something extra fun to your camping weekend in Louisa County! Naturalists will be bringing fun, exploration, and learning to the campgrounds for Summer 2024.

Snively Campground on Odessa

Fri. June 7
Sat. June 22
Wed. July 3
Fri. July 12
Wed. July 31
Sat. Aug 3

Virginia Grove Campground

Sat. June 8
Fri. June 21
Tues. July 2
Sat. July 13
Tues. July 30
Fri. Aug 2

Times and topics will be posted at campground kiosks and the LCC Facebook Page.

No registration required.

Youth Paddling camp spots available!

River Paddlers Louisa County

July 18, 9:00 am overnight to July 19, 4:00 pm

Entering 6th- 8th Grade. Cost: \$65

Paddle the beautiful Iowa River through Louisa County and spend the night at Langwood Education Center.

River Raiders Upper Iowa River

Training day: June 5, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Trip dates: July 1-3

Entering 8th- 12th Grade. Cost: \$90

Campers will paddle, camp & cook outdoors during this three day, two night trek plus an additional training date in June.

Hunter Education

Thurs. Aug. 8; 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
and Sat. Aug. 10; 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.**

LCC at the Libraries

Join us at the local libraries all summer long! Programs may be indoors or outdoors, depending on the weather. Check our Facebook page or flyers at the library for topics!

Programs will happen biweekly through the second week of August.

No programs the week of the County Fair.

Letts Library at Academy Park in Grandview

Beginning Tues. June 4, 10 am - 11 am

Letts Library at Fruitland Park

Beginning Thurs. June 6, 10 am - 11 am

Letts Library at Letts Library

Beginning Tues. June 11, 2 pm - 3 pm

CJ Library

Beginning Tue. June 4, 2 pm - 3 pm

Keck Memorial Library

Beginning Wed. June 12, 10 am - 11 am

Mellinger Memorial Library

Beginning Thurs. June 13, 10 am - 11 am

No registration required, all ages welcome!

Family Campout

Aug. 15-16; 4:00 pm - 9:00 am

\$15/family

Langwood Education Center

Let's go camping! You bring the family, we'll bring the rest. Bring your own tent or borrow one of ours.

Dinner, snack, and breakfast included.

Registration required

Paddle Louisa County - Sandbar Camping

Saturday, Sept. 21- Sept. 22

\$65/person

Iowa River Water Trail

This is your chance to paddle the Iowa River Water Trail and camp overnight on a sandbar - ALL supplies/food provided. This is an adult only paddle geared towards people who have paddled before but want to take it a step further by camping on the river.

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

M Power U on the Refuge

By: Nathan Barnett, PLNWR Wildlife Biologist

Port Louisa staff began the summer with a helping hand from high school students rounding out their school year. High school juniors enrolled in Southeastern Community College's M Power U program helped remove trees and brush around the Port Louisa Visitor's



Center grounds and the surrounding managed habitats. Trees and brush had been cut out by refuge staff to protect infrastructure and maintain the current state of the open-canopy woodland surrounding the refuge headquarters. This left behind truckloads of wood scattered around the area that required many hands to gather up and move into piles.

Center grounds and the surrounding managed habitats. Trees and brush had been cut out by refuge staff to protect infrastructure and maintain the current state of the open-

Students from the M Power U program visited for a day to provide those hands before being led on a canoe paddle through the refuge.

M Power U is a program offered to high school juniors in the southeast Iowa area. Students that are selected earn college credits while participating in experiences that help build their professional skillset.

The program aims to expose students to a variety of professional fields including Business, Healthcare, Environmental


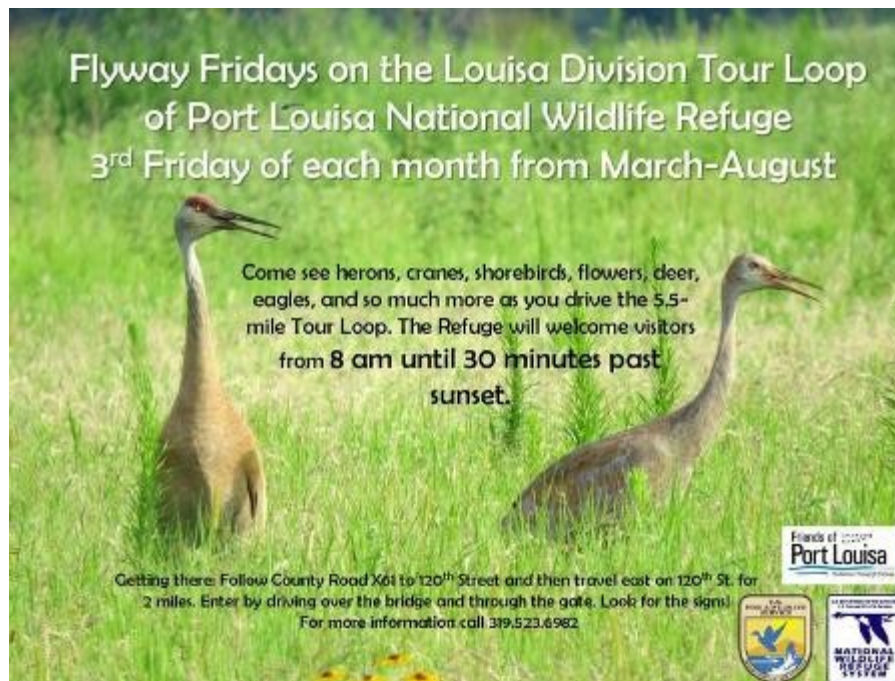


and others. Strong teamwork and work ethic was on display from these students as they helped refuge staff complete a very labor-intensive project.

**Flyway Fridays on the Louisa Division Tour Loop
of Port Louisa National Wildlife Refuge**
3rd Friday of each month from March-August

Come see herons, cranes, shorebirds, flowers, deer, eagles, and so much more as you drive the 5.5-mile Tour Loop. The Refuge will welcome visitors from 8 am until 30 minutes past sunset.

Getting there: Follow County Road X61 to 120th Street and then travel east on 120th St. for 2 miles. Enter by driving over the bridge and through the gate. Look for the signs!
For more information call 319.523.6982



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.

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
facebook.com/portlouisaNWR

LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION

Welcome Seasonal Staff!

Louisa County Conservation would like to welcome our team of seasonal staff members! Luke Perkins, Bryar Runnells, Keegan Akers are our maintenance seasonal. You can expect to see them out and about mowing and maintaining all of our LCC areas.

The summer environmental education seasonal will be Griffin Schoonover, returning for his second summer, and Brelynn Randall. You will see them at Langwood Nature Camps, paddling trips, and out in our communities doing public programming in our towns, parks, and campgrounds!

All staff will be on board by the end of May so be sure to say hello!

Thank YOU for REAP!

By: Lana Artz-McComb, Naturalist

I'm sure that most people reading this have heard of Iowa's Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) but, just in case, here is a quick summary.

REAP is funded from the state's Environment First Fund (Iowa gaming receipts) and from the sale of the natural resource license plate. The program is authorized to receive \$20 million per year until 2026, but the state legislature sets the amount of REAP funding every year. This year REAP was appropriated \$12 million. When you add license plate and interest income, its total budget is about \$12.5 million.

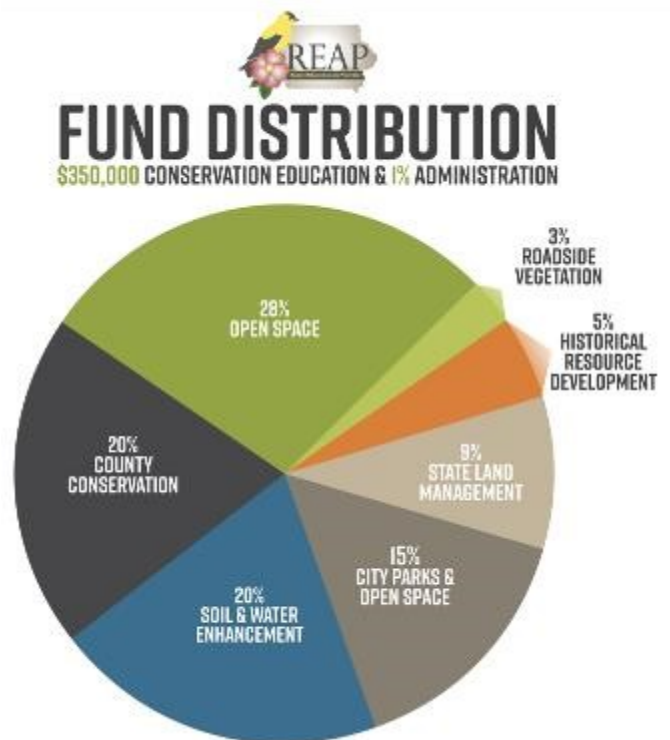
These funds go into eight different programs based upon a percentages that are specified in the law. 20% of REAP funds is allocated to county conservation, 30% of which is automatically allocated equally and 30% of which is allocated based on population.

It's no secret that the end of FY24 and FY25 have been and will be difficult throughout all of Louisa County's departments. Budgets are stretched thinner than they have ever been.

LCC wants our readers, taxpayers, and voters to know that REAP's allocation for county conservation is what is making it possible for us to have our two seasonal Environmental Education staff members for summer 2024.

REAP dollars have always been at work throughout Louisa County but their importance has been made very clear. Without these funds, summer environmental education would have looked drastically different.

If you would like to learn more about REAP and how funds are distributed throughout the state please visit iowadnr.gov/conservation/reap.



Save the trees, enroll in eStatements today!
Call us today to learn more.

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Grafting Brings New Life to the Pawpaws at Chinkapin Bluffs

By: Lana Artz-McComb, Naturalist

Some of you may be familiar with the test plot of pawpaw trees located at Chinkapin Bluffs Recreation Area south of the main shelter. This test plot of 28 trees was planted in 1999 by Iowa State University to gauge how the largest edible fruit tree native to the US grows in the upper

Midwest. Iowa has native pawpaw trees that grow wild and produce small, less tasty, fruit. The trial used seeds from the wild population of pawpaws in Louisa County with grafted genetics from larger fruiting trees.

Genetics were chosen to produce trees that yielded large fruit over 10 ounces tasting much better than the small, wild, varieties.

Pawpaw trees can take up to 10 years to achieve full production of fruit and then gradually reduce the amount of fruit produced at around 20 years. Because of these lifespan restrictions, grafting new genetics onto existing trees is needed to maintain fruit production.

The pawpaw trial at Chinkapin is complete and the original trees are no longer in prime production. With the help of Tom Wahl from Red Fern Farms, LCC will take over maintenance and grafting of the pawpaw grove. Red Fern Farms is donating the scion wood (budding branches taken from prime pawpaw trees) that will be grafted onto the smaller trees at



A cluster of large, palm sized, pawpaw fruit

Chinkapin. The goal will be to restart and maintain a grove of pawpaw trees for the residents of Louisa County to enjoy!

Pawpaws are unique to other fruiting trees in that relatively few insects and diseases affect the trees. Coupled with the fact that deer do not browse on the trees, pawpaws are very hearty!

The pawpaw fruit tastes like a very sweet banana with a mango-melon texture. The fruit can be eaten fresh or the pulp can be used for ice cream, bread, and wine. The fruit and pulp can be frozen. A little work is needed to separate the pulp from the seeds and skin which is the main barrier for commercial pawpaw production. Fruits ripen from late



Tessa Pugh, Tom Wahl, and Jacob Ewart speak with CCSD biology students at the pawpaw grove

August to early October depending on the varietal.

The first grafts of 2024 were completed at the end of April. Tessa Pugh, Columbus High School Biology Teacher, brought her Iowa Biology students out to the grove. Tom Wahl spoke with the students about the pawpaw planting and gave them a lesson on grafting. Each student grafted and labeled their own pawpaw over the course of the field trip. LCC staff will return to do seasonal maintenance on the grove and finish the remaining grafts in May.



Tom Wahl assists a student as she grafts her pawpaw tree.

Louisa County Conservation thanks Tom Wahl, Kathy Dice, and Red Fern Farms for donating their expertise, time, and pawpaw scion wood! Thank you to Tessa Pugh and the CCSD high school students for your interest and enthusiasm during our field trip!

LOUISA COUNTY CONSERVATION



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Shawn Maine
Josh Hardin

The Hidden Cost of Recycling

By Sarah Martinez, LCC Naturalist

In a perfect world, recyclables would be placed into bins, already sorted and ready to be whisked off to their respectable places, with minimal effort and cost to the entities supplying this service. Unfortunately, there are a lot more pieces to the recycling puzzle. For starters, recycling requires a multi-step process, unlike standard waste collection that just picks up your trash from your neighborhood and delivers it to a landfill or incinerator, recyclables must be first collected, then driven to a materials recovery facility (MRF), where they are then sorted, baled, and then shipped to buyers across the world. This is all without considering another *huge* cost associated with recycling, contamination.

the problem then comes when we look at where all our recycling is coming from. At the start of the month the LRSWA began requiring all loads, both trash and recycling, to cross the scale and declare their load to the scale operator. Not only does this help us to identify where recycling comes from, but also gives us the opportunity to explain how this whole process works to each customer. We have concluded that aside from receiving trash and recycling from just our Louisa County residents, we are also receiving a considerable amount from Muscatine, Des Moines, Henry, and Washington counties. All counties with their own respective transfer station/recycling centers for in-county residents.

This would be less of an issue if recycling was not so costly to the agencies that provide this service. In Louisa County alone, every time one of the free recycling bins is emptied at the Transfer Station, the LRSWA pays \$199 for the service. Now this is only accounting for recyclables such as cardboard, plastics, paper, and metals, which are transported to the Scott County Recycling Center for further processing. Recyclable materials, namely glass, are not widely accepted at most recycling centers, due to several factors, such as the density of glass making it much more expensive to transport and the manual sorting it takes when being processed. All glass brought into the Transfer Station is hauled separately to Des Moines County, which is its own fee of \$100 hauling fee plus a tipping fee. The LRSWA for FY23 paid nearly \$8,000 in recycling hauling fees, which seems more staggering when you take into consideration three-quarters into FY24 we have already paid \$6,863.22.

The last thing we want this article to do is discourage you from recycling any materials at all. Recycling not only reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators, it also helps to conserve vital natural resources, such as timber, water, and minerals.

CONFUSED ABOUT WHAT TO RECYCLE?
STICK TO THE BASICS: CANS, PLASTICS (1, 2 & 5), MIXED PAPER, CARDBOARD & GLASS.

			
Metal food and beverage containers	Plastic containers	Glass containers	Paper and cardboard

Contamination is anything placed in a recycling bin that isn't accepted in the recycling program, common items such as plastic shopping bags, plastics that aren't bottles, scrap metal, hoses, electronics, and so much more. And some of these items are very recyclable, but typically only in programs specifically designed to accept them. Nearly 20% of material in a curbside recycling bin does not belong, a percentage that is even higher for drop-off recycling programs! All of this to say, Louisa County is facing some of these very same issues.

In Louisa County, city residents have curbside recycling service that they pay for as part of their monthly city water/sewer/garbage/recycling bill. It is strongly encouraged for residents to use this service as it is the most convenient to them. However, there are *free* recycling containers, located at the Transfer Station, intended for rural Louisa County customers, as they are not included in the city's curbside recycling service. Doesn't seem so complicated, right? Well,

Louisa County Transfer Station
 Drop Off Recycling and Waste Disposal

Monday thru Friday...8:00am – 4:00pm
 Saturday...9:00am – 12:00pm

14048 70th Street, Wapello, IA 52653

Questions? 319-523-5013

louisacountyia.gov

2024 Scholarship Recipient

Kamdyn Hammond is the 2024 recipient of both the Tri-Rivers Directors' Scholarship and the Paris Scholarship. Kamdyn will be attending Iowa State University in the Fall.

The Directors' Scholarship provides financial support to area students who share our commitment and appreciation of natural resources and conservation.

The Paris Scholarship honors William J. Paris' lifelong love and appreciation for the area's natural resources and his commitment to conservation.

Tri-Rivers would like to wish all our graduating seniors well as they look towards their futures.



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.



Left - Kamydn Hammond with Beverly Paris.

Top Right - Kamdyn with Tri-Rivers Directors Jay Schweitzer, Steve Johnson, Al Bohling, and Don Kline.

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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“Who hears the rippling of rivers will not utterly despair of anything”
-Henry David Thoreau



Langwood Adventure day

Saturday, June 1
8:00 am - Noon
Langwood Education Center
Come and explore Langwood
Education Center!

Find adventure through
fishing, paddling, hiking, pond
scooping, live animals, atlatl,
shooting bows and arrows and
more!

The ISU Conservation Station will
be there with their mobile learning
trailer and experts.

Children must be accompanied by
an adult.
Registration is requested for this
FREE event!

The poster features illustrations of a yellow paddle, a green snake, orange boots, a compass, and green leaves.

**This is the first entirely digital
version of the *Naturally Louisa
County* Newsletter.**

**Printed copies of this edition can be
found at partnering organizations
including SWCD, PLNWR, and local
libraries.**

If you know of an organizations that would
like to have printed copies for people to pick
up, please let us know at
conservation@louisacountyia.gov
or 319-523-8381.

**Printed copies will be available upon
request at the LCC Office.**

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It is provided free to the public as an innovative
collaboration between government agencies, private
organizations and individuals interested in showcasing
the natural and cultural resources of Louisa County,
Iowa.