



THE Heron



By Hannah Edfors,
Interpretive Naturalist

The History of Beaver Island

P Those local to Clinton, Iowa or Albany, Illinois have probably heard stories of Beaver Island or may have even hunted, fished or lived on the island. What you see of the island today is very different from how it looked in 1842 when the first cabin was built.

large lakes and inlets of water scattered throughout. Of the total acreage, 1,494 acres are public land owned partially by the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The other 347 acres are privately owned along the northeast edge of the island. Since it is a part of the Upper Mississippi Fish and Wildlife Refuge, the public is allowed to fish in the waterways and hunt in the regulated areas during the appropriate season.

Bryant Schoolhouse sometime after 1920 when the second room was added.

Beaver Island is one of the largest islands on the Upper Mississippi River totaling 1,842 acres and making up 16% of the Pool 14 backwater habitat. The ecosystem is primarily forest with several

Almost 200 years ago, in 1840 Swedish immigrants by the names of Charles and Ann Meyers settled down in a log cabin on the island. Two short years later, a war broke out on the island. Like many wars, this war was over the land and whether the island belonged to the residents of Albany or Clinton. Both groups of people wanted to harvest firewood from the island to heat their homes. After many threats and harsh words, the Albany residents grabbed their muskets, pitchforks and pistols and made their way over to the island to confront the Clintonians. Quickly after the confrontation began a pistol was shot and it is

(continued on page 2)





Beaver Island (cont. from front page)

said that both sides quickly threw up their flags of truce and decided on how to compromise. Throughout history this is the only report of near violence.

Several years later, as more families moved to the island, in 1885 the residents petitioned the Clinton School District to put a school on the island and just a year later the Bryant Schoolhouse was built and ready for students. For 45 years this was a one-room schoolhouse that taught students from kindergarten through 6th grade before having to go to Clinton to further their education. In 1920 an additional room was added to the school allowing 7th and 8th graders to stay on the island for school as well. When school was not in session, the building was used for Saturday evening dances that the

island residents could come to for a social hour. Unfortunately, only 25 years later in 1945 the enrollment dropped below 16 students, and the school had to close, forcing the remaining students to travel to Clinton for school each day.

In addition to the schoolhouse, the island was home to 12 farms and around 30 families with the peak population being 128 people in the 1930's. The residents were river pioneers that accepted life on the island and faced its challenges every day. To live on the island, you had to "go with the flow" as the weather was unpredictable, as were the water levels. Many activities took place on the island like ice skating, volleyball, fishing, hunting, tennis and cycling.

If you needed goods from a grocery store you would go visit the "Farmhouse Grocery Store"

that Gus Carlson ran for 20 years on the island. Before opening the grocery store, Gus Carlson played an intricate part in hauling people back and forth on his boat to and from the island and getting paid \$5 a week to do just that. Later in life after the Bryant Schoolhouse closed, he also brought all the school children across Beaver Slough to south Clinton for school. Even during highwater, residents would drive their boat to the farmhouse grocery store and tie off to the front porch to get the goods they needed. If he was able to, Gus would also deliver goods to your home.

After the grocery store closed in 1940 and the school closed in 1945, many families began moving off the island. Times had changed and in the late 1930's lock and dams #13 and #14 were built changing the river levels and flooding many low spots on the island. Island life just wasn't the same and was steadily becoming harder and harder to get by. Many residents had to use canoes, pails and anything they could find to grow their vegetables in and many of their fields would flood during the planting season. What was once a "go with the flow" island life, was seemingly more difficult every day.

The Beaver Island we see today may not be as lively as it once was by people, but much of the wildlife has remained the same, or even improved. It is a great place for all sorts of aquatic life, waterfowl, turkeys, deer, coyotes and all sorts of other critters to thrive on. If you ever get the chance to spend time on or around the island, try to take a minute to think about how life was 100 years ago and take in the rich history that came before us.



Join our Team

For the summer 2025 season

- Park Staff (both west and east districts)
- Eco Center Concessions

WE ARE HIRING

To apply visit
www.clintoncounty-ia.gov/employment/

BY EMMA JACOBS, INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST

“Look closely at nature. Every species is a masterpiece, exquisitely adapted to the particular environment in which it has survived. Who are we to destroy or even diminish biodiversity?”

– EO WILSON



Martha, the last Passenger Pigeon.
Martha died on September 1, 1914
at the Cincinnati Zoo.
Photo by the Smithsonian Library.

And Then There Were None...

Early explorers in Iowa including Marquette and Joliet, Lewis and Clark, and Zebulon Pike wrote stories about hunting masses of the now extinct Passenger Pigeon and seeing massive herds of elk and bison roaming the prairie. Joseph Street, an Indian agent to the Sauk and Fox tribes after the Black Hawk War, was astonished at the biodiversity present in Iowa that in his journal he wrote, “I had never rode through a country so full of game.”

Iowa was first settled in 1833 with the Black Hawk Purchase and from that point on, settlement was rapid. The population grew from 100,000 in 1846 when Iowa became a state to 645,000 in 1861. As more and more people moved west and Iowa’s population grew, more of Iowa’s fertile prairies and wetlands were converted into farmland and forest cleared for lumber to construct homes. This destruction of Iowa’s unique habitats led to increased encounters of humans and animals.



“Shooting wild pigeons in Iowa” from Frank Leslie’s Illustrated Newspaper (1867)



Mound of Bison Skulls - Photo/Unknown author/Photo edited by User:PawełMM /Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library

Early settlers did not admire wildlife, they saw them as competitors and predators to their domesticated animals and crops. Without laws to regulate harvest, many settlers shot, trapped, or drove off every wild animal they encountered. On top of this, market hunting was detrimental to many wild animals. They were killed en masse, loaded into large ice barrels and shipped off to larger cities where most of them would go rancid before arrival.

Not only were animals being brought to the brink of extinction in the 1800s by humans, but the winter of 1856-57 was one of the worst winters on record in Iowa. Temperatures dropped well below zero and would remain there for more than four weeks. This put strain on the animals to find food, they often concentrated around sources of shelter and what little food there was. Unfortunately, this brought them closer to humans and the deep hard snow made it almost impossible for a quick escape. Shortly after this, animals began disappearing from the state at a rapid rate.

Iowa had one of the most dramatic changes to its habitat of all the 50 United States; over 99% of our prairies have been destroyed, 95% of our prairie pothole wetlands have been drained, and over half of our original forests are gone. Some species, like the Wild Turkey and River Otter were able to adapt to their changed environment after reintroduction efforts and have

made remarkable recoveries. Others, such as the White-Tailed Deer, found their own way back from escaped captive herds. A total of 26 species remain extirpated from the state, with two (the Passenger Pigeon and Carolina Parakeet) becoming globally extinct.

It is hard to truly comprehend the extent of Iowa's extirpation because we only have journals written by early explorers and settlers to account for Iowa's wildlife. From the 1840s until 1870 Iowa was often neglected by scientists because they wanted to explore new lands further west in an attempt to discover new species. It was not until 1910 that an official Iowa species list of mammals and a comprehensive survey of birds were published, but these did not account for the impact that settlement had on wildlife.

In 1856, Iowa passed its first law regulating the harvest of wildlife with the closing of Deer season from February 1st to July 15th. Since then both the state and federal government have taken steps in the right direction to protect the species that still call Iowa home. Through the LACEY act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and general habitat reconstruction efforts we have regulated harvest and restored lost habitats. Due to this, we have seen many species begin to find their ways back into Iowa like the Black Bear, Mountain Lion, Gray Wolf, and Fisher. It is my hope that we learn from the past and begin to embrace our visitors. They have been forced to adapt to us and our ever changing environment, I think it is our turn to adapt and learn to live with these animals that once called Iowa home.



American Bison. Photo by Courtney Celley/USFWS.



“If You Build It, They Will Come”

By Darin Voss, CCCB Natural Resource Technician

NO, this quote does not entirely pertain to the famous 1980's "Field of Dreams" film. That quote was actually "If You Build It, He Will Come". However, in the movie, Ray (Kevin Costner) had a vision inspired by voices he heard. If he built a baseball diamond, players from the past, most importantly his father would show up to play on the field. As a wildlife manager, I too have a vision, not inspired by voices but by a passion for wildlife and nature (natural spaces or conservation). I recognize that if we build high quality habitat on our wildlife areas, game and non-game species alike will use said habitats and build healthy populations. Furthermore, with better habitat establishment and greater wildlife populations the public users take notice. They will then also come to these areas and spend dollars on the local economy. As we're out and about working on these areas we take notice of who is using them. I also get reports from the local conservation officers and other coworkers. During season openers it is not uncommon to see the parking lots full, during the week there will be several vehicles coming and going at any given time, something that is very different from when I started 15 years ago. What's more impressive are the plates that you see on vehicles. Not only do we see plates from counties throughout the state, but we have also seen out of state plates as far away as South Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas. Most commonly it's the surrounding states with Illinois being very common.

How is a vision turned into reality?

It starts with a plan. Primarily a vision of the end goal and the process it will take to get there. Keep in mind these plans are ever-changing due to circumstances and challenges that may come up. My goal is to manage the area for a multitude of species and ecosystems. If something is missing,

we may add it. If something shouldn't be there, we attempt to remove it. For example, we may be cutting and removing trees over here but planting trees/shrubs over there, removing trees and brush to plant prairie or creating wetlands in what was once floodplain row crop that continuously flooded. Overall, I preach diversity and try to consider what inhabited the area historically. This approach does get questioned from time to time by the public user but with an explanation of our end goals, most gain an understanding. Many people have a species or habitat that they prefer we manage for so it can be difficult for them to understand our process. However, I always listen to ideas and suggestions and may incorporate them into my plan if appropriate.

Implementing these plans to create or improve habitat can come with challenges, including time and money, no surprise there! Weather is also a major factor and creates challenges on the timing of things so flexibility is important. I have had to push back projects a whole year or more due to inclement weather, especially flooding on areas along the Wapsi. We only have so much manpower and budgets are limited. We operate on a tight budget, so habitat restoration projects are not always at the top of the priority list when it comes to funding. For most of our larger habitat projects I seek outside sources for funding. These include grants and donations from many habitat and conservation organizations, as well as private companies. Without these resources we would not be able to complete a lot of the restoration work that we have.

In recent years we have been fortunate to have had several land acquisitions that have added acres to existing wildlife areas in Clinton County. I have really enjoyed creating and enhancing habitat in these areas because they were previously farmed, mostly pastured and a little



row crop. It's a blank slate of sorts and allows me to be creative and start from scratch. Grants such as NAWCA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife service, and Monarch Butterfly Flyways, to name a few, have been big contributors in these recent habitat restoration projects. In combination of these grants, they have funded prairie seed, trees, shrubs and herbicides to prepare the sites for planting. We have been able to use our labor by doing the work in the field as an in-kind donation and use toward our matching contribution. Monetary donations from wildlife and conservation groups may also be used as matching funds.

Planning and coordinating such projects require a lot of time spent in the office, which is not always my happy place but necessary to get to the point of where I get to go play on my "Field of Dreams." It is all worth it in the end when you see what the results yield! It is a joy to see the abundance of wildlife using these areas throughout the year or to have conversations with the public user that is telling you a success story of their visit with a smile on their face and often ends in a compliment of the area. Just the fact that people are traveling long distances to utilize what you have helped create, with the help of many others and to have so many great partners that make it all possible, shows me that we must be doing something right.



CALENDAR OF Events

Cross Country Skiing and Snowshoeing

As weather conditions allow, we will schedule some events, including beginner's clinics, at various locations throughout the county. Write to jschmidt@clintoncounty-ia.gov and place yourself on our "Adventurers" list. You will receive a short message whenever pop-up snow events are planned.

Mississippi River Eco Tourism Center & Camp Store Winter Hours ~ 8 AM to 4 PM Wednesday - Sunday. Winter Rates ~ Effective thru March 31st ~ Eden Valley Camping ~ \$15, any site ~ Rock Creek Camping ~ \$15 any site ~ Community Hall, Rock Creek ~ \$250 per day ~ Pintail Cabin, Rock Creek ~ \$100 per night ~ Cabin at Camp Miss-Elk-Ton ~ \$100 per night

January Events

1st ~ Happy New Year!

All Conservation Buildings are CLOSED

3rd ~ Happening Hawks ~ 10 AM ~ Discovery Center, Clinton

Did you know that red-tailed hawks can spot a mouse from 100 feet in the air! You and your child will be able to touch real animal artifacts and see a live red-tailed hawk!

9th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

A favorite quote to those that love the outdoors is, "there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing." So, bundle up and come every Thursday until March 13 to see what adventure Naturalist Jess wants to do! On Monday, we will post on Clinton County Conservation's Facebook page, what we are planning for that week. Depending on snowfall and ice; we might snowshoe, XC ski, ice skate, ice fish, go for a hike, go birding, etc.! This is open to any age and all children must be accompanied by an adult. We will meet inside, then we will go outside for at least an hour, but you can leave as you want or go inside to warm up. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

12th ~ Snowshoes and Cross-country Skis! ~ 10 AM – 2 PM ~ Rock Creek

This is a FREE event for those that would like an introductory level lesson on snowshoes and cross-country skis! A Naturalist will be there to teach the basics of these outdoor activities and send you on your way. This event is weather dependent with a certain amount of snow necessary. If you have any questions, please call 563-349-0956.

15th ~ Birds of Prey ~ 2:15 PM ~ Camanche Public Library

Soar on over to the library to hear all about the birds of prey we have in Iowa! We will have artifacts, live birds and a craft to go along with this program!

15th ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

Every animal has a story to tell. Nearly every Wednesday (Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 12, 19, 26, Mar. 5) we will post on Facebook the animal of the week and what we are going to do to celebrate it. The basic outline will be to share info about the animal, read a story and do a craft or coloring page, some weeks there will be an activity. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

18th ~ Owl Prowl Snowshoe ~ 5 PM ~ Rock Creek

Join a Naturalist for a nighttime snowshoe around Rock Creek Marina and Campground. We will look and listen for some of Iowa's native owl species! If there is not enough snow present, the snowshoe will turn into a



hike. Please dress appropriately for the weather. This event is free. Space is limited and registration is required. For questions or to register for this event please call Emma Jacobs at 563-847-7202.

22nd ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

Check out Facebook to find out the animal of the week, then come to find out more about the real thing using all your senses, a story and activities. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

23rd ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

27th ~ Friends of Rock Creek Meeting ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek

Interested in helping in your community? The Friends of Rock Creek is the group for you! This amazing volunteer group helps with various programs throughout the year at Rock Creek such as Winter Fun Day, Spring Fling, Turtle Sunday, Halloween in the Park and much more. For more information, email hedfors@clintoncounty-ia.gov.

29th ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

Check out Facebook to find out the animal of the week, then come to find out more about the real thing using all your senses, a story and activities. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

30th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

February Events

Hidden in Plain Sight ~ Through the second week of April

This is an interactive hiking/hide and seek game played using shed deer antlers. Rules and clues will be posted on our Facebook page and a prize will be awarded weekly. Rules and guidelines. 1. Shed antlers will be placed and clues posted on Facebook every Monday by 1 PM unless posted otherwise. 2. If not found by Friday of the week, another clue will post in the Facebook original post. 3. Shed antler must be returned to receive that week's prize. 4. Special rules may apply from week to week. Please respect the rules so the game can continue.

6th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

8th ~ Bald Eagle Watch ~ 9 AM - 2 PM ~ Clinton Community College

Join the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the 41st annual Bald Eagle Watch. There will be various educational programs throughout the day starting at 9:30 am through 2 pm. You may also visit Lock 13 in Fulton, IL between 8:30 am - 2:30 pm where representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the US Fish and Wildlife Service will be to tell you all about the Bald Eagles that congregate around the Lock and Dam system. This is a great community event for all ages!



8th ~ Clinton County Whitetails Unlimited Banquet ~ Doors open at 4:30 PM, dinner served at 6:30 PM ~ Tilted Silo, Goose Lake C-Store

Contact Jeff Beckwith for tickets, 563-249-7358.

12th ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

Check out Facebook to find out the animal of the week, then come to find out more about the real thing using all your senses, a story and activities. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.



12th ~ Reptiles and Amphibians ~ 2:15 PM ~ Camanche Library

Join a Naturalist to learn all about the "creepy crawly" critters we have around us that we may not see as often. We will have live animals and fun artifacts to check out. All ages are welcome!

13th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

19th ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

Check out Facebook to find out the animal of the week, then come to find out more about the real thing using all your senses, a story and activities. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

20th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

21st ~ Mighty Minnows ~ 10:30 AM

Discovery Center, Clinton ~ This is my FAVORITE presentation for kids! We let them play with minnows! Come listen to a book, learn a little bit about fish and then we let them discover the joy of catching fish with their bare hands!

22nd ~ Winter Fun Day ~ 10 AM - 12 PM ~ Rock Creek

We will be loaning our equipment and expertise for you and your family to ice fish, cross country skiing, snowshoe and possibly ice skating! There will also be warming fire and inside activities like crafts and live animals to continue the family fun, no matter what the weather! If there are not good snow/ice conditions, we will have other fun outdoor activities planned.

22nd ~ Freezin' for a Reason ~ Polar Plunge ~ 1 PM ~ Rock Creek

Being outside and experiencing nature is a vital component for a healthy life! The Clinton County Conservation Foundation is a non-profit that supports environmental education for the people in our area! They provide bus scholarships to schools for field trips, help fund the Blue Heron Eco Cruise, enhance our nature centers and much more! Help us support this organization and keep nature in the lives of our children and neighbors by raising money and taking the plunge! Pledge to raise \$100 to be donated to the Foundation. Registration opens January 26 call or text Jill at 563-349-8680 to sign up! Check us out on Facebook for more details!



25th ~ Friends of Rock Creek Meeting ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek

Interested in helping in your community? The Friends of Rock Creek is the group for you! This amazing volunteer group helps with various programs throughout the year at Rock Creek such as Winter Fun Day, Spring Fling, Turtle Sunday, Halloween in the Park and much more. For more information, email hedfors@clintoncounty-ia.gov.

26th ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek
Check out Facebook to find out the animal of the week, then come to find out more about the real thing using all your senses, a story and activities. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

27th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek
All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

March Events

5th ~ Animal Stories ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek
Check out Facebook to find out the animal of the week, then come to find out more about the real thing using all your senses, a story and activities. Please register by texting 563-212-0955.

6th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek
All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

8th ~ Trivia Night ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek ~ Doors open at 6 PM, Trivia starts at 7 PM
Come for a fun night of trivia to raise funds for the Friends of Rock Creek and Fishing Has No Boundaries organizations. FORC are the eyes and ears of the visitors while promoting the park through volunteering and hosting events. FHNB now hosts two fishing events at the county parks for disabled youth and adults that might not otherwise be able to fish. Register your table of 8 for \$80 or \$15 for individuals, just call or text 563-349-8680 to reserve your spot.



9th ~ Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) Practice Begins ~ 1-4 PM ~ Wapsi Valley IKES, DeWitt

Children ages 11-18 are invited to practice for the state Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) competition that is held on May 31, 2025, at Rock Creek Marina & Campground, Camanche. Competition includes shotgun, muzzleloader, .22 long rifle, archery, wildlife ID, orienteering, safety trail and laws/ethics exam. All skills are coached during practices.

12th ~ Signs of Spring ~ 2:15 PM ~ Camanche Public Library

The outdoors is slowly waking up after a long winter so let's talk about some of those things we are starting to see! We will talk all about spring and even plant some seeds for you to take home! This activity is for all ages!

13th ~ Outdoor Exploration ~ 10 AM ~ Rock Creek

All ages are invited to come explore the outdoors with different activities. Check out our Facebook page for details. Check out our Facebook page for details and please register by texting 563-212-0955.

14th ~ Clinton County Ducks Unlimited ~ 5 PM ~ Buzzy's ~ Welton
Contact Brian Huling at 563-357-8830.

17th ~ Star Lab ~ 5 PM - 7 PM ~ Rock Creek

Immerse yourself under the stars and in the warmth of the eco center for an interpretive program that will take you through the constellations, Native American stories, Greek mythology and more. This event is FREE, but you must register on mycountyparks.com ahead of time for the specific timeframe you want. Seating is limited and programs will run for 30 minutes at a time with the first one beginning at 5 PM and then every 30 minutes after until 7 PM.

25th ~ Friends of Rock Creek ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek

Interested in helping in your community? The Friends of Rock Creek is the group for you! This amazing volunteer group helps with various programs throughout the year

at Rock Creek such as Winter Fun Day, Spring Fling, Turtle Sunday, Halloween in the Park and much more. For more information, email hedfors@clintoncounty-ia.gov.

26th ~ Woodcock "Sky Dance" ~ 7:30 PM ~ Sherman Park, north entrance

We will look and listen for the courtship display and try to get up close to these unique critters! Wear long pants in case we need to go through brambles. Contact Jill Schmidt at 563-349-8680 with any questions.

28th ~ Slithering Snakes ~ 10:30 AM ~ Discovery Center, Clinton



Snakes are one of my favorite animals because they are so many peoples least favorite and most misunderstood. This presentation I bring all our snakes to show you all their different and cool adaptations, along with a story and craft.

29th ~ Cedar-Wapsi Chapter of Pheasants Forever Banquet ~ 5 PM ~ Cedar County Fairgrounds, Tipton

Contact Chip Brown at 563-357-5624.

April Events

5th ~ Clinton County Pheasants Forever Banquet ~ 5 PM ~ Millennium Ballroom, Goose Lake

Contact Brad Taylor at 563-221-1214.

12th ~ Nature Journaling Workshop ~ 10 AM - 1 PM ~ Rock Creek

Join a Naturalist and create your own hand-bound leather journal. Afterwards you can stay for a hike to look for blooming spring ephemerals and to learn journaling techniques. Lunch will not be provided, please plan accordingly. Ideal for ages 14 and up. The cost is \$25 per person. Space is limited and registration is required, visit mycountyparks.com by Monday, March 31 at 4:30pm to sign up. For questions, please call Emma Jacobs at 563-847-7202.



22nd ~ Fill A Garbage Bag ~ Earth Day Stewardship

Humans can be hard on our land and often misuse and mistreat it. Today we challenge the people of Clinton County to get out to one of our COUNTY parks and pick up those signs left behind by humans...litter. Take a picture of you with your full bag of garbage with the park sign in the background and email it to Jill at jschmidt@clintoncounty-ia.gov for your choice of one night free camping or a free paddle craft rental at Rock Creek. All entries must be submitted by the end of the day.

22nd ~ Friends of Rock Creek Meeting ~ 6 PM ~ Rock Creek

Interested in helping in your community? The Friends of Rock Creek is the group for you! This amazing volunteer group helps with various programs throughout the year at Rock Creek such as Winter Fun Day, Spring Fling, Turtle Sunday, Halloween in the Park and much more. For more information, email hedfors@clintoncounty-ia.gov.

26th ~ Spring Fling ~ 10 AM ~ Eco Center, Rock Creek

Spend the day celebrating spring! At 10 AM there will be a FREE egg hunt for ages 1-12 in and around the Eco Center. Join Naturalist Jill Schmidt and learn how to make seed bombs to take home or disperse along Iowa's landscape. At noon, the Blue Heron Eco Cruise will venture out for a spring cruise. There is limited space, registration is required. Registration for this cruise will begin Wednesday, April 23rd by calling the Eco Center at 563-259-1876. This day is always filled with fun things from crafts to live animals, celebrating spring with us at Rock Creek!

Clinton County Conservation

P.O. Box 68
2308 255th Street
Grand Mound, Iowa 52751
Phone: 563-847-7202
Email: conservation@clintoncounty-ia.gov
Web: www.mycountyparks.com

Pre-sorted STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Clinton, IA
52732
Permit No. 164

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CLINTON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Gloria Friederichsen, Grand Mound
Brian Grell, Dewitt
Jeff Beckwith, Clinton
Dan Srp, Camanche
Karen Bradway, Lost Nation

STAFF

Phil Visser, Executive Director
Tiffany Wink, Office Manger
Jill Schmidt, EE Coordinator
Jessica Steines, Interpretive Naturalist
Hannah Edfors, Interpretive Naturalist
Emma Jacobs, Interpretive Naturalist
Karri Rutenbeck, Park Supervisor, West District
Dave Schneden, Maintenance, West District
Anton Green, Maintenance, West District
Kyle Redmond, Park Supervisor, East District
Colton Jones, Park Ranger, East District
Darin Voss, Natural Resource Technician
Allen Ketelsen, Maintenance, Central
Kim Clark, Concession Manager

MAILING LIST

Clinton County residents may receive this newsletter at home, free.
Others are charged \$5 annually. "The Heron" is on our website or emailed, free of charge.

BOARD MEETINGS

The Clinton County Conservation Board meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome. The Board regularly meets the third Tuesday the month, at 6 PM, in the Conservation Office, located 1 mile south of Grand Mound at 2308 255th St. Please note, date and location may be changed.

Clinton County Conservation Board in the provision of services and facilities to the public 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 subject to such discrimination, he or she may file a complaint alleging discrimination with either the Clinton C.C.B. or the Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Dept. of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

