

Spring IAN Workshop 2022



Jackson County Conservation Board
Wednesday - Friday, March 9 - 11, 2022

Hurstville Interpretive Center
18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa



Wednesday, March 9, 2022 – Offsite and Extended Learning Sessions

Option 1: Bur Oak Land Trust Chainsaw Academy

Cost: \$30 **Time:** 9:00- 4:00pm **Category:** I,II,V **Meeting location:** Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa
Max 15 people. Bur Oak Chainsaw Academy is an educational series to teach safety and competency skills for personal chainsaw use. This level one course is a mix of in-class and field instruction and includes the following topics: chainsaw safety, site hazard analysis, chainsaw maintenance, starting a saw, and basic operation including limbing and bucking under supervision. Chainsaws will be provided.

Option 2: Birding at Green Island

Cost: FREE **Time:** 12:00- 4:00pm **Category:** I,II **Meeting location:** Green Island Wildlife Management Area; located between Bellevue & Sabula. Follow Hwy 52 to Green Island, turn east on Green Island Road. To carpool or caravan, meet at Hurstville Interpretive Center at 11:15 AM.

We will take a birding excursion to the Green Island Wildlife Management Area, a premier birding destination in Eastern Iowa. This large wetland and woodland complex is adjacent to the Mississippi River and hosts many migratory birds. We hope to see many species of waterfowl and other water birds. Lead by Kelly McKay, Director of BioEco Research & Monitoring Center and Mark Roberts of Clinton County Conservation.

Option 3: Rock Wrapping

Cost: \$20 **Time:** 1:00- 4:00pm **Category:** I, II **Meeting location:** Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa

Max 20 people. Learn two patterns of rock wrapping, using a variety of materials from Angi Reid, Director of Education at Waterloo Center for the Arts. After this class, you'll have enough experience to teach a similar class at your nature center. If you have a special rock, feel free to bring it.



Wednesday Evening Social

Maquoketa Brewing, 110 S Main St Suite A, Maquoketa

5:30—8:30 pm

Social time with fellow naturalists! Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be provided courtesy Friends of Jackson County Conservation. Drinks can be purchased on site. Bring an instrument, bring a story, come and share.



Participants can register online at <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>

Thursday, March 10, 2022 - Sessions at Hurstville Interpretive Center, 18670 63rd Street, Maquoketa

6:00 - 10:00 am Breakfast at hotel or on own

8:00 - 8:45 am Registration

8:45 - 9:15 am Welcome, Announcements, & Introductions

9:30 - 10:30 am Concurrent Sessions

1. *Living in a World of Wounds*

Presenter: Mike Havlik, Naturalist, Dallas County Conservation

Category: I,III,IV **Room:** Downstairs

As naturalists we spend our time with children and adults in the outdoors teaching, exploring, and celebrating nature. Conversely, we are surrounded by the emotional distress of knowing and living with environmental degradation. I have spent the last year interviewing elders in our profession and asking them candid questions about how they dealt with short and long term trauma. I will share their words of wisdom with the intentions of stimulating conversations among participants.

2. *Media Matters: Crafting Compelling Stories for Local Media*

Presenter: Sara Millhouse, News Editor, Big River Magazine

Category: II,III,IV **Room:** Upstairs

Many of you already have great relationships with local media, but are there ways you can share outdoor education and conservation stories even more effectively? In this session, you'll learn about different types of writing for local newspapers and publications, as well as tips and tricks to strengthen your writing and photography and better engage with the public through media. I'll provide handouts for future reference, and we'll brainstorm some real-life scenarios. Be ready to share ideas you want to promote or roadblocks you face, and be prepared to practice your skills!

10:30 – 11:00 am Break & Group photo (bring snacks to share)

11:00 – 12:00 pm Concurrent Sessions

1. *Decolonizing and diversifying natural resources education: experiences at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach*

Presenters: Adam Janke, Assistant Professor and Wildlife Extension Specialist, Iowa State University; Julia Baker, Natural Resources Program Specialist, Iowa State University

Category: I, II **Room:** Downstairs

Nature, and nature-based education, must resonate with and hold meaning for all people. In this presentation, we will share the experiences of one small group of educators and scholars to realize this ideal through listening and learning and incrementally improving educational materials and programs to live up to the standards for diversity and inclusion set in nature, among the people we serve.

2. *Fishing Has No Boundaries*

Presenter: Jill Schmidt, Naturalist, Clinton County Conservation

Category: I, II, V **Room:** Upstairs

Fishing Has No Boundaries®, Inc. (FHNB) is a non-profit 501-C3 organization whose goal is to open up the great outdoors for people with disabilities through the world of fishing. FHNB has grown into a national organization with 27 chapters in 13 states, enabling thousands of individuals with disabilities to participate fully in this spirit-lifting, morale-boosting, trouble-free recreational activity. The Eastern Iowa Chapter is the only chapter located in Iowa; we are hoping to expand this amazing opportunity to other parts of the state! We will take a closer look at how to get started, how this event can evolve and be an amazing addition to your education program.

12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch \$13 per person

Buffet style: roast beef, baked chicken, baked potato, green beans, baked beans, coleslaw, Oreo fluff. **If you have special dietary needs, contact Jen Meyer at jen@jacksonccb.com or (563) 652-3783.**

12:45 – 2:15 pm Concurrent Session

1. *Outdoor Session: Forestry Walk - It's Okay to Harvest Trees*

Presenter: Kevin Oetken, Owner of Woodland Forestry LLC

Category: I, II **Location:** *Blackhawk Wildlife Area, go to end of road - 138th Ave, Maquoketa*

Timber areas in Jackson County have been managed for over 35 years with multiple timber harvest, thinning, replanting and invasive species control. We have multiple age classes of trees that range from 1 year to 150 year old stands of trees. This has created exceptional wildlife habitats that are needed by many species. Yes we have young brushy areas. Join Forester Kevin Oetken as we walk through Blackhawk Wildlife Area and learn the forest management history of this wildlife area.

1:00 – 2:00 pm Concurrent Session

1. *Shining a Light on Iowa's Bats | Iowa's Acoustic Bat Monitoring Survey*

Presenter: Stephanie Shepherd, Wildlife Diversity Biologist, Iowa DNR

Category: I, II, V **Room:** Downstairs

North American bats are currently facing a number of threats. All but two of Iowa's nine species of bat are being discussed on the international scale as needing conservation intervention but how are those species faring within the borders of the state? Since 2013, Iowa State University and the Iowa DNR have been conducting acoustic surveys for bats in select locations around the state. The acoustic technology allows us to collect data on the state's bat populations with minimal disturbance to the bats and is shedding some light on how our populations are doing under the onslaught of White-nose Syndrome, wind energy development and other threats.

2. *Identification and Protection of High Quality Natural Areas*

Presenter: Ray Hamilton

Category: I, II, III **Room:** Upstairs

Ray Hamilton has cultivated a wealth of ecological knowledge and land management experience during his career. Besides being a medical doctor, Ray has spent the past 35 years identifying and restoring natural areas, including his Codfish Hollow Prairie. A beautiful private prairie reserve with a mixture of remnant and replanted prairie. Ray was a Jackson County Conservation Board Member and was instrumental in acquiring many of JCCB's properties.

2:00– 2:30 pm Break & Travel for outdoor sessions

2:30 – 4:00 pm Concurrent Session

1. *Outdoor Session: Naturalist Skills Course*

Presenter: Tony Vorwald, Naturalist, Jackson County Conservation

Category: I, II, III, V **Location:** *Prairie Creek Recreation Area, 1215 East Summit Street, Maquoketa*

Naturalists have a diverse set of natural history and outdoor recreation skills. Now it is time to put those skills to the test. Naturalists will traverse the rolling hills of Prairie Creek Recreation Area in a skills challenge course that will demonstrate their "natural" abilities. Challenges may include archery, atlats, natural history trivia. Naturalists can compete in teams or as individuals. Winners will receive the "Most Rad Naturalist" award along with bragging rights. If you wish to compete there will be a sign up sheet at the registration table. Observers are welcome!

2. *Cultivating a Volunteer Led Citizen Science Program: Bumblebee Surveys*

Presenter: Jessica Carryer, Outreach and Education Director, Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation

Category: I,II **Room:** Downstairs

Hear the story of how a group of eager volunteers joined together to search for the elusive rusty patched bumblebee, kick starting a citizen science program led completely by volunteers.

4:30 – 6:00 pm IAN Business Meeting - Downstairs Hurstville Center

6:00 pm – Dinner \$13 per person. IAN/ICEC Award Ceremony to follow

Buffet Style: pork loin, chicken breast, hashbrown casserole, California blend vegetables, pasta salad, fruit salad, assorted desserts. **If you have special dietary needs, contact Jen Meyer at jen@jacksonccb.com or (563) 652-3783.**

Friday, March 11, 2022 - All Sessions at AmericInn 1910 Nairn Drive, Maquoketa

6:00 – 10:00 am Breakfast at hotel or on own

8:30 – 9:30 am Concurrent Session

1. Turtle Rescue and Captive Care

Presenter: Mark Beshel, Assistant Curator of Living Things, National Mississippi River Museum

Category: I, II, III, V **Room:** AmericInn—Banquet Hall—Room A

Turtles often find themselves in need of assistance; vehicle-strikes, fishing hooks, and other injuries sustained from human interactions often lead to medical rehabilitation for our shelled friends. Find out what some of this rehabilitation looks like!

2. Communicating Science with Stories

Presenter: Dr. Dale H. Easley, Professor of Environmental Science, University of Dubuque. Co-presenter Josh Chamberland, Stewardship and Sustainability Coordinator for University of Dubuque

Category: I, II, III **Room:** AmericInn—Banquet Hall—Room B

Niles Eldredge said, "Scientists tend to react in horror to the suggestion that their results can be rendered as mere stories. But what's wrong...with good writing?" Dale Easley, a geologist, has taught evolution in the South, climate change in the Midwest, and water resources in the Mideast. In all places, stories have served as inroads to conversations. If you come to this session, bring with you an idea of a good story to work on shaping and sharing.

9:30 – 9:45 am Break

9:45 – 11:00 am – General Session

Rafting the Mississippi River to Hawaii: an Adventure Across our Synthetic Seas

Presenter: Marcus Eriksen, PhD. Executive Director of Leap Lab

Category: I,II,III **Room:** AmericInn—Banquet Hall—Rooms A&B

A decade of research on plastics in the world's oceans began in Lake Itasca, MN at the headwaters of the Mississippi River. The five-month drift to the Gulf of Mexico launched the 5 Gyres Institute, co-founded by Marcus Eriksen and his wife, to research the plastic pollution problem and advocate for solutions; i.e., their discovery of plastic microbeads in the Great Lakes led to the 2015 Microbead-Free Waters Act. He and his team launched another 20 research expeditions across all oceans beginning with a voyage to Hawaii aboard JUNK, a raft made from 15K plastic bottles and an airplane fuselage. The interplay of novel science, corporate engagement, policy, media and public perception tells a story of discovery, despair, hard work and a few wins, leaving them with more hope now than when they started.



11:00 – 11:15am –Break

11:15—12:00 pm Concurrent Session

1. Connecting Injured Wildlife with Rehabilitators

Presenter: Gayla, Wapsi River Wildlife Rehabilitation Project

Category: I, II,V **Room:** AmericInn—Banquet Hall—Room A

Naturalists often get calls and notifications about injured animals. Often, though not a part of their job description, naturalists try to get injured animals some help. With the help of a wildlife rehabber find out the best practices to connect injured animals to wildlife rehabbers.

2. University of Dubuque Environmental Science Student Research Showcase

Presenter: Dr. Adam Hoffman, Department Head of the Department of Natural and Applied Science, University of Dubuque. Co-Presenters UD Environmental Science Students.

Category: I, II **Room:** AmericInn—Banquet Hall—Room B

University of Dubuque environmental science students have a lot of research and research opportunities for their undergraduate students. Dr. Adam Hoffman will introduce UD's students and what is going on currently with their environmental science research. Research topics include ticks/lymes disease, climate change data, and snakes.

12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch \$9 per person / Depart

Build your own sandwich and salad bar. **If you have special dietary needs, contact Jen Meyer at jen@jacksonccb.com.**

Early Registration closes February 11th

Standard Member: \$25

Non Member: \$45 (Includes membership with registration)

Early Registration closes February 11th. Late Registration will be charged a \$25 late fee. Registration will be closed February 16th.



Professional Development Categories

Category I - Knowledge of Natural Resources

Category II - Program Development and Educational Skills

Category III - Communication Skills

Category IV - Administrative Skills

Category V - Other Certification/Training

The Professional Development Program is designed to recognize IAN Naturalists that attend workshops and educational opportunities on a regular basis to make themselves better at their profession. Certificates are awarded annually to naturalists completing the required continuing education.

The first five categories are based on the major areas of the Professional Standards for Interpretive Naturalist as defined by the Iowa Association of Naturalists. Professional Service is the sixth category. The applicant must earn 20 contact hours total per year. Ways to earn these hours include attending seminars, correspondence courses, workshops, regular college courses and independent study. Independent study must be documented with a brief written explanation. Applicants should show how the knowledge gained was used in their work and how it relates to the Professional Standards. Each independent study project is worth one hour. A maximum of four hours may be applied to any of the first four categories.



Questions????

Brianne Blom - bblom@claycounty.iowa.gov

Cell 712-898-9674



Lodging in Maquoketa

AmericInn by Wyndham

1910 Nairn Drive, Maquoketa, Iowa

Rate per night (tax not included): \$79

Call to Reserve: (563) 652-0222

Block rooms under “Iowa Association of Naturalists”

****Book a room by February 9**



Decker House Hotel

128 N Main Street, Maquoketa, Iowa

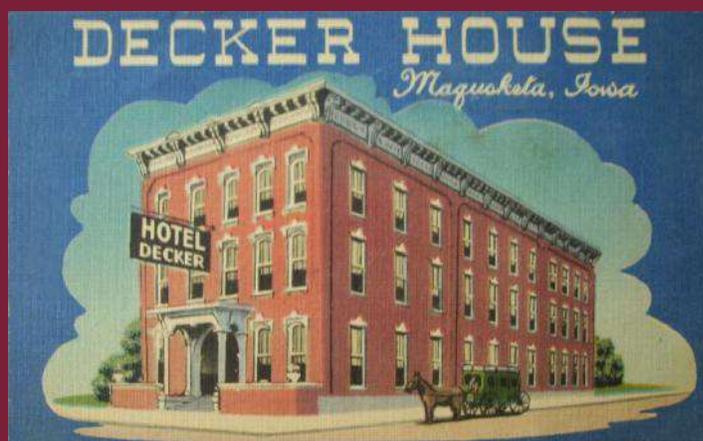
\$89 single bed: \$99 single queen, \$99

2 beds queen & full, \$159 single king

Call to Reserve: (563) 652-1875

Block rooms under “Iowa Association of Naturalists”

****Book a room by February 15**



*****New legislation requires that all hotel/motel taxes be paid by government agencies*****

Don't forget reusable dinnerware, water bottle and coffee mug!

If you're planning on staying at AmericInn

Book a room by February 9th to secure the IAN rate!!

Participants can register online at <https://www.mycountyparks.com/Org-Event/Default.aspx>