



Up and Down the River

JACKSON COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD SPRING 2017

Your Ash Could Be Next

By: Emily Highnam, Naturalist

As of February 2017, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been confirmed in Jackson County, joining over 40 other counties throughout the state. Considered to be the most destructive forest pest ever seen in North America, this invasive insect has the potential to cause serious havoc on ash trees throughout the region.



Emerald Ash Borer Detections in Iowa



What makes the Emerald Ash Borer so destructive?

This Asian beetle was introduced to the United States in the 1990s and has few predators and control mechanisms in the US. The female lays eggs on the bark of ash trees, then hatched larvae burrow through the bark to the nutrient-rich phloem, where they eat enough to cause irreversible damage to the tree. Then the borers pupate and hatch into their adult form (May-June) when they chew exit holes and emerge from the tree. Adults eat ash leaves and can fly half a mile.

How do I know if my ash trees are infected?

There are several symptoms to look for on your ash tree.

Because the larvae prevent nutrient movement in the tree, you will see canopy die back, usually from the top-down. Other symptoms you may see include D-shaped exit holes, increased woodpecker activity, and new shoot growth near the base of the tree. The EAB found in Jackson County was spotted by bark flaking from woodpecker activity. S-shaped lines will be apparent on the sapwood under the bark. Once symptoms are displayed, the tree usually dies in 2-3 years.

What can I do to protect my ash trees?

There are insecticides that can be applied to both the soil and trunk of an ash. Biological control by predator introduction is also going through experimentation. Visit ISU extension site listed below for more information. Now is an excellent time to plant other tree varieties in your yard.

How do these beetles spread so rapidly?

Because larvae and pupae reside in the inner layers of ash trees, they can remain viable even if the tree is cut down. Firewood transport is a main source of introduction for the borer. The state of Iowa is under a firewood quarantine, and by law, firewood cannot be moved in or out of the state. Travel county to county is permitted, but not recommended and often not allowed at certain parks. **Buy it where you burn it** is the EAB prevention mantra.

For more information:

www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Forest-Health/Emerald-Ash-Borer

www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/emeraldashborer.html

www.emeraldashborer.info

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/Emerald-Ash-Borer-Management-Options>

Identifying Ash Tree by Leaves



Paired
Leaflets

5-11 leaf-
lets per leaf

Smooth
or fine
"teeth"

Summer Fun is Just a Click Away!

Reserve campsites at Spruce Creek Park and South Sabula Lake at your convenience. Our online system will allow you to see pictures of the campsite, a map, amenities and campsite availability before you reserve. Reservations can be placed up to a year in advance! Reserve a site and find more information at:

JacksonCCB.com—click on the Facilities tab



Campgrounds Opening Soon!

Spruce Creek & South Sabula Lake Parks will open Friday, March 31 for the 2017 camping season. Water will be turned on April 15. Dates are dependent on weather and water levels.

Coupon books are available for purchase. They include 7 nights of camping, a \$119 value, for only **\$99!** That's a \$20 savings. Purchase at the Hurstville Center or from the campground hosts. Not available for online reservation use.

Summer Camp Registration Now Open!

Registration available online, at the Hurstville Center and by mail. Registration first come first serve. Explorer Camp (Kdg-1st) July 11,12,13; Ranger Camp (2nd-4th) July 18,19,20; Adventure Camp (5th-8th) June 13,14,15. NEW: Yellow River Backpacking Trip, 13-18 year olds spend 2 nights/3 days backpacking and camping in NE Iowa July 25-27. Registration forms and more info is available online.

'WISE' bill introduced to address the Trust Fund

A bill was introduced in the Iowa House of Representatives in mid-March that would start funding the Natural Resource and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. "WISE Solution" (Water, Infrastructure, Soil for our Economy), #HF597

KEY PROVISIONS OF THE BILL:

- ◇ Zero net increase in taxes — Phased 3/8 cent sales tax increase for the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund is offset by an adjustment to the income tax filing threshold.
- ◇ This proposal provides a dedicated funding source for other concepts advanced in legislation this year and the water quality bill passed by the Iowa House in 2016.
- ◇ Permanent, reliable, sufficient, and constitutionally protected funding that will direct a minimum of 60% of trust fund dollars to proven water quality solutions outlined in Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy.
- ◇ The proposed legislation will achieve the required \$4 billion in funding needs identified by Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy to achieve a 45% reduction in nutrient runoff by 2030.
- ◇ Includes language clarifying that Trust Fund dollars will be subject to annual audits, all practices must be voluntary and non-regulatory, and no funds can be used for eminent domain or condemning property.
- ◇ Only approach to funding water quality that has been vetted by Iowans. 63% of Iowans supported creating the trust fund in 2010.

POLLING APPROVED: A recent Des Moines Register Iowa Poll showed 56% of Iowans support increasing the sales tax by 3/8ths of a cent to fund the trust fund (this includes 67% of Iowans under 35). Additionally, polling by Public Opinion Strategies shows 73% of Iowans support a revenue neutral approach to funding the trust fund.

WHAT IS THE TRUST FUND?

The Natural Resource and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund aka Sustainable Funding or Trust Fund is a fund that will be used to provide sustainable funding for natural resources, including cleaner water, sustainable agriculture and soils, and healthy outdoor related opportunities. Legislators deemed a dedicated funding source should be established to address Iowa's natural resource needs and that the people of Iowa should have a voice on this issue. In November 2010, the people of Iowa chose to amend Iowa's Constitution and create the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund. The next 3/8 of a cent sales tax increase would go to the Trust Fund.

For more information about the Trust Fund, visit www.iowaswaterandlandlegacy.org or www.iowadnr.gov/About-DNR/Grants-Other-Funding/Natural-Resources-Rec-Trust



Spring Events

April

Woodcock Walk

Friday, April 7 at 7:00 pm

Whitewater Canyon

The woodcock mating ritual is truly a remarkable sight. This small, camouflage, timber nesting bird has a few strange attributes and will amaze hikers with its aerial acrobat moves! Dress for the weather and be prepared to hike up to 1 mile. Park is located 5 miles NE of Cascade off Curoe Road.



Classic Firearms

Sunday, April 9 at 2:00 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Learn about classic firearms from Randy Turner of Maquoketa. Randy will share examples of firearms and other items that were used in early settlement time through the mid 1900's. A Civil War soldier's firearm, a Wells Fargo padlock that helped protect the valuable cargo on the six-horse stagecoach, and a "bankers pistol" will be some of the featured items during the program. This is not an open firearms show. **Firearms other than those that are part of the presentation are not allowed on the premises.**

Friends of JCC Quarterly Business Meeting

Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join Friends for their spring meeting and learn more about how to become involved. Help make decisions about exhibits, special projects, and environmental education. Bring a friend! **Potluck at 6:30-** Bring a dish to share; drinks and table service provided.

Tree Planting

Friday, April 14 from 9:00-Noon

Pine Valley Wildlife Area

JCCB staff will be manually planting trees in an area of Pine Valley affected by the 2014 wind storm and volunteers are needed. Labor will be rigorous; proper foot ware/attire is important. Bring mesh bag for morels if desired.



Egg Eggstravaganza

Friday, April 14 at 10:00 am

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join us on this no school day for spring fun, including an egg scavenger hunt and egg dyeing with natural pigments!

Nature Tales: Chickens Aren't the Only Ones

Friday, April 21 at 10:00 am

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Preschool age children and a guardian are invited to join us for our nature tales programs. Learn more about eggs and animals that lay them through stories, games and activities.

Hazardous Waste Collection—Earth Day Cleanup!

Saturday, April 22 from 9:00-11:00 am

Mitchell Maskrey, Downtown Maquoketa

Not sure what to do with hazardous waste materials like paint thinners and pesticides? Do you have scrap metal laying around? Do you have unwanted or unusable crayons and markers? Bring them downtown to be recycled as part of a joint effort between Jackson County Conservation, Imagine the Possibilities, Waste Authority of Jackson County, and Jackson County Historical Society. The event will also feature kid- friendly recycling games and education!

Spring Wildflower Walk

Saturday, April 22 at 9:30 am

Maquoketa Caves State Park

Join Naturalist Emily Highnam for a wildflower walk during the pancake breakfast at the park. Meet at the natural bridge at either time for a fun 30 minute hike to learn to identify our spring woodland wildflowers and a few wild edibles too!



Astronomy Night

Saturday, April 22 from 8:30-10:30 pm

Hurstville Interpretive Center

Learn on the Night of the Lyrids, a meteor shower on Earth Day! We'll have a giant inflatable planetarium called Starlab and a star gazing station set up outside for optimal meteor viewing!

Garlic Grab

Friday, April 28 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Prairie Creek Recreation Area

Get outdoors this Earth Day and help clear invasive garlic mustard at a local park. Door prizes will be awarded, including free night of camping! Meet at the north parking lot on 223rd Ave. Garbage bags and refreshments will be provided. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants and gloves. All ages welcome!

Beavers on Buck Creek

Saturday, April 29 at 9:30 am

Private Land—155th Ave, Jackson County

Get a chance to explore private land, owned by Friends member Dave Gossman. This property is loaded with flora and fauna coming back to life after a long winter. From Maquoketa, take 61 north, E17 west and 155th Ave north - there is parking in the field right off that intersection and we will hike from there north along Buck Creek to see the beavers. Wear appropriate clothing and hiking boots.



Forage and Float—OWL event

Tuesday, May 2 from 9:00 am—1:00 pm

Mines of Spain in Dubuque

Expand your edible plant knowledge with the OWL group (older wiser livelier adults). We'll hike and learn to identify various edible plants and collect some to try with lunch. Paddle Catfish Creek and return to a foraged feast, ready to taste. Cost: \$6. Carpooling available from Hurstville.

Beeswax Workshop
Friday, May 12 from 5:30—7:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Beeswax has been used by humans for thousands of years. Learn more about this natural resource, how honey bees produce it, methods of harvesting and ways it can be used. Participants will have fun making candles, salve and lip balm to take home. Cost \$10. Registration required by May 8.

Rain Barrel Workshop
Saturday, May 20 at 1:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center



Rain barrels collect rainwater and save the water for future use, plus by storing the rain water, you are reducing storm water runoff. All materials and instruction will be provided at this workshop to build a 55-gallon rain barrel. Cost is \$40. Registration and payment required by May 10.

Free Fishing Clinic
Saturday, June 3 from 9:00-11:00 am
Hurstville Fishing Pond



All ages are welcome to learn fishing basics at this clinic. Practice casting, learn to tie a fisherman's knot and more. Then head to the pond to see if you can catch the biggest fish. Lots of door prizes! Free event. *Sponsored by Family Dollar!*

Marsh Exploration
Sunday, June 11 at 2:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Join a naturalist in exploring the Hurstville Marsh! Nets, buckets and binoculars will aid us in discovering what's living here. Have fun catching frogs, bugs and identifying birds and other wildlife we see or find signs of. All ages welcome. Plan to get wet!



Flowers of the Prairie
Saturday, June 24 at 1:00 pm
Hurstville Interpretive Center

Learn more about prairie wildflowers, how to identify them and what medicinal and food uses they served for the pioneers and Native Americans from Danuta Hutchins of Storm Lake. Following the indoor presentation, Danuta will take us outside for a "hands-on" activity of drawing/coloring images of the flowers we learned about and the flowers blooming on the Hurstville Prairie. Come for either the indoor or outdoor component or both! This program is sponsored by the Humanities Iowa Speakers Bureau and Friends of Jackson County Conservation.

Register for an Event

Some programs require pre-registration. To sign up for a program, email jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com, call (563) 652-3783, or register online.

www.mycountyparks.com/county/Jackson/Events.aspx

Cost

Programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted. Donations are accepted and appreciated!

Earth Day Clean Up
Saturday, April 22

9:00—11:00 am

**Maquoketa Downtown Green Space,
Mitchell Maskrey Parking Lot
Corner of Olive and Pleasant**

We will be accepting: Common Household Hazardous Waste Materials, Metal, Crayons/Markers

Hazardous Waste Materials:

- ⇒ Household Cleaners: such as drain cleaners, floor and furniture polishes, etc.
- ⇒ Automotive Products: gasoline, cleaners and wax, brake fluid, and body putty, etc.
- ⇒ Home Improvement: oil-based paint, stains, varnish, adhesives, etc.
- ⇒ Pesticides: insect repellants, weed killers, moth balls, mouse poison, various garden products, etc.
- ⇒ Miscellaneous: pool chemicals, photo chemicals, artist paints, etc.

Metal

- ⇒ Scrap metal, iron, copper, steel, aluminum, brass, iron, wires
- ⇒ Will be given to the Jackson County Historical Society as part of their scrap metal collection

Crayons/Markers

- ⇒ Recycle your old, broken or unwanted crayons and markers. Any brand, any condition. Leave paper on crayons and lids on markers.
- ⇒ Markers will be recycled into fuel and crayons into new crayons and fire starters.

Used crayons and markers are also being accepted at the Hurstville Interpretive Center all spring. Clean out your drawers and bring them in to be recycled!

Items not being accepted include: motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, latex paint, electronics, light bulbs, batteries, tires, medical sharps, large quantities of materials from business or industry, clothing, housewares, general trash and recycling, but are welcome at the Transfer Station at 25146 184th Street Maquoketa, Iowa 52060



Rockwell
Cleanup



Clinton County Area
Solid Waste Agency



Friends of Jackson County Conservation

Great Give Day

Thursday, May 11

www.GreatGiveDay.org



The Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque presents the fourth annual Great Give Day. This 24-hour online giving day inspires community members to come together to celebrate and raise dollars for local nonprofits, including Friends of Jackson County Conservation.

Every gift made on **Thursday, May 11, 2017** will go directly to the nonprofit of your choice, helping them to qualify for additional match dollars and prizes.

We appreciate any and all gifts to the Friends of Jackson County Conservation Endowment Fund!

Two Options on Great Give Day

- ⇒ Donate to Friends of Jackson Co. Conservation and the money goes to the Endowment Fund
- ⇒ Donate to Grant Wood Loop and designate your contribution to the Prairie Creek Pavilion or other Jackson County park project

Friends Endowment Fund Update: As of January 2017, Friends has grown their endowment to over \$30,000. The endowment will ensure the group will continue their mission of providing outdoor recreation and education opportunities in Jackson County well into the future.

Endow Iowa Tax Credits

Those who give \$50 or more to a permanently endowed fund at a qualified community foundation are eligible to receive 25% tax credits for their gifts. (Includes Friends) www.dbqfoundation.org/EndowIowa

**Next Friends Meeting is
Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 pm**
Potluck at 6:30 pm—All are welcome!

Prairie Creek Pavilion

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution to this fundraising campaign!

**We are truly thankful for
all your support!**

**We're almost there. Help us raise the last
10% so we can break ground this summer.**

Ways to Give:

- ⇒ Donate on Great Give Day
- ⇒ Send a check to Friends JCC 18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, IA 52060
- ⇒ Submit a donation on our website
- ⇒ Make a pledge

We are excited to be assisting the conservation department in improving access at Prairie Creek. With the pavilion, more groups will be able to utilize the park, including schools and the community.

Bus scholarships awarded

Thanks to the Friends of Jackson County Conservation bus scholarship fund for area schools, more classes are able to engage in outdoor, nature oriented field studies. This spring, our naturalists will be providing a Geology Field Day at Eden Valley with Bellevue 5th graders! Past recipients of the bus scholarship include: Cardinal Elementary, Marquette Bellevue, Maquoketa Middle School and Bernard Elementary.

Membership Renewal Reminder

If you haven't renewed your 2017 membership, do so now! Membership has been changed to a calendar year, Jan-Dec. Membership forms are available on our website and at the Center. Or simply mail a check to Friends JCC 18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, IA 52060 with membership in the memo line. Student: \$5, Senior Citizen: \$5, Regular: \$10, Family: \$20, Sustaining: \$50, Life: \$500

Winter Activities with Jackson County Conservation



Preschoolers built hibernation dens as part of the Nature Tales program in December while learning about how animals survive the winter.

Kids and adults alike enjoyed ice fishing, fire building, ice skating and more at our winter youth outdoor skills day!

Bellevue after school kids had fun cracking open geodes while learning about rocks and geology.



During the winter overnight camp, youth had fun learning about river systems through our hands on stream table.



Kid's corner

Spring is the time when wildlife have young. See if you can match the wildlife baby on the left with its name and its parent.



Cygnets



Poult



Pup



Kit



SPRING scavenger hunt



bird nest ladybug

worm grass

bunny moss sunshine

feather frog dandelion

spider web ants green leaf

clouds ball fruit tree

puddle lady bug

yellow flower sprinkler

a stick



A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Jackson County Conservation would like to thank and acknowledge the following individuals, organizations and businesses for their continued support and donations. With your help, we have been able to do so much more!!!

Volunteered for JCCB—Kathi Atkinson, Wendy Hainstock, Chloe Swanson, Sean Swanson, Denise Swanson, Jeff Swanson, Bob Walton, Jennie Wilcox, Gene Jones, Kylee Stanton, Alice Gilmore, Karen Manning, Ann Burns, Dave Gossman, Sandy Walton, Mary Nevans Pederson, Clayton Pederson, Rowan Meyer, Arabella Wagner, David Manning, Gary Purtilo, Chris Tubbs, Karen Krueger, Sam Conner, Marc Solano, Ben Hokschi, David Shealer, Randy Johnson, Ira Johnson

Donations—Maquoketa Web Printing (cut cardstock), Becker Vet Clinic (animal care), Braydenn Werden (turtle shells), Marvin & Lori Massey (Hurstville memorabilia), Aaron Askelson (swan drawing), Daryl Swanson (bird houses)

Cash Donations—Whitetails Unlimited Maquoketa Chapter, Dr. Peter Crane, John & Barb McCray, Phyllis Nissen, Craig & Wendy Winegar, Bill & Bonnie Schwenker, Steve & Chris Tubbs, Alan & Myrna Tubbs, Duane & Mary Stickley, Michelle Maze Hughes, Megan Andresen, Kevin & Ann Burns, Thomas & Judie Moore, Brian & Deanna Tabor, Ray & Chris Johnson, Trevis & Nancy Mayfield, Carol & Clifford Rask, Richard & Nancy Ruggier, Lynn Bryant, Chris & Connie Domeyer, D.W. Yanda, Izaak Walton League Maquoketa Chapter, David & Susan Gossman, Lin Redling, David & Julie Veach, Mr. & Mrs. Ian Gutterman, Tom & Carol Breuch, Friends of the Caves

Donations for Fundraiser Events—Kathi Atkinson, Pam True, Jeannie Hoesley, Jo Ellen Langerman, Kim Jochum, Vanessa Huffman, Denise Swanson, Chris Tubbs, Sarah Hobbs, Jennie Wilcox, Clayton Pederson, Mary Hayward, Julie Reuter, Emily Highnam, Jen Meyer, Karen Manning, Ben Wagner, Jess Wagner, Decker Hotel, Chris Cornelius, Barb McCray, Family Dollar, Keith Diltz, Mary Nevans Pederson

Thank you everyone that has made a donation for the Prairie Creek Pavilion! This year long fundraising campaign is nearing an end. We are so thankful for all of your support!!

Jackson County Conservation

Conservation Board Members

Randy Bender, Chair	Bellevue	563/872-5953
Kathy Wosoba	Monmouth	563/673-4551
Larry McDevitt	Maquoketa	319/541-6357
Don Yanda	Maquoketa	563/652-2706
Kathi Atkinson	Sabula	563/343-5888

The Jackson County Conservation Board meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm.

Address & Contact Information

18670 63rd Street Maquoketa, IA 52060

Phone: (563) 652-3783

Fax: (563) 652-2191

Spruce Creek Shop (563) 872-3621

E-mail jacksonccb@jacksonccb.com

www.JacksonCCB.com

www.MyCountyParks.com/County/Jackson.aspx

www.facebook.com/HurstvilleInterpretiveCenter

Conservation Staff

Daryl Parker	Executive Director
Jessica Wagner	Environmental Ed. Coordinator
Ryan Owen	Park Ranger
Jeannie Collins-Heer	Park Ranger
Jerry Widel	Operation Technician
Pam True	Office Manager
Jennifer Meyer	Naturalist
Emily Highnam	Naturalist

Thank you 2017 Animal Sponsors!

With your help, we are able to have live animals as part of our environmental education programming!

Sybesma Eye & Vision Center—Trumpeter Swans

John & Jeanne Hoesley—Milk Snake

Robert & Beth Melvold—Black Rat Snake

Bill & Bonnie Schwenker—Box Turtle (Roxie)

Chris & Vicki Meinecke—Box Turtle (Ornate)

Bob & Deb Lane—Box Turtle (Angie)

Beth Norpel—Hissing Cockroaches

An anonymous donation was made for the swans also!

Donations made in memory of/or in honor of:

In memory of Don Nissen

In honor of Anney Schiffer

In memory of Virginette Domeyer

In memory of LeRoy Ehlers



Hurstville Interpretive Center

Offices for Jackson County Conservation

Hours

Weekdays 9:00 am—4:00 pm

Weekends April-October 12:00—5:00 pm

Outdoor Area is open 6:00am—10:30 pm

No Admission Fee!



Holidays:

Closed Easter weekend April 15-16

OPEN Memorial Day, Independence Day

We reopen for weekends on April 1

What can I do at the Hurstville Nature Area?

- ♦ Walk the trails and explore the prairie and marsh.
- ♦ Check out the exhibits
- ♦ Find the queen bee in the observation hive
- ♦ Hold a snake; touch a turtle
- ♦ Go fishing at the pond
- ♦ View the trumpeter swans
- ♦ Play on the natural playscape and wade in the pond
- ♦ Bring a picnic lunch and spend the day!
- ♦ And much more.....



Geocaching Bird Safari

Explore Jackson County's parks this summer!

Safari continues due to popularity!

Using GPS, find the 12 geocaches hidden at county parks while learning about Iowa's birds! Collect the code word from each geocache. Turn in the completed journal to the Hurstville Interpretive Center to receive a pathtag.

Journals available from the Hurstville Center or download from our website www.mycountyparks.com/county/Jackson/News/1074/Geocache-Safari.aspx



Pathtag

Nature Day Camps

At the Hurstville Interpretive Center

Adventure Camp

for youth entering 5th-8th grade; \$35

June 13, 14, 15 from 9:00-3:00 each day

Ranger Camp

for youth entering 2nd-4th grade; \$35

July 11, 12, 13 from 9:00-2:00 each day

Explorer Camp

for youth entering Kdg & 1st grade; \$35

July 18, 19, 20 from 9:00-2:00 each day.

Maquoketa Art Experience will offer 1 hour of art instruction each day at Explorer & Ranger Camps! Thanks to a donation from the Maquoketa Optimist, scholarships are available for our all our camps.

Please talk to a staff member. Thanks Optimists!

NEW CAMP!

Yellow River Backpacking Trip

July 25-27 3 days/2 nights

Do you know a youth who is energetic and craving outdoor adventure? Clinton, Jackson and Dubuque Counties are hosting a backpacking trip to Yellow River State Forest in NE Iowa. Youth ages 13-18 are invited to apply to join our trek. Applications available at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. Pre-trip meeting attendance required July 17th. Registration required by July 7th.

Registration for camps available online or at the Hurstville Interpretive Center. JacksonCCB.com

New Website Promotes Area Attractions

GWLoop.com

Search by Attractions or Experiences, Maps included

The Grant Wood Loop encompasses Dubuque, Jackson, and Jones Counties. Our natural resources and thriving arts and culture community provide a perfect canvas for investing in our people, parks, and future. These places offer the kind of experience that give residents and visitors alike the opportunity to connect with the outdoors, to friends and family, and create forever memories.

Check out this new website to see what our tri-county area has to offer!