

*A NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BREMER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD*

Spring 2017 Edition

*Another Phase in Life  
For Frank Frederick*

Frank has worked nearly 36 years as a director in 3 different Iowa counties. The last 27 years were in Bremer County. He grew up in SW Iowa and went to school at the University of Missouri. He has been married to his wife Beth for 34 years and they have a son named Josh.

Frank has seen many changes in the CCB system over the years, as personnel have become more professional and specialized in training. Counties have increased public acreage with many unique natural areas in need of protection. Some of the highlights of his career include constructing the first flush toilet / shower facility in a Bremer County park, working with landowners in purchasing the many parcels of property that now make up the Wapsi River Greenbelt, and providing numerous acres of public hunting, fishing and hiking lands for area users. However, with more public land to manage, the challenges of being a good steward of the land and providing quality recreational opportunities increase tremendously especially since Bremer County has more than doubled its acres to 4,300 acres now.

“These accomplishments cannot all be credited to me. One is only as good as those he is surrounded by. That includes those I supervise and those that supervise me. I have always had good employees that accomplished a great deal of work and educate many people, making my job easier. I have also been supported by many dedicated Conservation Board members and County Supervisors in my management and decisions. I feel that their trust as well as the public’s trust in my accomplishments has shown that our program has been successful.” Frank has decided to step down in order to start another phase in life – retirement. He doesn’t plan to slow down necessarily, but he will shift his efforts to home projects, hunting and fishing. Change will be good for Bremer County Conservation. There are areas that still need much work and new personnel will bring new ideas and energy to make county areas even better. “I hope that everyone gives the new director the same support that I have received over the last 27 years! I know many wonderful things will happen to public recreation in Bremer County!”

Continued on page 2.

*Bremer County Conservation Board Staff*

*Director - Frank Frederick*

*EE Coordinator / Naturalist - Heather Gamm*

*Recycling Educator / Naturalist - Sarah Beckman*

*Natural Resources Technicians - Pat Hyde, Dave Steere, Mike Weidemann*

*Board Members*

*Chairperson - Jim Peters*

*Vice Chair - Stacey Snyder*

*Richard Harms, Mandie Sanderman, Kevin Korman*

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## *Frank's Retirement Party*



Let's celebrate 27 years of service to  
Bremer County Conservation!  
Join us to honor Frank Frederick.

Friday, April 28

2:30 – 4:30 PM

Bremer County Courthouse  
415 E Bremer Avenue  
Multipurpose Room

## *#Fund the Trust Iowa's Water and Land Legacy*

In 2010, 63% of Iowans voted for a constitutional amendment to create the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund, a permanent and protected funding source dedicated to clean water, productive agricultural soils and thriving wildlife habitats.

Seven years later the Trust Fund sits empty because it requires a sales tax increase of 3/8ths of a cent for funding. Given the enormous challenges related to water quality and the clear benefits tied to soil conservation and improving our wildlife habitat, Iowa's Water and Land Legacy supports raising the sales tax to fund the Trust Fund and maintaining the formula supported by 63% of Iowa voters.

This group is represented by a broad-based coalition ranging from conservationists and sportspersons to farmers and business leaders who all believe cleaning our water, protecting our soil and enhancing our habitat will strengthen our economy and improve our quality of life. Find Iowa's Water and Land Legacy on Facebook or visit <http://www.iowaswaterandlandlegacy.org/> for more information.

The photo at right is of County Conservation Board employees from all over the state of Iowa. This fund would provide much needed money for the work that they do to provide outdoor recreation in the entire state of Iowa.



## Bremer County Conservation Fees for 2017

### Camping

Cedar Bend Park      \$12.00 per night per camping unit without electricity  
\$17.00 per night per camping unit with electricity with the following exceptions:  
Sites A, B, C, D, E, F & G will be for ONE CAMPING UNIT ONLY with a  
\$20.00 per night charge (50 amp outlets available)

Alcock Park, North Cedar Park and North Woods Park  
\$10.00 per night per camping unit  
\$15.00 per night per camping unit with electric (30 amp outlets available)

Wednesday night will continue to be a free camping night unless the Wednesday falls on a holiday (whereby there will be regular fees).

Camping fees will be collected on a self-registration basis, whereby campers fill out an envelope upon arriving at the campgrounds, and deposits the envelope and fees in a vandal-proof collection box at the campground entrance. No RESERVATIONS.

### Showers

Shower facilities are located in all parks. These facilities are free to those camping in one of these parks. For anyone wanting to use the showers and not camping in the park, there is a **\$2.00** charge each time this facility is used. The fee can be placed in a camper self-registration envelope and marked "shower" and placed in the camper collection receptacle.

### Dumpstations

There is a dumpstation in three of the four parks. This facility is meant for those camping in the park and is included in the camping fee. For anyone wanting to use the dumpstation and not camping in the park, there is a **\$5.00** charge for each time the facility is used. The fee can be placed in a self-registration envelope and marked "dumpstation" and placed in the collection receptacle in the campgrounds.

### Firewood

There will be a **\$5.00 donation** requested each time a defined amount of firewood is obtained in the parks from the firewood pile. There is a collection receptacle in each park near the firewood pile.

### Shelters

Shelters are located in each of the four county parks and an amphitheater is located at Cedar Bend Park. They can be used free on a first-come, first-serve basis, but can be held for you by reservation. The charges are **\$20.00 per day** for shelters or the amphitheater. Contact the BCCB office at 319-882-4742 for more information or to reserve.

### Ingawanis Woodland Lodge

This facility is located at 2588 Hawthorne Avenue, Janesville. It is an enclosed facility with restrooms, heat, air conditioning and a kitchenette. It can be rented for \$50.00 per day and reservations can be made by calling the BCCB office at 319-882-4742.

Bremer County Conservation Board park gates are scheduled to be open May 1 - October 31. For additional information, call the BCCB office at 319-882-4742.



## Annual Sandhill Crane Count

April 8 is this year's annual crane count date. Bremer County volunteers will explore natural areas around the county to listen for the distinct unison or guard calls of the Sandhill Crane. Each person can walk, kayak, or listen from a car/chair. The goal is to get a "picture" of how many cranes are in our county. Check out the details and let us know if you want to participate by calling 319-882-4742. <http://www.savingcranes.org/education/annual-midwest-crane-count/>



**Thanks to the following for donations to BCCB.**

**Jim Peters**

Memorials for  
Norbert Schmidt  
Arlan Luhring  
Charlene Nilges  
Melvin Schwartz  
Doris Fenchtwanger  
Harlen Happel  
John Biermann

**Judy Leistikow**

Memorial for  
Sharon Eick

**Dunkerton PTO**

Donation for owl program at EWALU

## Picnic in the Park

Picnics are meant to help you socialize with other families in the summer and get outdoors. Each family brings their own lunch items and a blanket to spread out on. Picnic tables are also available. Each month will have a book and activities. Please email Heather at [naturalist@co.bremer.ia.us](mailto:naturalist@co.bremer.ia.us) to reserve your spot. There is no fee for this program but it is nice for planning purposes to have a head count.



**Cedar Bend Park  
East Shelter**  
1267 205th Street - Waverly

June 7  
June 14  
June 21

**Ingawanis Woodland  
Eagle Lodge**  
2588 Hawthorne Avenue - Janesville

August 2  
August 9



**Bremer County  
Nature Alliance**

**Members**

Winter Picnic food donations & time spent on January 28.

**Cedar River  
Readers**

Donation of time and talents for their performance at Winter Picnic



## *Outdoor Explorers Programs for this Summer*

### Field Trips

Hawkeye Buffalo Ranch  
& Twin Ponds  
Nature Center

Participants will feed the buffalo ears of corn by hand. At the nature center, we will touch live animals and go fishing.  
Date: Tuesday, June 13  
Time: 9:30am – 3:30pm  
Completed 2nd grade  
Fee: \$30

Fly Fishing at Duck Pond

Gary Thurm will teach this session. Equipment will be provided.  
Date: Thursday, June 15  
Time: 9:00 – 11:00 am  
Completed 4th grade  
Fee: \$10

Trip to Heery Woods

Participants will get involved with team challenges and visit the nature center. They will go hiking, fishing and canoeing.  
Date: Tuesday, June 27  
Time: 9:30am – 3:30pm  
Completed 3rd grade  
Fee: \$15

Rockford Fossil Park near  
Rockford, Iowa

Tour the Fossil and Prairie Center. Then look for fossils.  
Date: Thursday, August 3  
Time: 9:30am – 3:30pm  
Completed 2nd grade  
Fee: \$15

Extreme Kayaking at the  
Charles City  
Whitewater Park

CrawDaddy Outdoors will provide all the necessary equipment and training. Bremer County Naturalists will be there to help. Some experience preferred.  
Date: Thursday, August 10  
Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm  
Completed 5th grade  
Fee: \$30

To register for any Outdoor Explorers events, please call the Bremer County Conservation office in Tripoli at 319-882-4742. You may leave your name and phone number if you get the answering machine and someone will call you back. You can download a registration form/liability waiver from the website at <http://www.co.bremer.ia.us/conservation-board/environmental-education.aspx>. Checks should be made payable to Bremer County Nature Alliance for the amount of the class or combination of classes. Please mail checks to Bremer County Conservation PO Box 412, Tripoli, IA 50676 attn. Naturalists.

### **Outdoor Explorers Beginners**

Ensure your child is outside this summer by signing them up to enjoy and learn about the great outdoors! Outdoor activities include: games, s'mores, mammals, fishing, using a compass, explore a dead log, canoeing, survival day and building an electrical circuit. Bremer County Naturalists will teach/lead all sessions.

Dates: July 6 – 27

Days: T/Th

Grades Completed: 2nd - 3rd

Time: 10:30 – 11:30 am

Place: Cedar Bend Park - E. Shelter

Fee: \$30



### **Outdoor Explorers Intermediate**

Participants will enjoy a longer session to engage in hands-on activities. Session topics include: games, Dutch Oven cooking, biking, geocaching, fishing, Frisbee golf, slacklining, archery, canoeing, digital scavenger hunt and creating a stepping stone. Naturalists will teach/lead all sessions.

Dates: July 6 - 27

Days: T/Th

Grades Completed: 4th - 5th

Time: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Place: various locations around Waverly

Fee: \$50

### **Outdoor Explorers Advanced**

This group meets for 3 sessions on Fridays in July. Participants will bike the Waverly Rail Trail, kayak the Shell Rock River, shoot archery at the Waverly Archery Club and complete a photo scavenger hunt.

Dates: July 7, 21, 28

Day: Friday

Grades Completed: 5th - 8th

Time: 12:30 - 3:30 pm

Place: Various Locations

Fee: \$50



## Chickadee Check-Off

By Stephanie Shepherd, IDNR Wildlife Diversity Biologist



### It's time to make the tax season just a little bit wild....

Raise your hand if you know you can make a difference for Iowa's wildlife on the state tax form. There should be at least 7,500 of you with your hands in the air. That's how many folks donated a bit or all of their state tax refund to the Fish and Wildlife Fund – affectionately called the Chickadee Check-off -- on 2015 tax returns, translating to \$132,000 in support of wildlife conservation in Iowa.

Since the 1980s, thousands of Iowans have supported Iowa wildlife by making donations when they prepare their taxes. Today, 100 percent of those dollars go to the state's Wildlife Diversity Program, which protects nongame and vulnerable species through habitat development, data collection and research, education and much more.

Donating is easy. Simply enter your donation amount in the Fish and Wildlife Check-Off contribution line (usually between lines 55-59 on form 1040), and the sum is either automatically deducted from the refund or added to the amount owed. As with all charitable contributions, these dollars are deductible from next year's taxes. Don't forget to talk to your tax preparer if you have your taxes done professionally – many tax preparers forget to mention donation opportunities.

If every Iowa taxpayer donated just \$1 on the Fish and Wildlife Check-off, it would mean \$1.5 million for natural resource conservation! So, if you're able, take a moment this tax season to get a little wild and consider making a donation. The 1000+ species of birds, butterflies, mammals, frogs, toads, turtles and dragonflies that call Iowa home will thank you.

## Check it & Protect it!

Help keep an eye on Iowa wildlife when you donate to the Fish/Wildlife Trust Fund on your state tax form.



Learn more at  
[www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov)



photo by: Doug Harr

# Bremer Bulletin

Bremer County Conservation Board  
P.O. Box 412  
1104 South Main Street  
Tripoli, IA 50676

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## BREMER BULLETIN

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### *Bremer County Conservation Board*

*(319) 882-4742*

*conservation@butler-  
bremer.com*

*www.mycountyparks  
.com/county/  
bremer.aspx*

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Conservation on  
Facebook!*

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the Bremer County  
Conservation Board at  
319-882-4742.**