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Conservation Quarterly  
Cass County Conservation  
Board  
Fall 2014

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## People Making a Difference...

Thank you to **Kay Newman of SOAR**, for coming and doing her raptors program for Breakfast with the Birds!

Thank you to **Barb Chase** for your assistance with the Conservation Quarterly newsletter mailings!

A continued thanks to **Dean Downer and Josh Kinny** for being our Caretakers of Outdoor Educational Classroom and Hitchcock House respectively!

## E-Newsletter!

Save a tree, email Lora at lkanning@casscoia.us and let her know to add your email to get the email/PDF version of the Conservation Quarterly!

Kids Korner Solution

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+++++++S++
++++G++++E++G
++++N+CM+L++HN
S++++IIOP+++A I
W++++GTPL+++LP
A++++R+AN+O++LM
N+LEAVES+U+R+O A
S++T+++++H++WC
++I+++++F+E +
+OSNIKPMUPA++E +
N+++++L+++N+
+++++L+++++
+++++
+++++
+++++
+++++

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## Cass County Conservation Board Members

John Curry- Massena  
Bob Muldoon- Atlantic  
Duane Curtis- Cumberland  
Luanne Steffens- Griswold  
Jerry Hudson- Lewis

## Fall is a time for change!

Nature is getting ready for winter as well as our parks get ready too. As park visitor usage slows we start projects that otherwise could be unaccommodating for our users. We mentioned in the last issue Cold Springs Park was getting a new south entrance off of Park Rd. That project is 90% complete at the time of this newsletter. We are just waiting for gates to be installed and final signage to be installed off of Lewis and Park roads respectfully. This fall we are continuing to upgrade our camping posts up to 50 amp service per site. We are doing 8 sites this fall with another 8 sites to be upgraded in 2015. Also, excuse our mess at our offices in Cold Springs we are in the process of upgrading the exterior with new vinyl siding and new windows. We are reducing the amount of windows especially in the front to reduce our UV damage to our mounts we display inside. As we roll into Fall don't forget hunting and trapping seasons are starting up. We take reservations for our Outdoor Educational Classroom Lodge for meetings and events through the winter as we do keep it plowed. Please contact the office if you are interested in reserving. Get out and enjoy Fall in Cass County Parks!



## 3rd Biennial Lighted Halloween Campground

We are looking for people, groups, or organizations to Sign UP for a site in the campground to decorate (non-Scary) with Halloween decorations. Prizes will be for the top 3 voted sites, and for some special categories. Deadline for decorating a site sign up is October 17th and the groups will have Saturday from Noon on to decorate. It is NEVER too late to volunteer! So much goes into this event and we have a great foundation of volunteers that help EVERY year! This event is a great non-scary, Family Friendly, FREE, drive into the night! Please help us make it a success! Call our office ASAP to get involved! 712-769-2372

We are in need of:

- Site Sponsors
- Keeper of the Bonfire
- Treat Makers

**In this Issue:**  
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# Oak Strollers Nature Club for Families



You have been seeing this little Oak leaf on our newsletter. This is your easy guide for knowing this program is a family or all ages event. With nature deficit disorder happening out there, we want families to be comfortable exploring nature in Cass County. We'd like to foster an environment where families can bond together as they play, talk and learn in nature. All events are for the purpose of getting families involved in activities outside. Bring your child, plan to stay, and have a great time-making a memory.

## Trumpeter Swan Contest

Trumpeter Swans have visited the Schildberg Quarry for, at least, Sixteen out of the last Seventeen winters. Most Trumpeter Swans migrate farther south for the winter in search of open water and food. Because of the depth of Atlantic's Schildberg Quarry, and the large number of wading waterfowl, it remains open year round, making it possible for the swans to stay. We had one death last year from lead poisoning. Last season we had an average of 29 visit, and the most on one day was 48! Arrival and departure dates of the Trumpeter Swans have been as follows:



1997/1998	December – January	2003/2004	November 26—March 21
1998/1999	Nothing on record	2004/2005	November 25—March 18
1999/2000	December 25 – February 15	2005/2006	November 17—March 5
2000/2001	November 23 – March 6	2006/2007	October 30—March 9
2001/2002	December 25—February 24	2007/2008	November 22— February 14
2002/2003	November 23—March 15	2008/2009	November 18— March 12
2009/2010	November 19– January	2010/2011	November 5th– February 10
2011/2012	November 17– February 21	2012/2013	November 24– March 4
2013/2014	November 12- April 7		

The Cass County Conservation Board is asking you...When do you think the first Trumpeter Swan will arrive at the Schildberg Quarry? Please call in your prediction (beginning October 1st) to the Conservation Board at 712-769-2372, leave a message and return phone number if we are not in. Duplicate dates will not be allowed. For example, if a caller predicts November 25th, no one else will be allowed to predict that arrival date. So, call anytime during the month of October until November 11th to make your prediction! One prediction per family, please. The sponsors of this contest will determine the official arrival of the swans. The winner will receive a Trumpeter Swan 8x10 Print from the Cass County Conservation Board. This contest is strictly for residents of Cass County.

# Kids Corner

G T V H L I S W G I P S S M S  
 T W N L G D F E O S Q E M G G  
 D C Y E L N J C M D L E E H N  
 S M E C R D I I O P T B W A I  
 W P L S U N G T P L C Y V L P  
 A L L T B R A A N F O K U L M  
 N E L E A V E S D U U R I O A  
 S P Q T B G Q J Q N H E E W C  
 E C I Y K C Y C F B W F W E L  
 D O S N I K P M U P A A R E I  
 N P K K Y Q R T Q L T H F N L  
 U V Z L B L F S L Q W P U D L  
 A M M I R S E F J W O D W A M  
 L U V I G Q M X A A U D G B S  
 J R K B P P A J K J P F H I Y

APPLES CAMPING COLOR  
 FALL HALLOWEEN HUNTING  
 LEAVES MIGRATION PUMPKINS SWANS

## Upcoming Events



Denotes an Oak Stroller approved event! All Cass County Programs are FREE unless otherwise stated! Donations for programs are accepted.



### 3rd Biennial Lighted Halloween Campground

Saturday, October 25th 7-9 PM  
 Cold Springs Campground, Lewis, IA  
 See front page for more information!



### Bird Feeder Workshop

Saturday November 8th at 1 PM  
 Outdoor Educational Classroom, Massena

Learn all about making bird feeders! Make and take a bird feeder home! All ages welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Please pre-register by November 4th for Massena please call 769-2372.

### "Green" Home Products

Saturday, December 6th at 1 PM  
 Atlantic Public Library Community Room  
 Make and take some natural home products. Household cleaners this year will be made. Pre-register by December 1st by calling 769-2372.

## Mark your Calendars



### Soiree with the Swans

Saturday, January 3, 2015 at  
 Schildberg Recreation Area 11:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m. in case of no swans or bad weather it will be held at the Atlantic Public Library Community Room 12:00-1:00 p.m. Presentations will be every half hour with the last presentation will be at 2 p.m.

Don't forget the Great Backyard Bird Count in February 13-16th, 2015