

Conservation Quarterly



Cass County Conservation Board
Fall 2013



Iowa West Foundation Grant Awarded

Iowa West Foundation 2nd quarter 2013 grants totaled \$5.3 million dollars. These grants will be used to assist 30 non-profit organizations and governmental entities. 3 of the 30 were located in Cass County with one of them being Cass County Conservation! Our grant was for winter recreation equipment to use in our parks! Even though our grant was not fully funded (granted amount was \$1,250) we will be purchasing \$2,500 worth of snowshoes! We can't wait for them to arrive in November. Look for many opportunities in the Winter Newsletter to try out snowshoeing in our parks!

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Trumpeter Swan Contest



Trumpeter Swans have visited the Schildberg Quarry for, least, Fifteen out of the last Sixteen 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 two deaths last year, one was lead poisoning, it was taken to SOAR to recover, and did not make it. We had one death from a powerline collision between lake 3 and lake 4. Last season we had an average of 32 visit, and the most on one day was 58! 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

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.

Iowa West Grant Cont.

Funding for the foundation's grants comes from investment earnings and the Iowa West Racing Association, which receives contracted fees from casino operators, Ameristar, and Harrah's. Iowa West Racing Association distributes the funds to the Iowa West Foundation, which is an independent 501 © (3) organization under the IRS code. The Foundation makes grants throughout southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

Grant Awarded to Conservation Board

We are the recipient of an E. F. & Sylvia Schildberg Foundation Grant. Fifty years after founding Schildberg Construction Company of Greenfield, IA, the E. F. & Sylvia Schildberg Foundation was created. The purpose of the Foundation is to give financial assistance to non-profit, charitable, educational or other causes that better the human condition and encourage community betterment. Cass County Conservation Board previously was awarded in 2010 from the E. F. & Sylvia Schildberg Foundation for the funding of bird diverters located at the Schildberg Recreation Area Lake 4. This years awarded grant will fund another "trunk" at the Outdoor Educational Classroom with the theme of Tracks!



22nd Halloween Hike

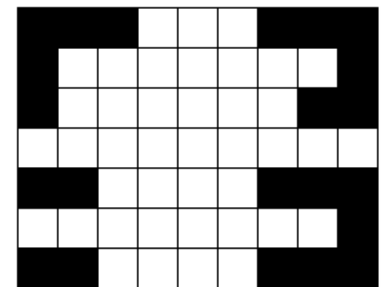
We are excited to announce The "Magical Forest" Halloween Hike! It is NEVER too late to volunteer! So much goes into this event and we have a great foundation of volunteers that help EVERY year! This event is a great NON-SCARY, Family Friendly, FREE hike into the night! Please help us make it a success!

We are in need of:

- ◆ **Actors**
- ◆ **Tour Guides**
- ◆ **Face Painters**
- ◆ **Treat Makers**

Call our office ASAP to get involved! 712-769-2372!

Kid's Korner



R E W
L L K T
I T I E
F H A O E E
A L I H C T L
A T A O N A A E
H M O G W S I C N

This is a Fallen Phrase Puzzle. A fallen phrase puzzle is a puzzle where all the letters have fallen to the bottom. However, they got mixed up on their way down, but remain in the same row.

Upcoming Events



Denotes an Oak Stroller approved event!

Geocaching 101

Saturday October 19th at 1 PM

Outdoor Educational Classroom, Massena

Learn about a newer technology to help you EXPLORE nature! Time will be spent on “caching” with these units. GPS units will be available for the class or bring your own. Please pre-register by calling 712-769-2372 and also let us know whether or not you will be providing your own GPS.



Halloween Hike

The Magical Forest

Saturday, October 26th

Sunnyside Park, Camblin Addition, Atlantic

7:00 PM—Last group departs at 8:10 PM

Join us on a non-scary hike where you will meet some “Magical” animals! After the hike enjoy tasty treats, warm drinks and bonfire! **MUST CALL FOR YOUR FREE RESERVATIONS AT 712-769-2372.** Leave your name, # of people in your group, Phone # and time you wish to depart on you hike.



Bird House Workshop

Saturday November 16th at 1 PM

Outdoor Educational Classroom, Massena

Learn all about making bird houses! Make and take a bird house home for a suggested donation! Fun for all ages, children must be accompanied by adult. Suggested donations for House Wren house \$5, and Kestrel house \$8. Pre-registration is requested by November 13th call 769-2372!

Natural Holiday Decorating

Saturday, December 7th 1 PM

Atlantic Public Library Community Room

Back by popular demand, make and take home keepsakes. New crafts, decorate with nature, and all skill levels welcome! FREE, Pre-register by November 30th call 769-2372.



Soiree with the Swans

Saturday, January 4, 2014 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.

All Cass County Programs are FREE unless otherwise stated! Donations for programs are accepted.

Don't forget the Great Backyard Bird Count in February 2014!

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!

**Cass Co. Cons. Bd.
57744 Lewis Rd.
Lewis, Iowa 51544**

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Kid's Korner Answer:

The Magical Forest
Halloween Hike Atlantic
Iowa.

Thank you for your time and donations!

Thank you to **Barb Chase** for your assistance with the *Conservation Quarterly* newsletter mailings!
A continued thanks to **Dean Downer and John Hotchkiss** for being our Caretakers of Outdoor Educational Classroom and Hitchcock House respectively!

★ **Cass County Conservation Board** ★
★ Duane Curtis- Cumberland ★
★ Bob Muldoon- Atlantic ★
★ Luanne Steffens- Griswold ★
★ Ken Lawton- Lewis ★
★ John Curry- Massena ★
★ **Staff** ★
★ Micah Lee- Director ★
★ Lora Kanning- Naturalist ★
★ Ryan Lockwood- Park Superintendent ★
