

Cass Co. Cons. Bd  
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# Conservation Quarterly Cass County Conservation Board Spring 2020



## Getting Ready for Spring in our parks

We are expanding our Standup Paddleboard programs this year they will be on the last Saturday of every month (exception of June), Ending Labor Day Weekend with that Saturday August 29th. We are adding holiday weekend availability. We only have 5 currently, so you must pre-register for your spot! Anyone under 16 must have a parent with them at all times. You must also weigh less than 250 lbs. We have a frequent camper card program- ask our staff! Camping coupon books are now available! \$150 for 11 nights of camping at Cold Springs Park good until Oct 31, 2020. Weather permitting projects- West Nodaway- 2 acres of sunflowers, and 1 acre of sunflowers at Hitchcock Recreation Area. We will be adding to our Campground Playground in Cold Springs Park. Making Shelter Reservations- To reserve the shelter at Cold Springs Park contact Ryan Lockwood at 769-2372. Don't forget we take reservations for our Outdoor Educational Classroom Lodge for meetings and events. Please contact the office if you are interested in reserving. Check out some area cleanups here in Cass County for the 50th year of Earth Day! Come celebrate inside our parks or get involved in a road side clean up here! Inside this newsletter is our Native Plant sale, we've added some different species for your consideration. Also at the same time for pick up in May we will have some free trees available for Cass County Residents only, look for a press release announcement.

## E- Newsletter is coming Fall 2020!

You must sign up to get your newsletter in Fall 2020! Sign up now, to Save a tree, email Lora at [lkanning@casscoia.us](mailto:lkanning@casscoia.us) and let her know to add your email to get the email/PDF version of the Conservation Quarterly! Hard copies are always available at our offices and at our programs. They will also be at our area public libraries.

## Results of 2020 Great Backyard Bird Count

Overall it was a great year for Iowa in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC). It was a strong year for checklists in other parts of the state. Iowa overall was lower in species and in checklists happening, but we had a great showing of 39 checklists and 39 species. We got beat out by the largest counties in the state: Johnson, Polk, Story, Black Hawk, and Scott counties in that order. We got 6th in checklists but we were tied for 10th in species count! With the new eBird system the record keeping is by county so I can not really tell you anymore the species reported for each town unless we record them, but Cass county as a whole. Iowa as a whole had 103 species reported and 843 checklists! United States reported 666 species and 144,879 checklists. The GBBC is a global bird count sponsored by the National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology, globally 6,871 species and 248,044 checklists. Since 2002 the Cass County Conservation Board has advertised this bird count throughout the county encouraging citizens to participate. Typically participants submit their checklists on the internet, however, for those that are not comfortable using computers, the Conservation

### In this Issue:

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## People Making a Difference...

Thank you to everyone that took part in our **Soiree with the Swans!**

**Thank you to everyone who attended our February/March Programs!** We wished we had snow for our snowshoe programs, maybe next year!

Thank you to the **ISU Extension Cass County** for helping our winter camps be a success!

Thank you to **Dean Downer** for all of his hard work over the past year at the Outdoor Educational Classroom. Thank you to **Sue Rodgers** for all of her hard work over the past year at our Hitchcock Recreational Area.

## Cass County Conservation on Facebook!

Search Cass County Conservation and "like" us on Facebook! Easy way to keep up on events and wildlife sightings around Cass County!

### Cass County Conservation Board Members

Phil Przychodzin- Massena      Rich Govig- Lewis  
Judy Kennedy- Atlantic      Luanne Steffens- Griswold  
Jerry Hudson- Lewis

### Staff

Conservation Office & Cold Springs 712-769-2372

Micah Lee- Director [mlee@casscoia.us](mailto:mlee@casscoia.us)

Lora Kanning- Naturalist [lkanning@casscoia.us](mailto:lkanning@casscoia.us)

Ryan Lockwood- Park Superintendent [rlockwood@casscoia.us](mailto:rlockwood@casscoia.us)

Hitchcock House 712-769-2323

Board collects the data and enters the checklists for them. You can explore the results at <https://ebird.org/gbbc/places>.

Cass County Results

Town	# of Checklists Submitted	39 Species Reported total
Anita	6	
Atlantic	30	
Cumberland	0	
Griswold	0	
Lewis	0	
Marne	1	
Massena	0	
Wiota	2	

More results: American Robins, Eastern Screech owl, and wild turkeys made an appearance in Cass County! Only 14 Trumpeter Swans individuals were counted at one time in Cass County, near Atlantic.

## Summer Camps

The Cass County Conservation Board has joined with the Cass County ISU Extension Office to sponsor summer camps for the youth of Cass County. These camps were developed to give children a chance to have fun exploring and learning about nature. Registration fee is \$10 per student includes a t-shirt or lunch(6-8th gr camp), return with the fee to the Cass County Extension Office by the deadline. If you have questions, please call Lora at 769-2372 or Shelby at 243-1132. If your children are home schooled, please call 243-1132 for registration information.

Registration Information:

The Atlantic school system can register on Registration Night in May at the Washington School Gym. All other county school systems will have forms passed out to school children in May that will explain the registration process. Forms can also be found here: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cass>  
<http://www.atlantiowa.com/county/county-departments/conservation-office/>

K-2nd Grade: M'azing Metamorphosis ~ Learn about frogs & butterflies, make crafts, build friendships and play games!

June 1 & 2 — 9 AM-12 PM @ Cold Springs Park, Lewis - Registration Deadline May 22—Fee \$10

June 3 & 4 — 9 AM-12 PM @ Lake Anita (Shelter #5), Anita - Registration Deadline May 22—Fee \$10

June 9 & 10 — 9 AM-12 PM or 1 PM-4 PM @ Sunnyside Park, Atlantic  
 Registration Deadline May 22— Fee \$10

3rd-5th Grade: Fun & Flight ~ Explore things that fly through crafts, games and fun! Bring a sack lunch.

June 19 — 10 AM-3 PM @ Lake Anita (Shelter #5), Anita - Registration Deadline June 5—Fee \$10

June 12 — 10 AM-3 PM @ Cold Springs Park, Lewis - Registration Deadline May 29— Fee \$10

June 24 — 10 AM-3 PM @ Sunnyside Park, (Camblin Addition Shelter) Atlantic -  
 Registration Deadline June 12—Fee \$10

6th-8th Grade: Woodlands Adventure Camp ~ Learn outdoor skills such as forestry, geocaching, wood carving, hiking and dutch oven cooking (lunch) over a campfire! Busing is available from Cass Co. Community center, depart 8am, and return at 5 pm.

Monday, July 6, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Cold Springs Park, Lewis. Registration Deadline June 26— Fee \$10  
 \*Please Note— grade listed above refer to grade just completed!



Denotes an Oak Stroller approved event!

## Upcoming Conservation Events



**Earth Day Cleanup Saturday, April 18th**  
**Cold Springs Park- Meet at CCCB Offices- 1PM**

Celebrate 50 years of Earth Day's! Volunteer to clean up the park, other projects may be available. Program weather permitting.

**Wildflower Walk**  
**Saturday, April 25th- 9AM**  
**Pellet Memorial Woods**

Join our staff for a hike to locate the early spring Wildflowers. Stick around afterwards and pick up trash in the park!



**Hitchcock Pioneer Skills Festival-** The 28th annual Pioneer Skills Festival is scheduled for **Saturday, May 2nd**. Come visit the famous Hitchcock House (a National Landmark and former stop on the Underground Railroad) just west of Lewis and see tin punching, rope-making, butter making and many other skills that were vital to pioneer survival. This event will be open to the public from **1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.** There will be a \$5 fee for a tour of the Hitchcock House. B.Y.O.M. for some apple cider!

**Bike to School Day is May 6th**  
**National Bike Week is May 11th-17th.**  
**Bike to Work Day is May 15th**

Save some gas and bike around that day or all week!



**Movie in the Park**  
**Friday, May 22nd 9PM- Cold Springs Park Campground Shelter- TBA**

Come out for a movie under the stars! Bring a blanket or chair, Dress for the weather and if it RAINS it will be CANCELLED.

**Lake Anita Kids' Fishing Day**  
 Kids, come to Lake Anita on **Saturday, June 6th** for a fun morning of fishing (bring your poles) and information! Learn about the fish in Lake Anita, followed by hands on fishing! Prizes will be awarded to participants, no child will leave empty handed! This event is planned in conjunction with Iowa's free fishing weekend so Iowa adults don't have to have a fishing license to join their children! **Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. near at the beach parking lot, fishing starts at 10AM.**

**National Trails Day- the T-Bone Trail!!**  
**Saturday, June 6th 10AM**  
**Meet at the Dunbar Rd Trailhead Parking Lot for the T-Bone trail.**  
 Bike, walk, strollers, everyone is welcome! Come out and celebrate National Trails Day! We will be Hiking on the trail.

**Cass County Fishing Derby- Cold Springs Park**  
**Saturday, June 13th Check in starts 8:15AM Fishing will end at 11am.**  
 Please pre-register, derby is limited to 50 participants, 15 years old and younger. Pre-register by calling 769-2372.

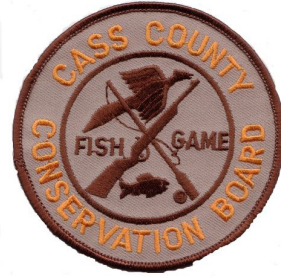
**Standup Paddleboard Demonstration- see information on front page.**

**Cold Springs Park- Beach**  
**May 23rd 1pm- 5 Spots available**  
**June 13th 1pm- 5 Spots available**

**2:30PM- 5 Spots available**  
**2:30pm- 5 Spots available**

# Cass County Conservation Native Plant Order Form

Order Deadline April 30th, 2020



Mail or deliver to:

57744 Lewis Rd  
Lewis, IA 51544  
Office: 712-769-2372  
Fax: 712-769-2392

Fax orders accepted, payment must be recieved by deadline.

Customer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Bloom	Plant Name	Sun	Moisture	Height	Price/plant	# Ordered	Subtotal
●	Prairie Drop Seed	Full/Part	Moist	2-3ft	\$2.25		
●	Prairie Smoke	Full/Part	Moist	8-12in	\$2.25		
●	Butterfly Milkweed	Full/Part	Average	2-3 ft	\$2.25		
●	Swamp Milkweed	Full	Moist	4ft	\$2.25		
○	Culvers Root	Full	Avg	5ft	\$3.50		
●	Meadow Blazing Star	Full	Moist	3-5ft	\$2.25		
●	Joe Pye Weed	Full/Part	Avg/Moist	5Ft	\$2.25		
●	Pale Purple Cone-flower	Full/Part	Avg/Dry	4ft	\$2.25		
●	Wild Bergamot	Full/Part	Avg/Dry	4ft	\$2.25		
○	Hairy Mountain Mint	Full/Part	Average	3ft	\$3.50		
●	New England Aster	Full/Part	Moist/Avg	5ft	\$3.50		
●	Purple Prairie Clover	Full/Part	Avg/Dry	2ft	\$3.50		

Price per item includes shipping and sales tax.

All orders must be pre-paid by deadline. Unpaid orders will not be placed.

Order deadline Thursday April 30th by 4pm.

All orders must be picked up during designated times at our offices in Lewis unless prior arrangements made.

Plants not picked up will be donated with NO REFUND.

Designated pick up times will be: Thursday May 21st 8 AM-6 PM

Friday May 22nd 8AM-7:00PM

Buyer Signature/date: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to: Cass County Treasurer

Office use:

Paid By: Check# \_\_\_\_\_ Cash  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt# \_\_\_\_\_

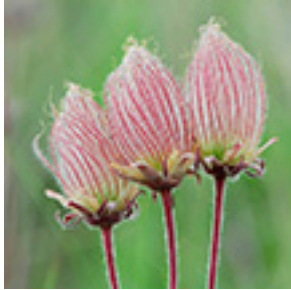
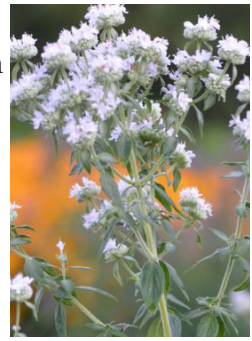
Received By: \_\_\_\_\_



Prairie Dropseed *Sporobolus heterolepis*

Light: Full Sun  
Soil: Sand, Loam  
Moisture: Dry, Medium  
Benefits: Birds, Deer Resistant  
Height: 2'-4'  
Blooms: Aug, Sep  
Color: Straw-Gold

Hairy Mountain Mint  
*Pycnanthemum verticillatum*  
var. *pilosum*  
Sun Exposure Full sun to part shade  
Soil Moisture Medium  
Bloom Time July, Aug  
Color White Height 3 feet



Light: Full Sun  
Soil: Sand, Loam  
Moisture: Dry, Medium  
Benefits: Deer Resistant  
Height: 0.25'-0.5'  
Blooms: May, Jun  
Color: Pink

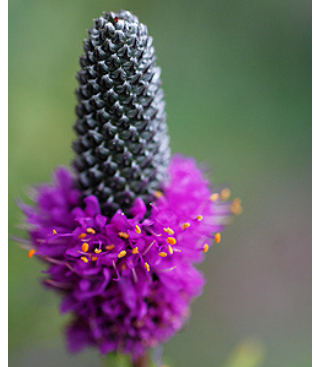
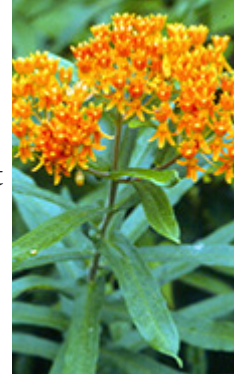
Meadow Blazing Star  
*Liatris ligulistylis*  
Sun Exposure Full sun to part shade  
Soil Moisture Medium  
Bloom Time Aug—Sept



Culver's Root *Veronicastrum virginicum*  
Light: Full Sun, Partial  
Soil: Moist, well drained  
Moisture: Medium-dry to medium-wet  
Benefits: Butterflies, Pollinators,  
Height: 5'  
Blooms: June, Jul, Aug  
Color: White

Height 5 feet  
Color Purple

Butterfly Milkweed  
*Asclepias tuberosa*  
Plant Spacing 1-3'  
Sun Exposure Full sun or part shade  
Soil Moisture Medium to Dry, well- drained  
Height 2 feet  
Bloom Time June—August



Purple Prairie Clover *Dalea Purpurea*  
Light: Full Sun  
Soil: Sand, Loam, Clay  
Moisture: Dry, Medium  
Benefits: Pollinators, birds, Host plant  
Height: 1'-2'  
Blooms: Jul, Aug,  
Color: Purple

New England Aster *Aster Novae-angliae*  
Light: Full Sun- partial  
Soil: Sand, Loam, Clay  
Moisture: Medium

Benefits: Pollinators, Butterflies, Birds, Deer Resistant  
Height: 3'-6'  
Blooms: Aug, Sept, Oct  
Color: Purple



Swamp Milkweed  
*Asclepias incarnata*  
Sun Exposure Full sun or part shade  
Soil Moisture Wet to Medium  
Bloom Time June—August  
Color Pink Height 4 feet

## Live Plants

- Live plants from nursery will come as small plugs; cells are 5" deep x 2" wide at top or 4.5" deep x 2" Cone.
- Immediate care: remove plants from container as soon as possible and water thoroughly.
- Plant in the ground or a larger pot.
- Keep area around plants weed free, especially during the first growing season.
- Watering is important during the first growing season. Make sure the plants do not

go dry for the first 3-6 weeks; water deeply to allow formation of deep drought and frost resistant roots. Once established, native plants can withstand extreme weather.