

Cass Co. Cons. Bd
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Lewis, IA 51544

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People Making a Difference...

Thank you to everyone that took part in our **Halloween Hike!**

Especially to our volunteers and donations to the event by **3 Bee Farms, McCurdy Pumpkins, and Hy-vee!**

Thank you to everyone who took part in the **Natural Holiday Decorating** workshop!!

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 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! We are also on [Pinterest](#) (casscountyiakon) and [Instagram](#)- (cassccbia)!

Camping Coupons

We have camping coupons/certificates available here at the office. These are only \$15 each, good for only Cold Springs Campground, electric hookup or Non-electric camping. They make great gifts!

Cass County Conservation Board Members

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

Great Backyard Bird Count

The National Audubon Society & Cornell Lab of Ornithology needs every bird enthusiast in North America to count birds February 16th-19th. All you need is a basic knowledge of bird identification! This activity is extremely easy...you watch the birds in your yard, local park, or other natural area for 15 minutes or more and use a tally sheet to record the highest number of individual birds that you see in view at one time. There are two ways to participate in the bird count, 1. Call the Conservation Board at 712-769-2372 and we will send you everything you need or (you may pick it up in our office) 2. You can visit the Great Backyard Bird Count website at <http://gbbc.birdcount.org> and submit your results from there. This is a great family event and the data collected will be used by scientists to analyze bird populations. If you are new to the count please see the Upcoming Programs on the next page. Since 2002 the Cass County Conservation Board has advertised this bird count throughout the county encouraging citizens to participate. Last year Cass County Birders lagged behind in the State...but all county numbers were low last year. 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, but Cass county as a whole. We were 11th with our 27 checklists, Johnson county was #1 with 96 checklists. United States reported 671 species and 113,000 checklists. Typically participants submit their checklists on the internet, however, for those that are not comfortable using computers, the Conservation Board collects the data and enters the checklists for them. The Conservation Board also visits the Atlantic High School each year to encourage students to participate in the count. Let's get out there this year get back in the top 10!!

Cass County Results

Town	# of Checklists Submitted	37 Species Reported total
Anita	8	
Atlantic	12	
Cumberland	0	
Griswold	1	
Lewis	4	
Marne	0	
Massena	2	
Wiota	0	<u>Continued on page 2....</u>

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Upcoming Events

Special Birthday

More results: We had over 37 species counted in Cass County. Most individuals counted was European Starling, and Snow Geese, edging out the Canada Goose.

Trumpeter Swans in Cass County!

Currently about forty Trumpeter Swans are over-wintering at Schildberg Recreation Area- Lake 4. The swans official date of arrival is November 9th. Our swan Contest winner is Leola Kanning!

Sandhill Crane Bus Trip

The Cass, Crawford, and Shelby County Conservation Boards are offering a guided tour out to Kearney, Nebraska March 26-27th. We will be taking a Windstar bus. We will make stops at the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument, Rowe Sanctuary (to view the cranes), Nebraska Nature and Visitor Center and lots of other opportunities for bird viewing. The cost for the trip is \$195 includes: transportation, lodging, entrance fee for Archway, Nature Center, and Crane blind fee at Rowe Sanctuary. Does not include meals. If you have any questions about trip or would like more information please call Lora at (712) 769-2372 or email lkanning@casscoia.us. Informational programs will be held: January 29th 6PM at the Anita Public Library, and February 3rd 12:30PM at the Atlantic Public Library. Deadline for deposit: February 16th.

Winter Camps

We hold winter day camps on Cass County School districts various No School days. Check out the appropriate Winter Camp for your child's grade and day off! Polar Bear Winter Day Camp for youth in Kindergarten thru 2nd grade. January 15 at 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m or February 23 at 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Please register by January 10 to attend the January 15th day camp. To attend the February 23rd day camp register by February 14. Winter Adventure Day Camp for youth in 3rd-5th grades. Students will learn about winter camping and Leave No Trace Principles. March 23rd 9AM-4:30PM Please register by March 14 to attend this day camp. March 29th 9AM-4:30PM Griswold Community Building, Please register by March 21 to attend this day camp. All camps are held at the Atlantic Community Building, besides the March 29th camp. FREE. Forms can be found at the quick links section at www.extension.iastate.edu/cass/. Register early, space is limited. Please contact Cass County Extension at 243-1132 for questions.

Our special Birthday!

Our Cass County Conservation Board is turning 60 years old in 2018!! Our board and employees are planning to celebrate all year long! We will be doing some extra programs and random camper drawings! Look for a birthday party later in the year. We also will be doing our plant sale again this year.

Mark your Calendars

Cass County's Pheasant's Forever Chapter Banquet

Saturday, February 24th

Cass County Community Center, Atlantic

Doors open at 5pm Contact Rick Kanning at 249-2517 for more information.

Wildflower Walk

Saturday, April 28th- 9AM Pellett Memorial Woods

Stay tuned for more on the April programs and Summer Camp Listings in the Spring Newsletter.

Upcoming Events



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

Sandhill Crane Bus Trip Information Night

January 29th 6PM

Anita Public Library

February 3rd 12:30PM

Atlantic Public Library

Come out to learn more about attending our bus trip to see the sandhill cranes! Full details on the opposite page.



Full Moon Owl Prowl Hike

Thursday February 1st 7:00 PM

Cold Springs Park, Lewis, IA

Drive the short drive and hike off that dinner! We will hike and try to call in various species of Owls that may be in the park that night!



Great Backyard Bird Count—See Page 1 for more details!!

February 16-19th

Saturday February 10th 12:30 PM

Atlantic Public Library Community Room

Learn how to be involved in a great citizen science project! We will show and explain how to participate in the project. We will also include some tips on identifying birds.

Sweetheart Snowshoe Hike

Saturday February 17th 7PM

Pellett Memorial Woods, Atlantic, IA

We will bring our snowshoes for you to try on! If the sky is clear, the moonlight will light our way! Will be cancelled if not enough snow.



Polar Bear Winter Day Camp

January 15 at 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. or 1:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m

February 23 at 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

For youth in Kindergarten thru 2nd grade.

Please register by January 10 to attend the January 15th day camp. To attend the February 23rd day camp register by February 14.



Winter Adventure Day Camp

For youth in 3rd-5th grades.

March 23rd or March 29th 9AM-4:30PM

Please register by March 14 to attend this day camp. Please register by March 21 to attend the 29th day camp. See information on the opposite page for more details.

Native Landscaping

March 10th Noon

Atlantic Public Library

Discover new ways to use native plants in your yard.

Sandhill Crane Trip

March 26-27th

Kearney, NE

Checkout the information on the opposite page!