



# Cass County Conservation Board



Offers a variety of things to local Middle School and High Schools

The Cass County Conservation Naturalist offers public programs throughout the year, as well as, providing programs to students in classrooms or at county parks. I am also available for job fairs, or as a classroom speaker. To contact me with a program request, email me at [lkanning@casscoia.us](mailto:lkanning@casscoia.us), or call my office at 712-769-2372. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

**\*\*\*FREE Hands-on programs for your students!\*\*\***

- **MONARCH TAGGING** September Only. Students will learn about Monarch tagging and why people still tag Monarch butterflies even after the over-wintering area has been discovered. If at all possible, live Monarchs will be brought to your classroom as your students learn about the importance of conservation.
- **THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT** will be held February, 12-15 2016. Everyone is needed to participate, even if they can only correctly identify one kind of bird! I will help them with their identification skills when I visit your classroom and help them understand their important role in this national program. Last year Atlantic tied for first place in the state, and received an award, for submitting the most checklists! Can we do it again?
- **Resource Managers-** Introduce your students to the natural resource job field with this indoor classroom activity! Overhead Projector use required.
- **Fire Ecology-** (four weeks notice required) Explore Fire Ecology inside and outside the classroom. Spring works best but can be offered in the fall. Students identify and evaluate the positive and negative effects that forest or grassland fires have on wildlife.
- **Star ID-** Learn about constellations, tailored to the month of your program. Also can be an introduction to Astronomy chapter or tailored to what you are covering!
- **Leaf ID –** Students discover keys to identifying leaves including evergreen trees.
- **Water Address-** Students discover an animals water address and even OUR own! Reinforces water conservation, adaptations, and the watershed concept. Internet access is optional.
- **ENVIROSCAPE-** The Enviroscape is a 3-D model that shows the different places that water pollution can occur and how you can prevent it. Nonpoint Source Pollution and Point Source Pollution are also easy to understand and see with this model.
- **REAL, LIVE, ENDANGERED SPECIES-** Your students will get to see a live animal (an ornate box turtle) that is listed as threatened on Iowa's Endangered Species list. I could also bring several mounted critters (Trumpeter Swan, River Otter, and Bobcat) that are, or have been, on the list. This program can be adapted for all ages.
- **Field Trip Opportunities**
- **IOWATER.** 1) I can do a classroom program showing and discussing the macro invertebrates that I have collected from Cass County streams. Your students will enjoy viewing them up close and can try to identify them as well. In conclusion, they will learn what these creatures can tell us about the water quality of the stream. **OR** 2) Your class can join me in a stream as we look at the stream habitat, look for water critters, complete simple chemical tests, etc. How much you want to do is up to you. (Four weeks advance notice please)
- **Intro to GPS** 1.) Classroom program introducing the use of the equipment. 2.) optional geocaching activities in our parks or in the Atlantic city limits. (20 units available)
- **ORIENTEERING** is a blast for students of all ages. Call me ahead of time and I will set up a course for your students to try after we learn the basics. (Four weeks advance notice please, 20 compasses available) 2.) optional orienteering treasure hunt activities at Outdoor Educational Classroom near Massena.

**\*\*\*Resources, resources, resources!**

Items that we have include: a mounted Bobcat, Trumpeter Swan, River Otter, Kestrel, Cardinal, Great-Horned Owl, Nighthawk, a live Ornate Box. Also 12 bug nets, 10 dip nets, an IOWATER kit, animal track replicas, leaf print replicas and the Enviroscape model.

**IOWA CORE**

Water Address: **Use critical thinking skills to conduct research, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate technological tools and resources.**

Iowater: Select and use appropriate tools and techniques to gather, analyze and interpret data.

The use of tools and techniques, including computers, will be guided by the questions asked and the investigations students design. Students should be able to access, gather, store, retrieve, and organize data, using computer hardware and software designed for these purposes.

Orienteering: **Use critical thinking skills to conduct research, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate technological tools and resources.**

Intro to GPS: Apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.

Demonstrate critical thinking skills using appropriate tools and resources to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems and make informed decision.

**Science and Technology:**

Identify problem or design an opportunity; propose a design and choose between alternative solutions; implement proposed solution; evaluate solution and its consequences; communicate a problem, process, and solution; use computer software, device interfaces, lab equipment, calculators, and GPS; use presentation software and hardware, communications equipment, and remote sensing equipment; generate and manipulate data; describe the connection between technology and the state of current knowledge,

***\*\*\*Please e-mail [lkanning@casscoia.us](mailto:lkanning@casscoia.us) or call 712-769-2372 to set up a program!\*\*\****