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MAGAZINE

Connecting people to the river

Trails Update

First in a Series

of action



RIVERACTION

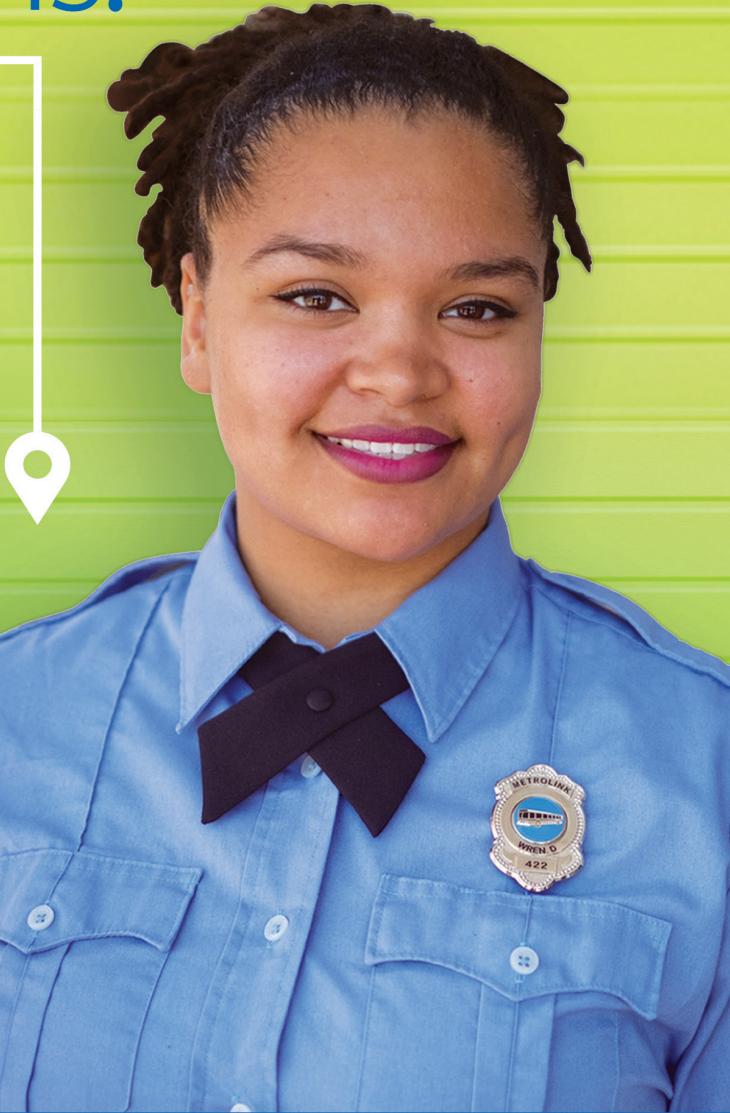


Inside:

- Conservation in 2019
- Regional Flood Alliance
- Ride the River
- And much more...

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February/March/April 2019

Volume 9 Issue 1

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Our Mission:

River Action strives to foster the environmental, economic, and cultural vitality of the Mississippi River and its riverfront in the Quad City region.

35th Anniversary Pledge

Thirty five years in a drive to protect and enhance our Mississippi River and riverfront resources has brought River Action to today and some new quests for the next 35 years.

In 2019, our programs and projects will expand to celebrate our anniversary and to forge new commitments to address the broad issues of water quality, watershed management, flood resiliency and public access.

We began in 1985 to build trails, so this issue covers some. We count, not only the miles of multi-purpose trails, but also the 2019 events, plans for making connections, and advocacy needed for better bicycling. An avid bicyclist, Jerry Skalak, has outlined some steps I endorse: make sure all trail users fully understand that the trails are designed to serve as multi-purpose recreational trails and not just bike paths; make sure the center line is kept well painted; add more no passing zones (double yellow lines) where there are blind corners, uphill stretches, trail intersections and before street crossings; post and enforce reasonable speed limits; begin to widen when possible, address the trail drainage issues, and finally, begin to develop separated pedestrian and cyclist trails where needed.

Our 2019 Ride the River will advocate for better bicycling by having each city present plans under study, on the drawing board or in the works. Surveys to riders such as "I would ride in my city more if ____" will inform and guide officials.

River Action's roots also go back to the 1984 fight to keep floodwalls back from Davenport and Moline riverfronts, so it is appropriate that we are working on a new initiative. Following last year's Upper Mississippi River Conference on flood resiliency, we launched the QC Flood Resiliency Alliance. You can read details in this issue.

Finally, mirroring what we have accomplished in conservation projects over the past eight years through the Rock Island County Conservation Consortium will be the 2019 Scott County Conservation Consortium projects detailed inside.

We want to accomplish all this and more. Activism should be solid, visionary, thoughtful, empathetic, and urgent. Do we meet the criteria all the time? No, certainly, but we need to aim there and higher. That's our 35th anniversary pledge to you and our assignment for the next 35 years. ☺



Kathy Wine

of action

INSIDE THIS ISSUE**Trails Update**

- 4 Conservation in 2019**
by Laura Morris

- 5 Ride the River**
by Noah Truesdell

- 6 Regional Flood Alliance**
by Kathy Wine

- 8 35 Years of Trailblazing**
Includes Water Trails

- 9 River to River Trail, Moline**
by Kathy Wine

- 10 Rock River Trail Update**
by Kathy Wine

- 11 LeClaire Trail Update**
by Noah Truesdell

- 11 Buffalo Trail Update**
by Noah Truesdell

- 12 eddy Calendar:**
February, March, April
by April Kleckner



Conservation in 2019

— by Laura Morris

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

In 2011, as a subset of the Quad City Wild Places coalition, River Action formed the Rock Island County Conservation Consortium to bring together practitioners, municipal, county, state and federal representatives, and science experts to develop approaches for improving coordination and conservation in Rock Island County, particularly at Wild Places sites. With funding support from the Quad Cities Community Foundation's CommunityWorks Endowment Fund, River Action has completed over \$1.4 million worth of conservation projects in Rock Island County through this program, with new and exciting projects totaling over \$164,000 to be completed in 2019.

These 2019 conservation projects include:

- Staircase and overlook improvements at Black Hawk State Historic Site, which will allow the River Trail system to be safer and more accessible to users,
- Updates to one mile of the Kiwanis Trail in Moline,
- Maintenance and removal of invasive species at Illiniwek Forest Preserve near a newly converted native prairie,
- Installation of two aluminum bridges to replace older, wooden structures at Loud Thunder Forest Preserve along the Sac Fox Trail,
- An update to the Rock River Ravines Watershed Plan from 2008,
- Maintenance using prescribed fire at Longview Park and the foot of 20th Street in Rock Island.

SCOTT COUNTY

Following the success of the Rock Island County Conservation Consortium, River Action formed the Scott County Conservation Consortium in 2017 to mirror the funding strategies and projects completed in the Rock Island County group. Funding for the 2018 and 2019 SCCC projects was provided by the Quad Cities Community Foundation's Challenge Grant and Arconic. In our first year of this program, we will be completing \$360,000 worth of conservation work in Scott County.

WHAT IS QC WILD PLACES?

Quad City Wild Places, created by River Action in 2011, functions as a cooperative partnership to advocate awareness, access, and conservation of the diversity of natural areas in an eight-county region totaling 66 sites on approximately 133,000 acres. It works to link local wilderness sites and their managing organizations with funding sources to help enhance them for ecosystem services and public use. Member sites are all within an hour's drive of the Quad Cities metro area. Visit www.qcwildplaces.com to find out more information.



Volunteers from Deere & Company haul debris at Pigeon Creek Park as a part of United Way's Day of Caring in 2018. River Action will be hosting a tree planting event at this site in celebration of Arbor Day on April 27, 2019, from 9 am - noon. (Photo by Laura Morris)

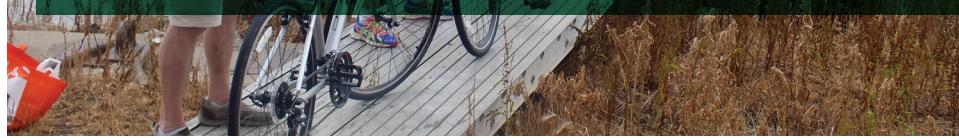
The 2019 priority conservation projects are:

- A tree planting event to celebrate Arbor Day on April 27 from 9 am - noon at Pigeon Creek Park,
- Streambank stabilization and trail relocation at Sunderbruch Park,
- Removal of invasive species at Junge Park,
- An educational streambank maintenance mailer to be sent to over 4,000 residents living adjacent to a streambank within Davenport,
- Installation of the first permeable alley in Davenport and educational materials to be shared with the community on the importance of green infrastructure,
- Educational signage additions to our recently installed floating islands and osprey platforms,
- Addition of native trees at Schuetzen Park,
- Removal of invasive species and a prescribed burn to enhance the native prairie found at the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center, and planting shade trees along the riverfront bike path in Davenport.

These conservation projects are planned to be completed in 2019, with many more important conservation programs to be added throughout the year. ☺

— by Noah Truesdell

Ride the River Will Advocate for a More Bikeable QC in its 35th Year



There will be two river crossings for riders aboard the Celebration Belle this year, 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

This year we are returning to our roots of advocacy for better biking. When Ride the River began in 1985, there was only one small section of riverfront path through Ben Butterworth Parkway in Moline. Our event gave people a chance to recreate along the riverfront in a way that they had not been able to before, on bikes. Today, we have over 60 miles of riverfront trails in the Quad Cities, which couldn't have been accomplished without the voices of those who demanded better public access to the river.

Riders will be able check out the plans each of our cities has to increase bikeability and give their input at this year's event. They can learn about the Complete Streets and Open Streets initiatives that are taking place here and around the country. We will also have representatives from the Scott County Health Initiative to promote more healthy lifestyles for everyone in the QC.

The 35th Annual Ride the River will take place on Father's Day, June 16. This year's ride will be a throwback to the early rides of the 80s. We encourage everyone to dig through closets

for fanny packs and leg warmers, and then come for some 80s jams and a ride along the QC riverfronts.

The ride will feature blasts from the past along the route. Bring the kids to try some of the popular toys and games from the era, or watch part of one of the movies that was popular when we were hosting our very first Ride the River in 1985. We will be offering "throwback pricing" for riders who register before May 1. It will be our original 1985 price of \$5!

Sometimes, plans need to be brought back into the public realm in order to get traction. We encourage all Quad Citizens and River Riders to get involved in making our metropolitan area safer for bikers and pedestrians. ☺

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River Action Launches REGIONAL FLOOD ALLIANCE

— by Carol Downey

River stakeholders in the greater Quad City region and Upper Mississippi River watershed gathered at the Upper Mississippi River Conference in Oct. 2018 to create the new Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance (QCFRA). The QC alliance is modeled after a successful similar effort in central Illinois (Illinois Valley Flood Resiliency Alliance) and joins two other downstate Illinois alliances.

Severe flooding on the Illinois River in 2013 affected towns near the Illinois River. However, the City of Ottawa, Ill., had very little damage (thousands of dollars) in comparison to the other cities on the Illinois River (millions of dollars). State Senator Sue Rezin (Illinois 38th District) saw this disparity and approached Mike Sutfin, Ottawa Building and Zoning, to share Ottawa's successes, resulting in formation of a regional coalition, the Illinois Valley Flood Resiliency Alliance (IVFRA). Two other alliances are being formed in other Illinois watersheds inspired by IVFRA. The process of forming such an alliance is being codified for use in other watersheds nationwide by the usage's Silver Jackets teams. Multiple agencies join together to function as a state-led interagency team focused on hazard mitigation, emergency management, floodplain management, natural resources management or conservation, etc. Federal resources include US Army Corps of Engineers, US Geological Survey, Federal Emergency Management Agency and National Weather Service.

The QCFRA aligns with a Hydrologic Unit Code 10 (HUC-10) boundary of the Upper Mississippi River as shown in the map. The boundary encompasses watersheds from

Clinton, Iowa to New Boston, Ill., on both the Illinois and Iowa sides of the river, a major difference from the three Illinois-only coalitions. The group hopes to tap into some of the expertise at the Iowa Flood Center as well as the experience of the IVFRA.

Quarterly meetings are planned for February, May, August, and November 2019. Goals for the Alliance include:

- A Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) in each city/town/village -- IVFRA brought in a CFM trainer so that alliance members could speak and understand the same language. They also were offered an on-site testing process to become CFMs.
- Join the IAFSM (Illinois Association for Floodplain & Stormwater Management) or IFSMA (Iowa Floodplain & Stormwater Management Association)
- Get communities involved in the alliance, then engage in the process to become part of FEMA/National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS). (In Illinois, just by joining an alliance, a community's flood insurance costs can drop by 10%)
- Adopt and enforce flood-smart regulatory standards within their floodplains

The alliance aims to identify and remediate or mitigate flood hazard areas and take actions or create policies to improve CRS ratings and qualify for reduced flood insurance rates. The alliance also will be able to represent its members to apply for federal grant funding to invest in pre-disaster mitigation actions or post-flood mitigation efforts.

Some proven benefits of similar alliances include:

- Knowing your interagency counterparts before the hectic times of a disaster-- pre-flood conference calls across the area can pay dividends in calming fears and securing resources.
- Utilizing each other's communities as resources to fight floods as a group instead of separately-- cities upstream where the flood has already passed may have resources they no longer need and can pass downstream to communities in need.
- Leveraging the combined power of the alliance to secure grant funding for flood preparation, flood mitigation, prevention, etc. ☺

The Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance will reconvene on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019 at 1:30 – 3 p.m. at Riverdale City Hall Community Room, 110 Manor Drive, Riverdale, Iowa.

WHAT: Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance Meeting

Agenda includes:

- Spring Flood Outlook (National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration and US Army Corps of Engineers)
- FEMA's Flood plain map changes viewer – demonstration of finding proposed map and flood zone updates
- 'Floodplain Management 101' Session

WHEN: 1:30-3 p.m. Feb. 29, 2018

WHERE: Riverdale, Iowa City Hall Community Room, 110 Manor Drive, Riverdale, Iowa

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Concerned citizens, city/county/village leaders and administrators; emergency management personnel; floodplain managers; public works personnel; local and state-level elected officials

COST: Free

CONTACT: Carol Downey, River Action Program Manager, at 563-322-2969 or cdowney@riveraction.org

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FUTURE QCFRA MEETINGS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
All meetings will be held at Riverdale, Iowa City Hall Community Room at 1:30 p.m., 110 Manor Drive, Riverdale, IA.

Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019

Agenda:

- Spring Flood Outlook (NOAA and USACE)
- 'Floodplain Management 101' Class

Thursday, May 30, 2019

Prior to this meeting, complete the CRS Quick Check found at crsresources.org if not already a CRS community

Tentative Agenda:

- 'Community Rating System 101' Session
- Panel discussion with local CRS community representatives (Moline, Rock Island County, Davenport, Whiteside County)
- Meet with a CRS Specialist

Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019

Tentative Agenda:

- Hazard mitigation 'Hit List' – Identify the top three flood hazard sites from your community to share with the group to create a priority mitigation list
- Lessons learned from 2018 flood events

Thursday, Nov. 21, 2019

Tentative Agenda:

- Certified Floodplain Management (CFM) Training

QCFRA met in Nov., 2018 in Riverdale, IA. (Photo by Anthony Heddlesten)

DID YOU KNOW?

- Flooding is the most common and costly type of natural disaster in the U.S.!
- Flooding can happen anywhere, not just in flood zones marked on a map!
- Just ONE INCH of water in a home can cause more than \$25,000 in damage.
- Most homeowners' and renters' insurance DOES NOT COVER FLOOD DAMAGE!
- Without flood insurance, survivors must recover with loans and very little federal assistance.
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies can take up to 30 days to begin coverage.
- Visit FloodSmart.gov or call 800-427-4661 to learn more about flood insurance.
- Contact your insurance agent to purchase a flood insurance policy.
- Contact your community leaders to find out if yours is a CRS (Community Rating System) community to help lower everyone's flood insurance costs.



Thirty-Five Years of Trailblazing Includes Water Trails

— by Kathy Wine

River Action, always the advocate for experiencing the river as it was first discovered while paddling, has identified 22 public access points to water trails in the Quad Cities. Six of those are marked with a RiverWay marker that details GPS coordinates, degree of difficulty of the route, information on portages, dams, marinas, important phone numbers for emergencies, and more. Those launch areas with markers are: 1st Street in Andalusia, Credit Island in Davenport, 18th Avenue in Sunset Park, Rock Island, Lock & Dam 14 Boat Ramp in LeClaire, foot of 17th Street and Mississippi River, Moline, public boat ramp, Princeton, and 27th St. and Rock River in Moline.

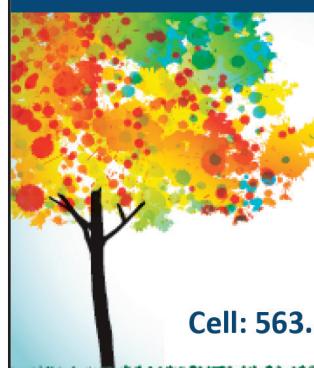
In 2019, River Action will address safety issues for keeping those on the water and by the water safe with the following:

- Painting the entrance to docks and ramps with "Life Jacket Safety Zone" to increase awareness of the need to not only have a jacket, but to wear it.
- Informing motorists that every car should have a line to throw to someone in trouble; it can be as simple as a 50-foot line with a tennis ball on the end.
- Having floats at the shore and on docks for rescue.
- Reinforcing the message "Stash your Trash". This can be done with PVC pipe used as a holder for used fish line where anglers fish, for example.

A variety of paddling classes are available year-round for all abilities. Classes are taught by licensed instructors and address water safety, technique and skills. For a full listing go to: www.riveraction.org. ☺

This is the first in a series of trail updates in 2019. The purpose is to show existing and planned public access trails along the Quad City riverfronts in order to allow the public to enjoy the riverfront, explore the shoreline and neighborhoods, and envision how access might improve in the future.

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River to River Trail, Moline



— by Kathy Wine

In May, 2018, The Illinois Department of Transportation awarded the City of Moline a \$2 million grant to connect the Mississippi River multi-use trail system to the Rock River trail. Eventually, it will also connect to the new I-74 Bridge trail leading to Iowa. Moline's contribution of \$500,000 brings the total investment to \$2.4 million.

The river-to-river recreation path codified about six years ago awaits the completion of the I-74 Bridge before construction can begin. Generally speaking, it will follow the I-74 corridor; in the meantime, there are three alignment studies underway.

"It is our alignment and refinement stage as we work to connect the corridors", Jeff Anderson, city planner and author of the grant, reports, "The first phase will be from River Drive to 7th Avenue. We have one shot to get it right. The adage 'measure twice, cut once' comes to mind." After alignment is determined, construction can begin with the goal of completion by the time the I-74 Bridge is completed in 2020-21 when it will connect with an expansive trail and observation area on the bridge. ☺



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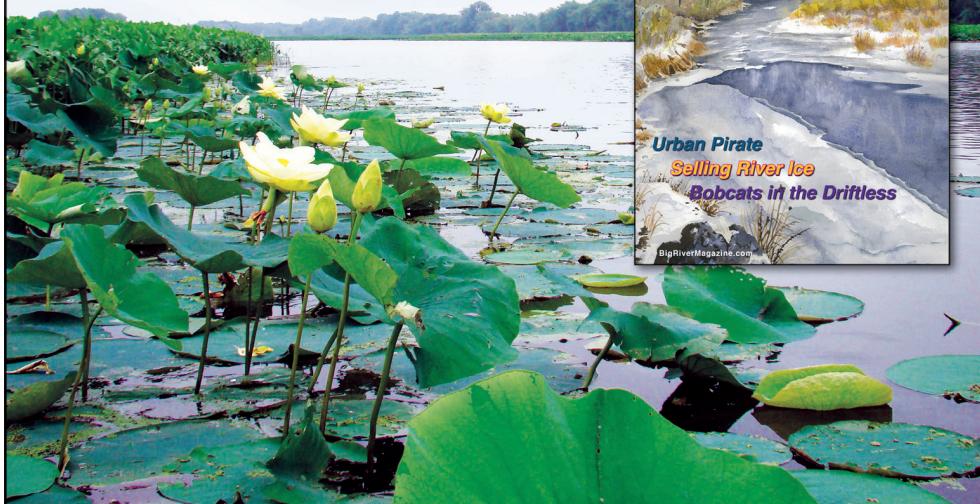


Pedestrians and cyclists can now access Sylvan Island via the recently reopened Sylvan Island Bridge. The bridge had been closed for repair from early 2013 until December of 2017. If you didn't get a chance to get back on the island last summer, be sure to check it out!

Rock River Trail Update

— by Kathy Wine

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The Rock River Trail, established along the 320 mile river course, starts in Wisconsin and ends in Rock Island. A multi-use recreation trail of scenic and historic interest, it runs through 11 counties and includes a water trail designated as a state and national water trail by the National Park Service. Constructed in 2010, founders established a scenic and historic route for motorists as well as a route for bikers and hikers.

In an effort to promote ecotourism, the Rock River Trail Initiative has promoted safe portage of the dams from Waupun, Wisconsin, to Rock Island. It advocates for protection and preservation of our Native American peoples, their cultural heritage and contributions in the river valley. With support for natural resource conservation, stewardship, and environmental planning, it contributes to improved water quality and ecosystems.

Over the past eight years, signage has been installed for portages, launches, biking and driving, including several signs in the Quad Cities. In 2018, awards were given to two bicyclists and a pilot that completed all 320 miles; nineteen 320-Mile Awards have been given since the program was established three years ago. Local bicycle enthusiast, Dean Mathias, serves currently as a volunteer on the Rock River Trails board. ☺



TRAILBLAZING



LeClaire Trail Update

— by Noah Truesdell

LeClaire residents are enthusiastic about a potential multi-use trail that will pass through town. "Anytime we ask residents about their top interests related to Park and Rec activities, the bike path is always at the top of the list," said Amy Blair of the LeClaire City Council. The trail is incorporated into LeClaire's comprehensive five year Parks and Recreation Plan and its Economic Development Plan.

The city engineer has developed the trail plan for construction of approximately 2.6 miles of separated trail adjacent to the Mississippi River. The trail will run alongside the Great River Road scenic byway and the Mississippi River Flyway and through the riverfront portion of downtown. The project will connect with the historic Cody Trail, an existing 25.5 mile signed trail through rural Scott County from Eldridge to LeClaire.

Total cost for implementation of the new bike path is estimated at \$1.5 million. There is currently \$475,000 in the city capital investment plan to support the project. The city is currently applying for state and federal trail grants to move forward with construction.

This year the Parks and Recreation team will be transforming the green space of Huckleberry Park for the first time in the city's history. Their development plan includes the installation of a new pavilion with kitchen and restrooms as well as a large playground in 2019. ☺

Buffalo Trail Update

— by Noah Truesdell

The Buffalo Trail was completed in the summer of 2018. The total cost of the project was just over \$450,000. Funds raised through fundraisers, grants, and donations from local businesses and individuals ultimately got the project completed. Jim Matthys, Chairman of the Buffalo Trail Committee stated, "Our biggest obstacle was being patient, as it took over twenty years," obtaining a DOT grant for a trail through a small community proved difficult. They achieved their goal by working with the Bi-State Regional Commission, River Action, the Quad Cities Bicycle Club, Dean Mathias, and city, county and state officials.

There has been discussion of a trail expansion from the west end of Buffalo to Muscatine along Highway 22. With Highway 22 scheduled to be resurfaced under the Iowa DOT's twenty year program, there is hope that funding can be secured to connect that section of the Mississippi River Trail at that time.

The grand opening of the Buffalo Trail will take place in early June. Like River Action on Facebook to stay informed of the date of the event once it's finalized. ☺

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February

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club – Freshwater Mussels

Feb 1, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org
Learn about the adaptations, diets, life cycle and history of the most endangered species in the U.S. Mussel shells will be shown and students will learn to identify common species. \$5 suggested donation.

Sierra Club Eagle View Group: Tree Hugger Trivia

Feb 2, 6 pm, Martin Luther King Center, 630 9th St, Rock Island, sierraclub.org/illinois/eagle-view
Mulligans and doublers available. Free agents are welcome. Bring your own snacks & non-alcoholic beverages. Silent auction and cash prizes awarded. \$10 person, 8 people per table.

Quad Cities Bicycle Club: 2019 RAGBRAI for Rookies

Feb 2, 1-4 pm, Davenport Public Library Main Branch, 321 N. Main St, Davenport, quadcitiesbicycleclub.org
Training advice and safety tips for first time riders and veterans. Bike maintenance demonstrations. Free.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Feb 2, 9-10 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org
Join a Naturalist for a guided hike along the trails and experience the environmental changes as plants and wildlife adapt to the seasons. \$5 suggested donation.

FORC: Frozen Fat Fondo Fest

Feb 2, 9 am-6 pm, Credit Island Park, 2200 W. River Dr, Davenport, qcforc.org
Riders will bike through thick lowland forest and chunky river shoreline on this three-hour endurance ride. Fatbikes with tires 3.5" or wider are required.

Nahant Marsh: Family Program – Owls

Feb 9, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org
Learn about owl habitats by looking at skulls, wings, and mounts. Students will study and dissect owl pellets. \$3 member/\$6 guest.

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Black Hawk State Historic Site: Valentine Indoor Music and Moonlight Walk

Feb 14, 6:30-8:30 pm, Watch Tower Lodge at Black Hawk State Historic Site, 1510 46th Ave, Rock Island, blackhawkpark.org

Take a self-guided stroll outside on a luminaria-lit path and nearly full moon. Come inside the lodge, keep warm by the fire, and enjoy music provided by Just4Fun. Free and family friendly.

Quad City Audubon Society: Field Trip

Feb 16, 7:30 am, Meet at Lock & Dam 14 Iowa side, quadcityaudubon.org

Half-day trip from LeClaire to Hampton to look for wintering waterfowl, gulls and eagles. Free.

Conservation & Science Speaker – Cowbirds, Conservation and Coevolution

Feb 17, 3-4 pm, Niabi Zoo, 13010 Niabi Zoo Rd, Coal Valley, niabizoo.com

Join Dr. Brian Peer, to learn possible explanations for the cowbird's strange parenting behavior and current research on the Prothonotary Warbler that nests in the Mississippi River floodplain. Member and students free/\$8 non-member donation to Conservation Fund.

Nahant Marsh: First Annual Oberholtzer Awards

Feb 23, 9:30 am – Noon, Modern Woodmen Park, 209 S. Gaines St, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

An event to recognize past, present, and future conservation leaders who have made significant contributions toward understanding the protecting the natural world. \$40 member/\$50 guest.

Figge Art Museum: Family Day and Eagle Viewing

Feb 23, 10 am-2 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd St, Davenport, quadcityaudubon.org

Free family day. Enjoy activities throughout the museum inspired by current exhibitions. Scopes will be set up for eagle viewing.

QC Flood Resiliency Alliance Meeting

Feb 28, 1:30-3 pm, Riverdale, IA City Hall, 110 Manor Dr, Riverdale, IA, riveraction.org

NOAA and US Army Corps of Engineers will provide a spring flood outlook, 'Floodplain Management 101'. Free and open to the public.

March

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club – Turtles of Iowa

Mar 1, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Learn about the local turtle species that live in Iowa and why these cold-blooded creatures are an important part of the ecosystem. \$5 suggested donation.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Mar 2, 9-10 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Join a Naturalist for a guided hike along the trails and experience the environmental changes as plants and wildlife adapt to the seasons. \$5 suggested donation.

Bi-State Alternative Energy Conference

Mar 5, 9-3:30 pm, Gerber Center, Room Gavle 3 at Augustana College, 3435 9 1/2 Ave, Rock Island

Is your community ready for renewable energy? It does more than power homes and businesses. In recent years, alternative energy has become a robust economic engine that generates jobs and tax revenue. Learn more about practices that will position your community to maximize benefits. Free lunch with advance sign-up.

Nahant Marsh: Family Program – Wilderness Survival Skills

Mar 9, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Families will learn important tips and skills to help survive in the wild. Activities include shelter and fire building. \$3 member/\$6 guest.

FORC: Bike & Gear Swap Meet

Mar 10, 12-3 pm, The Village Theater, 2113 E. 11th St, Village of East Davenport, qcforc.org

Spare bike parts, accessories, and other outdoor gear to swap or buy. Free.

Quad City Audubon Society: Monthly Meeting

Mar 14, 7 pm, Butterworth Center, 1105 8th St, Moline, quadcityaudubon.org

Heather Sanders will present a program on owls. Open to the public. Free.

Nahant Marsh: Master Conservationist

Mar 20, 6-8 pm, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

This program uses field experience and online training to cover a broad range of conservation issues and topics. \$130 member/\$175 non-member.

Flower and Garden Show

Mar 22-24, Quad City Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave, Rock Island, qccaexpocenter.com

Features a display of products from Agriculture & Forestry, Architecture & Designing, Horticulture & Floriculture, Natural & Organic industries. \$8 adults, \$1 Children ages 6-15.

Quad City Audubon Society: Cone Marsh Field Trip

Mar 23, 7 am, Credit Island, 2200 W. River Dr, Davenport, quadcityaudubon.org

Meet near the Army tank for this full-day Cone Marsh field trip. Free.

Henry Farnam Dinner: Henry Farnam, who Brought the First Railroad and Bridge to the Mississippi

Mar 28, 5:00 pm, Radisson Conference Center, 111 E. 2nd St, Davenport, riveraction.org

Henry Farnam's life and work will be honored by a group of experts. Reservations recommended. \$45 per person.

Continued on page 14 >

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JASON HOUSWORTH



District Manager

I.S.A. Certified Arborist # ILA228A



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<Continued from page 13

Nahant Marsh: Spring Migration Hike

Mar 28, 5-6 pm, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

See a wide range of migrating waterfowl at the largest urban wetland on the upper Mississippi River. Nahant Marsh serves as a resting spot on the great bird spring migrations. \$5 suggested donation.

Nahant Marsh: 7th Annual Trivia Night

Mar 30, 7 pm, Center for Active Seniors, 1035 W. Kimberly Rd, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

A silent auction is included as part of this annual fundraiser, hosted by local favorite, Mr. Trivia. \$10 per person.

April

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club – Make-n-Take Terrariums

Apr 5, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Create your own terrarium and learn what plants work best with them. \$5 suggested donation.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Apr 6, 9-10 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Join a Naturalist for a guided hike along the trails and experience the environmental changes as plants and wildlife adapt to the seasons. \$5 suggested donation.

FORC: Sylvan Island Stampede XI

Apr 7, 4-11 am, Sylvan Island, 2nd St and 1st Ave, Moline, qcforc.org

Mountain bike race with four-mile loops. Entrance fees vary.

Quad City Audubon Society: Princeton Marsh Field Trip

Apr 13, 7 am, LeClaire, quadcityaudubon.org
Meet in Slagle's parking lot in LeClaire for this half-day trip. Free.

Nahant Marsh: Spring Celebration & Eco-Egg Hunt

Apr 13, 9 am-noon, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

At their leisure, children (ages 3-12) participate in a Hide-and-Seek Egg Hunt or a GPS Scavenger Egg Hunt. There will also be a variety of nature-themed hands-on activities for children and their families to learn about local wildlife. \$5 member/\$7 guest.

River Action's Fish & Fire Friendraiser/Fundraiser

Apr 26, 5:30 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W. 2nd St, Davenport, riveraction.org

Enjoy dinner, be a part of the 19th Annual Eddy Awards Presentation and bid on dozens of silent auction items. \$45 Adult (\$32 discounted ticket for member), \$12 children, \$400 table of 10.

Black Hawk State Historic Site: 44th Annual Stroll through Springtime

Apr 27, 7 am-noon, Watch Tower Lodge at Black Hawk State Historic Site, 1510 46th Ave, Rock Island, blackhawkpark.org

Birders will locate resident and migratory birds and identify wildflowers. Refreshments provided including wild violet jelly. Free for all ages.

Arbor Day Tree Planting

Apr 27, 9 am-noon, Pigeon Creek Park, 7001 Schutter Ln, Bettendorf, riveraction.org

Join River Action, the City of Bettendorf, and US Fish and Wildlife Service as they plant over 100 native trees at Pigeon Creek Park. Please wear closed-toe shoes and dress for the weather. Refreshments provided.

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