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MAGAZINE

Avoid the Crowds Visit QC Wild Places

Loud Thunder Forest Preserve

Sunderbruch Park

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Chip in for your chance to win

When you chip in to help area charities, you can win some great prizes. But your favorite charity will be the real winner. That's because participating charities receive every single penny of the donations from this program, plus a bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund which is a guaranteed 5% match.

GRAND PRIZE:
2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2020 LEXUS NX



LEXUS
SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES

One lucky supporter of the John Deere Classic's Birdies for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2020 Lexus NX, courtesy of Smart Lexus of the Quad Cities. Other prizes awarded by random drawing.

CONTEST RULES

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties and other prizes determined by random drawing.
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card and received at the tournament office by **July 10, 2020**.
- Rules are available at www.birdiesforcharity.com.
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.
- Pledges submitted after the JDC may be applied the following year.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

Simply make a one-time flat donation OR pledge one cent or more per birdie. After the tournament, you'll be mailed a notice of your pledge amount due.

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA Tour Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday. A grand prize will be given to one person who guesses the correct number. In case of ties, winners will be randomly selected.

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

Your pledge is based on actual number of birdies scored.

I pledge \$ _____ one-time donation
OR \$ _____ per birdie

If 2,000 birdies are made, my total pledge would be:

1¢ = \$20 3¢ = \$60 5¢ = \$100
2¢ = \$40 4¢ = \$80 10¢ = \$200

I guessed _____ birdies would be made



RIVER ACTION, INC.

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

1067

BIRD NUMBER

I pledge and promise to donate:

\$ _____ one-time flat donation.

Please attach payment. Checks payable to Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation.

OR

\$ _____ for every birdie made during the John Deere Classic.

\$ _____

extra donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund

Donations to the BFC Bonus Fund (#1041) benefit all participating charities.

GUESS THE BIRDIES & WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2020 LEXUS NX!

I guess that _____ birdies will be made.

Only 1 grand prize will be awarded. Void where prohibited by law.

BIRDIES SCORED (YEAR)

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2,160 (2011) | 2,040 (2014) | 1,918 (2017) |
| 2,113 (2012) | 1,990 (2015) | 2,355 (2018) |
| 2,142 (2013) | 1,982 (2016) | 2,091 (2019) |

PLEDGE INFORMATION (Please print)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE OR EMAIL _____



May/June/July 2020
Volume 10 Issue 2

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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.

Making Connections

What a difficult spring; nature has not forgotten us, though. We've enjoyed some beautiful budding trees, flowers, and sunsets.

The novel Coronavirus has had an enormous impact on the non-profit sector, and River Action is no different in that we have suffered a loss of income and revenue due to the cancellation of programs and events, not to mention face-to-face fundraising. Our team is adapting to meet the priorities of all the programs; this issue summarizes the actions we have taken in response to COVID-19 and provides some further updates for the summer.

Our magazine is supported by wonderful advertisers, some of whom have maintained support since our first issue in 2010. This pandemic has upended business, and the easiest way to help them out is to support them now. Buy gift cards to use down the road, shop locally online, skip the refund if you missed something you had tickets for and write it off as a donation, or give a shout-out about the businesses by leaving stellar reviews on social media. We are all stressed right now, but businesses, worried about their livelihood, have a special level of anxiety. Send a thank you along with other support. It will go a long way.

One of the paradoxes of this publisher's job is sending issues of Eddy Magazine to thousands of readers but rarely finding out what you think of the articles. Do you like them or not? Are they informative and inspiring, or (gulp!) sleep-inducing? I want to know. Do me a favor and read through this issue with a critical eye. Then share your opinions: Which was your favorite article? Least favorite? What would you like to read more about?

I have no idea how you'll tackle this, or what you'll say. Our staff review our content for each issue and find plenty to say, both positive and negative, but our opinions are shaped by our connections to the subject. My request is part of an effort to learn more about existing members and about new supporters whom we might enlist in our shared mission to join us in our work.

So here's the deal: take a few extra minutes with this issue, then send me an email at kwine@riveraction.org with your comments. This is an informal survey, but I'll benefit from your insights. Since you already subscribe, I won't send you a free issue, but I will respond to your message.

Finally, I return to our mission and creating the kind of community in which we want to live. In the midst of this unprecedented situation, while we learn to work through uncertainty and ambiguity, we want to continue to invest in the riverfront, the river, and our natural areas. Help us by donating if you can online at www.riveraction.org, or by check to River Action, 822 East River Dr., Davenport, 52803. Connection right now goes a long way. ☺



Kathy Wine

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Ride the River 2020



In an effort to get families riding in June, Ride the River planners are preparing a month-long event, providing a challenging touchless family scavenger hunt, all in keeping with the advised social distancing.

Embark with your family on an adventure of discovery at this year's Ride & Seek scavenger hunt in June. Ride riverfront trails seeking landmarks, photo opportunities, community art, and more. Each rider will receive 36 clues (36 for 36 years!) to solve. Take photos at locations to earn prizes! Details will be announced soon on the River Action website.

Ride the River supports River Action's mission of improving access to the riverfront. When Ride the River began, there were only two miles of riverfront trail in the Quad Cities along the Ben Butterworth Parkway in Moline. Now we have over 30 miles of trail on each side of the Mississippi. River Action also advocated for the \$2.2 million Credit Island pedestrian bridge completed in 2012 and contributed all funding for the design of the Arsenal bike/pedestrian bridge over Sylvan Slough. This year, your support will help us to complete the iconic First Bridge replica span across River Drive in Davenport. First Bridge will allow safe access for pedestrians and cyclists to the riverfront trail from the neighborhoods in downtown Davenport. It will also serve as a safe crossing for visitors arriving to our area via the American and Viking river cruise lines which will dock at River Heritage Park.

Another way you can support River Action is to become a Friend of Ride the River. Friends support the expansion of the Quad Cities trail network and accessibility by supporting River Action's Ride the River/ Ride & Seek. This year the Davenport Noon Kiwanis Club, one of our longtime Friends, is providing reflective snap bands for each child on the ride. Become a Friend today at riveraction.org/friends! ☺



Floatzilla 2020!

The 2019 Floatzilla group photo was taken by a drone, giving us a new view of the crowd!

— By Noah Truesdell

2020 marks the 11th year of FLOATZILLA, the biggest and most acclaimed paddling event on the Mississippi! On Saturday, Aug. 15, paddlers will launch from five locations across the Quad Cities to enjoy paddling the Mississippi River free of barge traffic, and through their participation support River Action's efforts to restore habitat, renovate infrastructure, and foster citizen action to improve water quality in the Mississippi River watershed.

Launch locations at Leach Park in Bettendorf and Lindsay Park Yacht Club in Davenport will require locking through at Lock and Dam 15. Paddlers launching from the Bass Street YMCA Rowing Center in Moline will have a short, assisted portage over Sylvan Island. Enjoy music and a selection of our popular local food trucks at Lake Potter before the attempt at the world record for largest flotilla of kayaks and canoes.

River Action hopes to expand on the success of the 2019 Cops, Kids, Kayaks, and Canoes event as well. We will once again be working with law enforcement agencies on both sides of the river to meet and teach local at-risk youth how to paddle. The program seeks to give both the youth and police officers a chance to interact in an at-ease and fun-filled environment, and to introduce the youth to an activity they can enjoy for the rest of



their lives. All kids in the program receive a free life jacket.

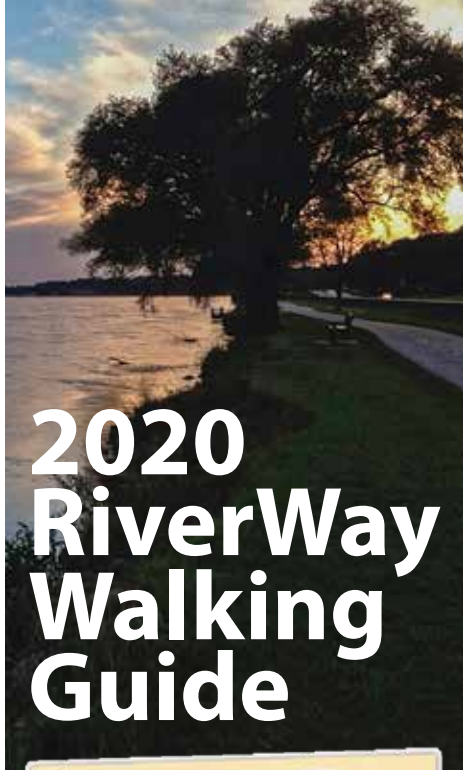
In addition, River Action is partnering with the Quad City Symphony Orchestra Pops Concert, which begins just a few hours after Floatzilla with the symphony's Fleetwood Mac tribute; it is the perfect encore on Arsenal Island. The symphony has offered \$5 off the ticket price for anyone who takes part in Floatzilla. Register for Floatzilla to get your Symphony coupon code.

Early registration for Floatzilla 2020 ends June 30. Sign up now to be entered into all registration giveaways including an Aruba Kayak donated by Theisen's and a Car Top Kayak Rack donated by Thule. Register now for Floatzilla at www.riveraction.org/Floatzilla! ☺



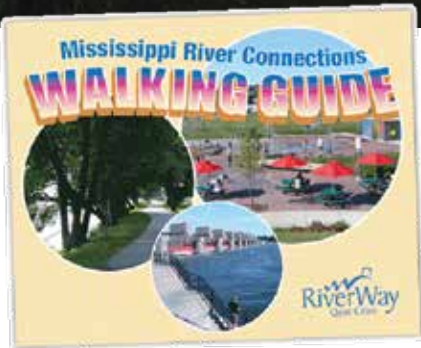
David A. Johnson, D.D.S.

3512 Jersey Ridge Road
Davenport, IA 52807
(563) 359-3494



2020 RiverWay Walking Guide

Photo by Amy Neighbour VanEchaure, pi design, inc.



— By Noah Truesdell

Back by popular demand! Thanks to \$5,000 in funding from Cobham Mission Systems, US Bank, and printing provided by Mancomm, River Action is updating the RiverWay Walking Guide this spring. The pocket-sized guide provides information on paths and landmarks along the Quad Cities Riverfront. Stop into the River Action office or Visit Quad Cities this summer for your copy. ☺



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18th Annual Fish & Fire at the Figge on August 28

—By Noah Truesdell

River Action's annual friendraiser and fundraiser, Fish & Fire, has been rescheduled to Friday, Aug. 28, 2020. The event will be held at the beautiful Figge Art Museum which boasts an excellent view of the resilient Mississippi River. That evening, we will enjoy the Steeplegate Inn's famous fish fry catered by Frontier Hospitality Group before recognizing our 2020 Eddy Award winners and silent auction winners. The Eddy Awards are presented to individuals who have devoted themselves to making the river a cleaner, safer, more vibrant and integral part of our community by going against the current, as in an eddy to get things done. New to the awards will be the Eddy Scholarships going to two local scholars sponsored by the Singh Family Foundation. This year's Eddy winners are: Eric Sorensen, Meteorologist, WQAD, for Education, IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union for Design, the Buffalo Trail Committee for River Activity, Brad Bisby, painter, for Art, Amy Kay, Davenport Clean Water Manager, for Stewardship, REDEEM and The Bend for Revitalization, Deb Kuntzi, of the Hauberg Center, for Revitalization, and Special Recognition awards to Roger Viadero, Ph.D., Western Illinois University, and Anthony Heddleston, P.E., C.F.M., US Army Corps of Engineers.

Support River Action by bidding on items and experiences from local businesses in our silent auction which this year features: experiences on the water including small-group cruises donated by Brent Wessel, Terry and Christie Ellenberg, and Bill Boom, as well as the renowned Celebration Belle river cruise for two. Bid on overnight stays at the luxurious Hotel Blackhawk and The Current Iowa, also included in the auction. For all of the sports enthusiasts, we have tickets to Hawkeye football, Chicago Cubs, and St. Louis Cardinals, as well as a football signed by the entire 2019 Green Bay Packers football team! We have two indoor/outdoor tables donated to us by Arts Works and Dwellings in LeClaire, Iowa, and bicycle helmets and accessories from Jerry and Sparky's.

Be sure to join us Aug. 28 for your chance to bid and win at the silent auction and celebrate the accomplishments of our Mississippi River community. Tickets for the event can be purchased online at www.riveraction.org/fishandfire.



Fish & Fire will be held on August 28 at the Figge Art Museum, located at 225 W 2nd St, Davenport, IA 52801.

Transforming the way we fly and drive.



ARCONIC

Summer Smarts: Education on the River

— By Philip Tunnicliff



Left: Passengers ready for the first Channel Cat talk of 2019 season. Right: Chuck Wester presents his Riverine Walk to an attentive audience

This summer take the opportunity to learn and experience some of the work that happens every day in the Quad Cities. The Explore the River Series is an annual offering that educates the public about the culture, history, and environment that we live in. River Action works with dedicated volunteers and experts who give presentations on land as well as on the Channel Cat. These talks discuss topics ranging from endangered species like the Rusty Patched Bumblebee to the history of McClellan Heights in Davenport. The series comprises 13 presentations on land and 13 on the river. Additionally, Art Along the River is returning with five different art classes presented monthly on Sundays at 2 p.m. There are 31 different presentations, and all but the art classes are presented twice.

The Riverine Walks are land-based talks, and they kick off with “Permeable Alley”, a chance to talk with Amy Kay from the City of Davenport on conservation improvements and how they clean water and mitigate flooding. The featured alley is behind River Action’s office at 822 East River Drive, Davenport.

On the water, Channel Cat Talks start with “It’s Fish and Chips Time!” a commercial fishing presentation and demonstration led by Mike Schafer, of Schafer Fisheries. This talk culminates with a wild catfish fry following the talk at no additional charge.

These are but two offerings of the 31 that make up the Explore the River Series in 2020. The entire schedule can be found online at riveraction.org/education, so read them all. While the schedule may shift in these unprecedented times, it is available and always up to date on our website where you may also purchase tickets. Visit riveraction.org/education ©

Get Wild This Summer & Avoid the Crowds

— By Philip Tunnicliff

Spring is a time for new life and getting outside to enjoy a new year. Though this year is anything but normal, there are still many ways to get out enjoy nature. The 66 Quad City Wild Places are wonderful natural spaces that allow plenty of room to be outside and at a safe distance. While many playgrounds and recreational activities are closed, hiking trails and walking paths remain open. Scattered across five counties, a Quad City Wild Place is nearby no matter where you may be.

For young hikers, if you take photos of yourself exploring three Wild Places, fill out the form at www.riveraction.org/qc_explorer_form, you can become an official QC Wild Places Explorer and receive a certificate and ballcap from River Action for taking on the adventure!



Two sites highlighted here are Loud Thunder Forest Preserve in Illinois and

Sunderbruch Park in Iowa. Loud Thunder is a large preserve of 1,480 acres including beautiful Lake George. It has miles of beautiful trails and natural splendor. From 2015 to 2017, River Action helped fund improved access to two miles of the Sac Fox trail as well as the restoration of 41 acres of woodland including erosion control measures. Last year, through the Rock Island County Conservation Consortium, River Action supported the construction of two new bridges on the Sac Fox trail and expansion of a 13-foot wide trail ensuring the safety and longevity of this amenity.

In the southwest corner of Davenport, Sunderbruch Park is a 134-acre multi-use natural area. It includes part of Blackhawk Creek, large swaths of woodlands, and over 10 miles of trails. In 2012 River Action worked with Friends of Off-Road Cycling to build a suspension bridge and observation point at the park providing a path to otherwise inaccessible parts of the area. Last year, The Scott County Conservation Consortium, with help from City of Davenport and FORC, completed a streambank stabilization project on Blackhawk Creek further improving this remarkable park. These and many other worthy natural places can be found through our website at riveraction.org/qcwildplaces. You can also find the QC Wild Explorers form on the site. Take some time this spring to enjoy the wonder of the natural world in the Quad Cities. ©



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Plant on it

— by Kathy Wine

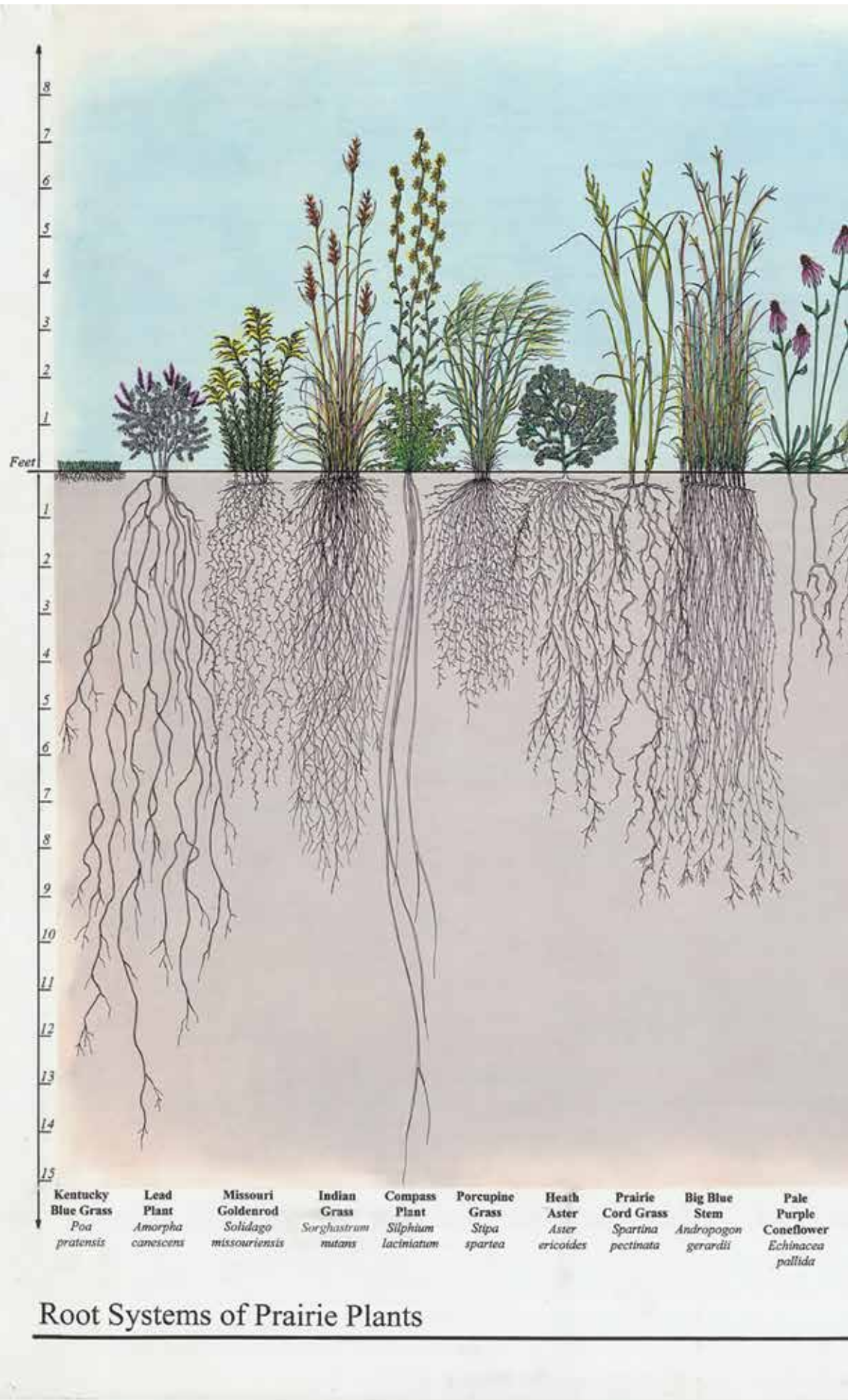
Now is the time to capture rainfall to irrigate plants, lawns and divert runoff from stormwater sewers and rivers.

Natural landscaping refers to the use of native plants—particularly prairie, wetland and woodland species—on a lawn, development, or redevelopment site. Native vegetation is a low-cost alternative to traditional landscaping that utilizes turf grass and ornamental plantings.

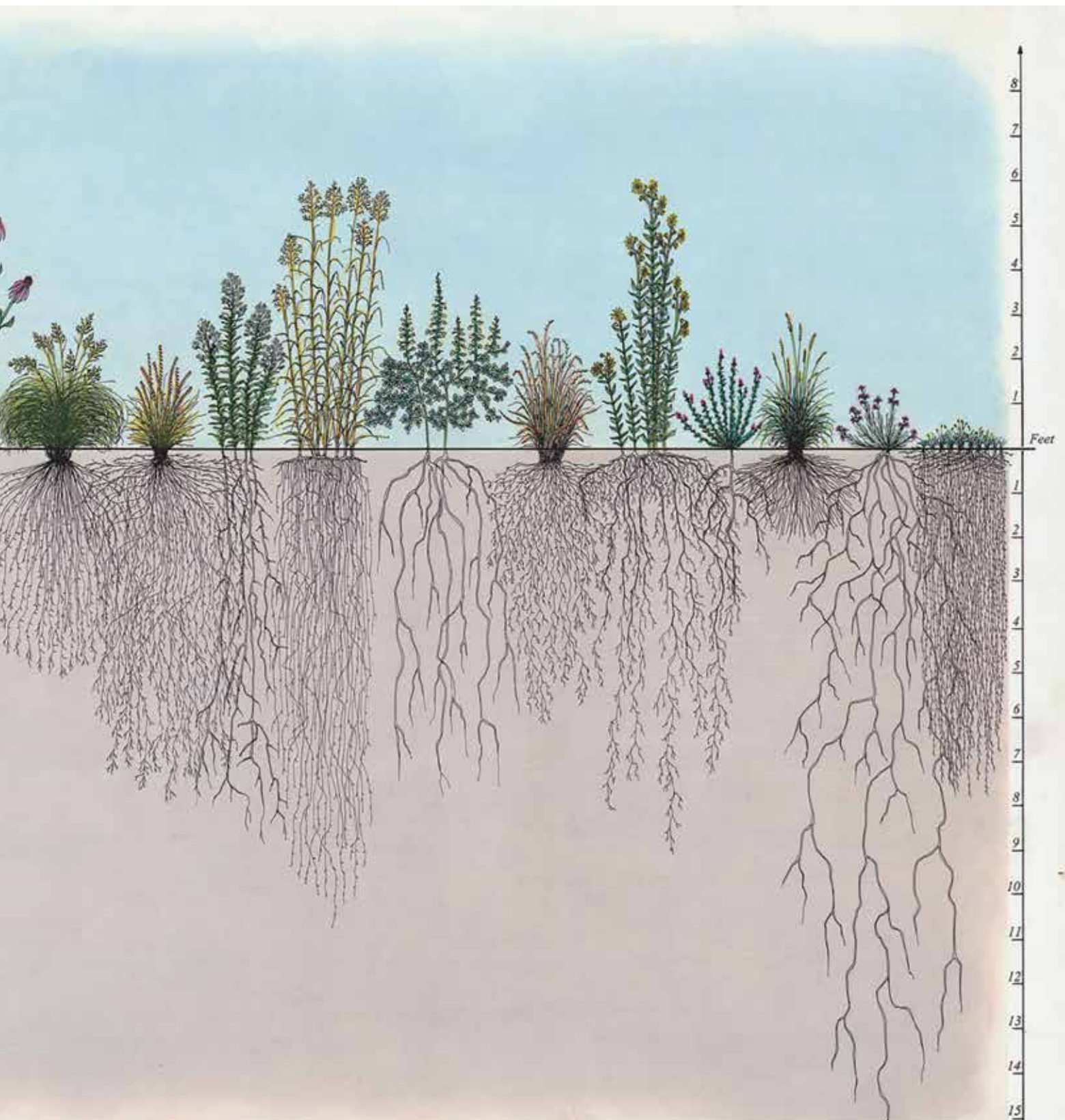
A site that is naturally landscaped will produce substantially less stormwater runoff than a conventional landscape. (Note the root system of normal lawn grass in the centerfold of this issue.) Native vegetation enhances both absorption of rainfall and evaporation of soil moisture due to extensive root systems that extend down three to 10 feet or more.

In contrast, the root zone of turf grass typically extends only about three to four inches. The benefits of natural landscaping are enhanced if runoff from impervious surfaces is routed across native vegetation buffer strips. A local residential site assessment indicated that annual runoff volumes from a residential lot could be reduced by as much as 65 percent by utilizing swales and filter strips with native wet prairie and prairie vegetation. Similarly, it reduces pollutants associated with urban runoff.

Learn more in River Action's Six Simple Things You Can Do To Save The Mississippi River, a 31-page booklet available on line at riveraction.org, or from River Action, 563-322-2969. ©



Root Systems of Prairie Plants



| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| Prairie Dropseed <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> | Side Oats Gramma <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> | False Boneset <i>Kuhnia eupatorioides</i> | Switch Grass <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | White Wild Indigo <i>Baptisia leucantha</i> | Little Blue Stem <i>Andropogon scoparius</i> | Rosin Weed <i>Silphium integrifolium</i> | Purple Prairie Clover <i>Petalostemum purpureum</i> | June Grass <i>Koeleria cristata</i> | Cylindric Blazing Star <i>Liatris cylindracea</i> | Buffalo Grass <i>Buchloe dactyloides</i> |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|

Conservation Research Institute

Heidi Nitzera 1995



We Remember
Dick Stahl

(1939-2020)

— by Kathy Wine

A retired Davenport Central High School English teacher, Dick Stahl wrote with a fascination for the Mississippi and its romantic lore. His books of poetry include *After the Milk Route*, *Under the Green Tree Hotel*, and *Henry Farnam's Guests*. Members of River Action's Environmental Book Club regularly enjoyed his reviews and contributions to book discussions.

In 2001, he became the Quad Cities' first Poet Laureate. At the time of his death in February, he left behind more than a thousand poems.

Dick and his wife Helen became part of the first 2004 Henry Farnam Dinner committee and contributed to each annual celebration with toasts and poetry each year since. His last poem will be read at the 2020 Henry Farnam Dinner, date to be announced. The following is an excerpt from a poem he read at the dinner in 2019.

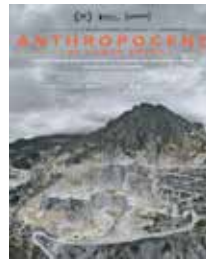


Henry Farnam's Western Vision and Victory

*New York farm boy and self-educated civil engineer,
Henry W. Farnam, already acquainted with building canals,
knew how to build a railroad too. He had ridden a horse
along a proposed line from Chicago west
to the Mississippi River, and he liked what he saw. The smooth,
rolling prairie hills seemed perfect
for the construction of the upstart Chicago and Rock Island Railroad
to become the first in the young nation to win
the race to steam-whistle victoriously into Rock Island*



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FALL 2020

— by Bailey Johnston

We have a few new dates to add to your ever changing calendars. We have rescheduled the dates for our 2020 Environmental Film Series. All the films will be shown at 4 p.m. in the Figge Art Museum auditorium.

Here are the new dates:

September 13

Brower Youth Awards, Conservation Activist Shorts, and Deer 139

September 20

Honeyland

September 27

Anthropocene

October 11

Sustainable Nation

We hope you can join us for these new dates. There is a lot of uncertainty during this time and we will continue to keep an eye on the situation and explore other options if large group settings are not recommended in the fall. However, we hope to see you all at our fall film series!

Our Student Film Competition is still taking place. We hope students are able to get out during this time and create a short film about environmental issues. We plan to have our filmmaking workshop with a filmmaker on Sept. 13 from 2:45 p.m. up until the showing of our film. Video submissions are due Nov. 15 and will be announced on Dec. 15. Visit riveraction.org/videocomp for more information.



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New Signs on Arsenal Island Coming this Year!

— by Bailey Johnston

The public artwork, The Gathering Place, has been a place of gathering long before it was installed in 1999. The COR-TEN steel sculpture was designed, created and named by local artist Kunhild Blacklock and architect Ed Angerer. The location on the west end of 946-acre Arsenal Island was chosen because people can gather to see locally important features in all directions. The Government Bridge, Locks and Dam 15, and the tailwaters below the dam are to the right; the wetland is in front; the south channel of the Mississippi, sometimes called Sylvan Slough, is to the left; and the Arsenal Clock Tower building is directly behind.

This year River Action, DMW Design, and Norm and Janet Moline are working on redesigning the interpretive signs that accompany the artwork to give visitors a comprehensive experience of the area. The signs will cover six topics: eagles, Native Americans, the Arsenal, Locks and Dam 15, the Government Bridge, and an overview of the art project and location. Each content section was written by local experts to ensure accuracy and provide well-rounded information.

The original signs, which are currently sun bleached, focus on the wildlife in the area such as dragonflies and mayflies.

By changing the content we hope The Gathering Place will continue to be a great place for visitors and locals to learn about the area while enjoying the art and views.

The original art project and this new signage was funded by River Action's RiverWay program which was formed to improve the riverfronts along the Mississippi River and its key tributaries in this area. We plan to install the new signs this summer, a good time to check out this excellent location for watching wildlife and learning about our area's history and current structures. ☺

Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance Meets May 21

— by Carol Downey

The next quarterly meeting of the Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the Riverdale, Iowa Community Room.

The topic for this meeting is flood insurance, including a discussion of both the National Flood Insurance Program and private flood insurers. Stephanie Smith, Claim Specialist-Flood Insurance Specialist with Mel Foster Co. Insurance, Inc., will be speaking on "Flood Insurance Policies and Claims."

The QCFRA encompasses counties on both sides of the Mississippi River, from Clinton, Iowa to New Boston, Ill., and was formed to share knowledge and resources, and network with floodplain management professionals in neighboring communities. The Alliance aims to communally reduce risk from flooding, and to help minimize flood damage and losses for residential, commercial and civic property owners. A key focus of the Alliance is the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System which enables municipalities to earn discounts on flood insurance premiums for property owners through proactive flood risk management. For meeting format changes or more information on the Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance, visit riveraction.org/QCFRA.



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OUR CHANGING RIVER

2020 Upper Mississippi River Conference Planning Under Way



— by Carol Downey

Plans and preparations are under way for the 2020 Upper Mississippi River Conference. The theme of this year's conference is "Our Changing River." This theme addresses important action items from the 2016 UMRC Agenda for Action (the product of our 2016 UMRC Raise the Grade conference) in an effort to improve our grade in the next round of evaluation by America's Watershed Initiative. 2020 is targeted for an updated report card on the Mississippi River, evaluated by America's Watershed Initiative. Presenters will speak on best practices and critical focus areas in concurrent tracks, addressing the following report card subtopics:

- Water quality, ecosystems, nutrient management, and Gulf hypoxia
- Flood risk reduction, transportation, and infrastructure
- Water supply, economy, and recreation

Speakers will address the following goals of America's Watershed Initiative:

- Understanding the economic importance of major river systems
- Optimizing ecosystems to sustainably manage the Mississippi River watershed
- Innovative tools to better characterize and address flood risk management in the watershed
- Support of commerce consistent with coastal restoration
- Preserving, protecting, and restoring habitats that support the multitude of recreational activities available throughout the watershed

The conference also will feature plenary speakers addressing the primary conference theme, and a luncheon presentation, "A Visual Journey Across Time on the Mississippi River," by Dr. Matthew Fockler from Augustana College, who is authoring a book exploring the changes to the Mississippi River using US Army Corps of Engineers archives.

The annual Upper Mississippi River Conference provides opportunities for continuing education credits, networking, and discussion among speakers and stakeholders during breaks and meals. Two field tours will be offered, to the Lucille A. Carver Mississippi River Education and Research Station in Fairport, Iowa, and an Eco-Cruise on the Blue Heron tour boat from the Mississippi River Eco Tourism Center in Camanche, Iowa.



The 13th Annual Upper Mississippi River Conference will be held on Oct. 6-8, 2020 at the Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center in Moline, Ill. Find out more as our program comes together at riveraction.org/UMRC. ☺

Find out more.

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eddy Calendar

Please check program websites for possible changes in schedule.

May

River Action's Explore the River Series

May through September, Channel Cat Talks – Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10:45 am, Riverbend Commons, 2951 River Dr. Moline, \$15

Riverine Walks – Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm and Saturdays 9-10:30 am, locations vary, \$6, riveraction.org/education

Join us for River Action's Explore the River Series. Tour the Mississippi River aboard the Channel Cat Water Taxi while experts narrate. Riverine Walk participants explore the Quad Cities through a series of guided walks.

Backwater Gamblers Water Ski Show

Memorial Day through Labor Day - every Wednesday and Sunday, 6:30 pm, Ben Williamson Park, 5000 44th St. Rock Island, backwatergamblers.com

A free water ski show. Donations appreciated.



Photo by Amy Neighbour VanEchoute, pi design, inc.

Celebration Belle River Cruises

May through November; Schedule, prices and cruise times vary, 2501 River Dr, Moline, 309.764.1952, celebrationbelle.com

Enjoy the sights of the Upper Mississippi River aboard the area's largest riverboat.

Riverboat Twilight

May through October; Schedule, prices and cruise times vary, 197 Front St. Le Claire, 800.331.1467, riverboattwilight.com

Elegant, triple-decked riverboat for day, overnight, and sightseeing cruises with dining. Get up close with bald eagles, pelicans, towering bluffs, historic river towns and the ever-changing valley landscapes.

Mercado on Fifth

Fridays, 5-9 pm, May 22 through Sept 25, 5th Ave and 12th St, Moline, mercadoonfifth.com

An open-air night market featuring food trucks, live entertainment, produce and retail vendors.

Calendar continued on page 14 >

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Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

May 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.



Photo by Jeff VanEchoute, pi design, inc.

Quad City Audubon Society: Illinois Spring Bird Count

May 9, 309.764.9779, quadcityaudubon.org

Many ways to help with this annual survey of spring birds in our area. The Illinois Spring Bird Count is coordinated statewide by the Illinois Natural History Survey.

Nahant Marsh: Families in Nature – Who Lives in a Tree?

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

Learn about animals that make homes in trees. \$5 Child member, \$10 Child guest. No fee for accompanying adults.

River Action: Art along the River – Hey! Let’s Write a Short Story

May 17, 2 pm, Schwiebert Park pavilion, Rock Island, \$5, riveraction.org

Participants will collaborate in planning and writing a short story. Each participant will write a part and then we will put the whole story together.

Nahant Marsh: Birding with Jimmy

May 23, 8-10 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, \$5 Members, \$10 Guests, nahantmarsh.org

Experienced and beginner birders will enjoy this series of exploring bird populations at Nahant Marsh led by Jimmy Wiebler, AmeriCorps Environmental Educator. Each season brings in new visitors to the Marsh and the hikes will allow you to learn more about bird identification and behavior. Hikes will take place on the fourth Saturday of each month beginning in May and ending in November.

River Action’s Environmental Book Club

May 26, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport, riveraction.org

Discuss *Wild Season* by Allan Eckert. Meetings are open to the public and meet at the River Action office between Tremont and Federal Streets.

Quad Cities Henry Farnam Dinner - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Understanding and Living with the Mississippi

Postponed ***Date to be announced***

Jumer’s Casino & Hotel, 777 Jumer Dr, Rock Island

June

River Action’s Ride the River – Ride and Seek

June 1-30, Making History, riveraction.org

Participate in a scavenger hunt and explore Historical Quad Cities by bike. Family activities, prizes, messages of gratitude and more!

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club – Turtle Research at Nahant

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

Nahant Marsh staff have been monitoring turtle populations for a decade. Come learn about recent and long-term findings, followed by a demonstration of live turtle trapping and data recording. \$5 Members, \$10 Guests.

Ballet under the Stars

June 5-7, 8-9:30 pm, Lincoln Park Classic Theatre, Rock Island, balletquadcities.com

An enchanting evening of dance with guest artists from the community. Ballet Quad Cities’ annual gift to the community. No admission charged.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

June 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.

Nahant Marsh: Families in Nature – Water Bug Hunt

June 13, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Search the marsh for invertebrates like crawfish, water boatman, and ghost shrimp using dip nets. \$5 Child member, \$10 Child guest. No fee for accompanying adults.

River Action’s Environmental Book Club

June 23, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport, riveraction.org

Discuss *Listening Point* by Sigurd Olson. Meetings are open to the public and meet at the River Action office between Tremont and Federal Streets.

River Action: Art along the River - Videography

June 28, 2 pm, Creative Arts Academy, 306 W. River Dr, 2nd floor, Davenport, \$5, riveraction.org

Learn camera and YouTube basics to create your own pieces and uploading to a platform. Spend time on the riverfront and use the Mississippi River as a subject.

July

Red, White, & Boom!

July 3, 5-10 pm, 563.322.1706

The Quad Cities’ Independence Day celebration. The bi-state fireworks will launch from the river with primary viewing areas and family activities located at Modern Woodmen Park, LeClaire Park, Schwiebert Riverfront Park, Centennial Park, and Davenport Skybridge.

Nahant Marsh: Breakfast Nature Club – Bumble Bees

July 3, 8-9 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org

Learn how plump, fuzzy bumble bees are efficient pollinators. The session will also cover their unique life cycles and behaviors. Participants will survey bumble bees and search for the endangered Rusty Patched Bumble Bee. \$5 Members, \$10 Guests.

Genesis Firecracker Run

July 4, East Moline, firecrackerrun.com

Proceeds from run benefit tangible community projects.

Nahant Marsh: Families in Nature – Wild about Wildflowers

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

Explore the prairie and learn about flower parts and their role in the ecosystem. \$5 Child member, \$10 Child guest. No fee for accompanying adults.

River Action: Art along the River – Readers Theater: The Happy Journey

July 12, 2 pm, meet at steps in Leach Park, Bettendorf, \$5, riveraction.org

Participants will read lines from characters as they age and bicycle along the river, participating in many community and personal events.

Rock Island County Fair

July 14-18, 4200 Archer Dr, East Moline, rockislandfair.org

Carnival, 4-H exhibits, animals, and grandstand shows. Family fun for all ages!

Bix 7 Run/Walk

July 25, 500 E. 3rd St, Davenport, 563.383.2489, bix7.com

One of the top ten running events in the country in the United States. Covering seven miles, elite runners from around the world compete.

River Action’s Environmental Book Club

July 28, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport, riveraction.org

Discuss *Mozart’s Starling* by Lynn Haupt. Meetings are open to the public and meet at the River Action office between Tremont and Federal Streets.



Connect with Us



engage



learn



For over 30 years River Action has been dedicated to connecting people to the river. Our supporters help us to improve the quality of water that flows down the river. They help us instill a love of the river through encouraging participation in many activities that involve the river. Plus, River Action encourages educational programs that help our residents better understand river issues.



celebrate



Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Email: _____

www.riveraction.org

822 E. River Drive, Davenport, IA 52803

563-322-2969

Please indicate membership level

- \$130 Action Membership**
Includes benefits of individual membership, Riverine Walks (Up to two heads of household and dependent children under the age of 18), and 2 tickets to a River Action event. Choose one: Ride the River, Taming of the Slough, Floatzilla, Golf Cart Tour, or Channel Cat Talks.
- \$75 Household Membership**
Includes benefits of individual membership. River Wine Walks (Up to two heads of household and dependent children under the age of 18).
- \$45 Individual Membership**
Includes membership card, eddy Magazine and Riverine Walks.
- \$20 Student Membership**
Includes membership card, eddy Magazine and Riverine Walks.



- Please check here if you would like to be involved as a volunteer.

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