

eddy

MAGAZINE

Connecting people to the river

*"The environment is in us,
not outside of us. The trees are our
lungs, the rivers our bloodstream.
We are all interconnected, and what
you do to the environment ultimately
you do to yourself."*

— Ian Somerhalder



Kathy Wine

While the days are long, and the nights are short, let's talk about daylighting.

It sounds rather puzzling, until you realize daylighting is about no more than removing concrete or pavement which has been covering creeks or drainage ways and restoring streams to their previous, natural condition. As our area was developed with roads, parking lots, and buildings, streams or drainage ways were

sometimes redirected, covered in impervious material, and/or buried in pipes, culverts, or drainage systems to create building surfaces or protect properties from flooding. For the most part, it has been 'out of sight, out of mind'.

But, burying or covering streams has some unintended consequences. It increases nutrient pollution, degrades habitats, and increases downstream flooding. Daylighting removes these and reestablishes a waterway within its original channel where possible, or where development is in the way, creates a new channel for it. A good example of this is the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation project in Dubuque. That daylighting and creek restoration made a place for stormwater to go with many economic and environmental benefits. Because it increases storage capacity, it reduces peak flows and flow durations. This helps reduce downstream flooding significantly.

Successful daylighting requires more room than the buried or piped stream. It needs enough room to allow for a natural flow and gentle, stable slopes, so when rivers and streams are unearthed, they transform from liabilities into assets. Probably the most well-known project of this kind is in Providence, Rhode Island, where, in the 1990's, the Providence River was uncovered. The river existed, but only in a remote sense having been buried for decades

beneath streets and parking lots. The city then built walks, parks, and footbridges. Kayakers now sweep under them; pedestrians walk over them. It serves as an excellent example of river daylighting and has inspired many more around the world. Providence's WaterFire, installed after the daylighting, also inspired River Action's creation of 40 floating FireStacks for the Mississippi River. (We will be lighting them for the Floatzilla Kayak Fishing Tournament August 20 at Credit Island.)

The cost of uncovering runs approximately \$1,000 per linear foot. However, projects are often eligible for EPA 319 grants, brownfield program funding, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance, and state clean water/drinking water revolving funds. Breathing life into urban streams and communities is, I believe, priceless. Let's add this to every community's tool box. ☺

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August/September/October 2021

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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.

Cover photo: Greg Gackle, GAH inc.

River Action Events



FLOATZILLA BACK IN THE FLOW

— By Noah Truesdell

Boats, bands, food, Floatzilla! This year we are bringing the entertainment and attractions back to Floatzilla and adding something new while we're at it. Already on pace for our biggest year yet, we want your boats and you at Floatzilla on August 21!

The weekend starts with packet pick-up, 5-7 pm, Friday, August 20 at Credit Island. As that is going on in the lodge, outside we will be launching the new Floatzilla Kayak Fishing Tournament! The tournament is free for up to 100 people already registered for Floatzilla. You must be signed up for Floatzilla and have a valid Iowa or Illinois fishing license to participate. Check in for the tournament is from 5-6pm at the Credit Island Docks, then the tournament is from 6-8pm.



FLOATZILLA

On Saturday, August 21, the day begins with paddlers launching from five launch sites across the Quad Cities. See riveraction.org/Floatzilla for more details on launch sites.

The tournament will be held on the Iowa side of the channel, from the Crescent Bridge to Credit Island. The area will be marked with River Action's floating fire stacks. Each participant will be given a yard stick, courtesy of K&K hardware, to measure their catches. The top two catches at the tournament will each receive a tackle box, courtesy of the Credit Island Bait Shop and the Quad City



QC ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES RETURNS IN 2021!

— By Kristen Bergren

We have the dates, time, and venue for another season of inspiring and informative films for 2021! The series will be held at the Figge Art Museum, Sundays at 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door or \$20 for a season pass that may be purchased at River Action. Come early to watch the Brower Youth Award winners shorts. Stay after the film for the talk-back with an expert related to the movie's topic. Check River Action's website for more information. Please mark your calendars for these dates:

- August 29: "Into the Canyon"
- September 12: "Kiss the Ground"
- October 3: "American Ascent"
- October 17: "Story Of Plastic"
- November 24: "Sustainable Nation"

Conservation Alliance. Spots for the tournament are filling up fast, so if you want to show off your fishing skills hurry and sign up for Floatzilla!

Music at Lake Potter features Subatlantic, Chrash, and Condor and Jaybird. You'll want to start early and paddle fast so you don't miss a thing! Music will start at 10am and plays until we gather for the group photo at 2:30. We will also have food trucks, outfitters, and environmental and outdoor groups set up at the lake for people to check out. After the group photo the shuttle service will begin taking people back to their launch sites while volunteers look after boats.

It's going to be a great day on the water! Sign up for Floatzilla at riveraction.org/Floatzilla.

River Action Events

TAMING OF THE SLOUGH: GOING THE EXTRA MILE

—by Noah Truesdell

This year's Taming of the Slough will feature an endurance option for racers called "Going the Extra Mile." Encompassing over 30 miles of the Illinois riverfront, this course will challenge even the mightiest of competitors. Both the traditional Taming of the Slough and the endurance race will be held on Sunday, September 12. Packet pick-up will be from 5-7 pm on Friday, September 10, at Bent River Brewing Company in Moline.

The "Going the Extra Mile" endurance race will start at 7am at Dorrance Park in Port Byron. Racers will start on their mountain bikes to complete a lap of the single-track trails at Dorrance Park, take the riverfront bike trail to Illiniwek Forest Preserve, complete a lap of the single-track trails at Illiniwek, then take the riverfront trail to Empire Park (bike is 18.3 miles total, 10 miles off-road). There they will transition to their kayaks, launching into the Campbell's Island Slough. They will complete a lap of Campbell's Island, then head down river along the Illinois shoreline. When they reach the Bass Street YMCA in the Sylvan Slough (9.33 mile paddle), they will exit the water and begin the run through downtown Moline, up the



hill at Velie Park, run to and complete a lap of the single-track trails at Stephen's Park, then return back the way they came to finish at Bass Street Landing (run is 4.2 miles total, 2 miles off-road). Men and women registering individually, or as a 3-person relay team may compete in the "Going the Extra Mile" endurance race.

Taming of the Slough will start at 8am at the Bass Street YMCA. Racers will start with the paddle in the Sylvan Slough and back to the Bass Street YMCA docks (2.5-mile paddle). Once ashore, they will transition to mountain bikes and take the riverfront trail to Sylvan Island, complete two laps of the course on the island, then return to the transition area (bike is 7.5 miles total, 5 miles off-road). The run proceeds through downtown Moline and up the hill at Velie Park, where they will turn around and head back to finish at Bass Street Landing (1.75-mile run). (All categories may compete in the Taming of the Slough course however, Youth, Masters (men and women), and the Corporate Challenge must compete on the Taming of the Slough course.)

The post-race party at the Bass Street Landing features beer provided by Bent River Brewing Co. and pizza, and an awards ceremony where winners in each category will be recognized with trophies. Sign up for Taming of the Slough now at riveraction.org/taming.



Bruce Atkinson, who got 33 questions correct, picking up one of the bike prizes.

(Photos: Noah Truesdell)



Steve Trainor, picking up the Nintendo Switch for his wife Gaye Dunn, who got the most correct answers with 34.

RIDE AND SEEK

—By Noah Truesdell

Ride and Seek 2021 wrapped up on July 1. Throughout the month of June cyclists and walkers took to the Quad Cities riverfront trails to search for the answers to 36 clues as part of River Action's Ride and Seek. Answer sheets came in with many scoring more than 30, but no perfect scores this year. You can check your answers on our website at riveraction.org/rideandseek.

The responses from our scavenger hunt have been so enthusiastic that we might have to continue it into the future! Prize winners have been coming in the last month to pick up their winnings. It is rewarding to have people come in to pick up their prizes and be so excited about the event, some even wanting to go through their answers on the spot! From a Nintendo Switch and four bikes as grand prizes, to bike shop gift certificates and helmets, we gave out 28 total prizes! Thank you to our generous sponsors and everyone who signed up for this great event!



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TWO DAYS OF RIVERFRONT TOURS!

— By Noah Truesdell

Brochures have been sent and online registration is open for the 2021 Senior Citizen Golf Cart Tours! The tours will be held over two days at the beginning of September. Rent a cart for you and a cart buddy to spend some time on the riverfront and learn about developments going on in the Quad Cities. Each tour will run at 9:00 am, 11:30 am, and 2:00 pm, so you can catch a couple each day!

On Thursday, September 2, three tours will be held along the Illinois riverfront. Tour #1 starts at Sunset Park and features the Rock Island and Moline riverfronts. Tour #2 begins at Ben Butterworth Parkway in Moline and features The Bend, The Quarter, Empire Park, the Hampton Heritage Center, and Black's Store in Hampton. Tour #3 is a scenic ride along the riverfront beginning at Schuler's Shady Grove in Rapids City, with stops in Port Byron and Cordova.

Friday will highlight the Iowa bike trails and Nahant Marsh. Tour #4 is a tour of the Duck Creek Path from Davenport to Bettendorf. Tour #5 begins at Concord Street in Davenport and goes into Nahant Marsh where you'll hear from the staff about conservation efforts taking place there. Tour #6 begins at Credit Island and includes the urban riverfronts of Davenport and Bettendorf.

Sign up for 2021 Golf Cart Tours online at riveraction.org, or by calling 563-322-2969.

Golf Cart Tours on the Arsenal are pending for this year. Check the River Action website at riveraction.org for updates.

(Photo: Noah Truesdell)

Advancing sustainability without compromising performance



ARCONIC

EDDY Awards

—by Kathy Wine

Each year we take care to honor individuals and organizations that we feel best represent the spirit of true river action--those who go against the current, as in an eddy, to provide outstanding riverfront activity or development, well-designed and environmentally responsible

Design: **Brad Martell and the R. Richard Bittner YMCA**



A big thinker willing to put the right resources together, Brad Martell, Executive Director of the R. Richard Bittner YMCA reinvented the Y. With 3,000 new members, he looks back on a year of challenges, primarily fundraising during a pandemic. Getting to construction was a long process: a market study, fundraising study, volunteer enrollment, all the while continuing administration of Y programs and sites. The jury admired the board's sensitivity to the riverfront, the access to views in workout rooms, and in the 'how cool is this?' category, Sunset Yoga on the River Deck!



Stewardship: **Kelly McKay**

James Audubon, move over, we have Kelly McKay here. He identifies bird species all over the US and has done more Christmas Bird Counts than anyone in the nation. He worries that we are not setting aside enough habitat. Using 40 years of data, he is able to quantify some alarming trends about our most familiar and beloved bird, the eagle. Having met Elton Fawks, renowned eagle researcher, when he was a child, he was fortunate to live close to Illiniwek Park and learn from Fawks who quickly became his mentor as he moved into a career in biology. Today, he gives lectures, tours, writes academic papers, and continues the research on birds of the Mississippi River.

Stewardship: **Partners of Scott County Watershed**

Partners believes water quality monitoring is everyone's opportunity to become a citizen scientist for a day and gather important data about the health of Scott County's watersheds. They stress "No experience necessary, everyone is welcome!" Volunteers are trained to perform simple tests, and then are assigned to sites to collect water quality data. And they have been doing this for over 20 years. In addition, they clear brush to make areas more accessible and appealing, improve natural habitat, conduct Duck Creek Wild Clean ups, and monthly hold forums on such topics as "What Makes Healthy Soil". The work of Partners shows just how much collaborators can do in innovating projects and programs.



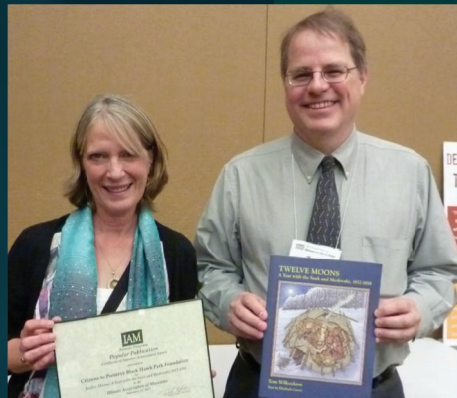


River Activity: **Carlos Barreto**

When you are talking with Carlos Barreto, you had better take notes, because he has lots of plans! Having started the QC Kayakers in 2017, he has built it to over 3,000 members. His floats take place on the Rock River, starting near his home, and on the Mississippi River. Besides organizing outings which are daytime or moonlight paddles, he teaches boat safety, how to paddle (he has been an instructor for River Action's Tune Up For Taming the past two years), advocates for clean water, and is an active member of Floatzilla's planning committee. Finally, he has won the trophy for three years straight in Floatzilla's contest for the largest group. We are keeping a close eye on his plans for this year.

Education: **Beth Carvey and Tom Willcockson**

Beth Carvey's first attempt at outdoor education 30 years ago involved school children, the Blackhawk State Historic Site, and the museum, for which she was the director having started in 1981. She soon realized that teaching only museum history was not using the resource appropriately. At vantage points in the park, she identified not only where the Saukenauk village was, but how they lived, touching on science and pointing out from a pedestrian bridge the village site. The picture book, *Twelve Moons — A Year with the Sauk and Meskwaki*, came out of those experiences. It follows the tribes through a year of daily life. Artist and cartographer Tom Willcockson, with text by Beth Carvey, have also been working on study guides for elementary school teachers. The jury applauded the ambitiousness of the project in providing local history for youth.



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Plan to Attend the Upper Mississippi River Conference at The Bend

—by Kathy Wine

After 2020 and the move to presentation webinars on TEAMS in order to feature conference speakers during the pandemic, River Action will host the Upper Mississippi River Conference, October 5-7, 2021, in person, at the Expo Center, The Bend, East Moline.

Revisiting the America's Watershed Initiative 2016 Report Card and the desire to Raise the Grade during the last five years, speakers and panelists will bring action plans, tool kits, and personal testimony on what has been and can be done to improve the grade and the resiliency of the Mississippi River. There are good news stories from Fulton County, North Utica and Ottawa. Field trips include the Eco Tours on the Mississippi near Camanche and a tour of the LACMRERS



Upper Mississippi River Conference

center @ DNR Fish Hatchery near Muscatine with a stop at Wild Cat Den on the way back. A presentation on Nutrient Loss Reduction by Beth Baranski, Jo Daviess County, will explore changing the local culture through a new, persistent, multi-pronged approach. A keynote

address will be given by Kim Lutz, Executive Director of America's Watershed Initiative who will inform with "The Nuts and Bolts of How the Report Card was Done" and then challenge attendees with goals for further raising the grade for the upper Mississippi River.

Finally, there will be a QC mapping workshop offered on the 30/30 Initiative from President Biden's Executive Order to find 30% of US land and water that can be federally protected by 2030.

Reservations can be made at riveraction.org/umrc.

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Davenport artist, Jean Downey, poses with her renovation masterpiece, "Sunday in the Park".

Sunday in the Park Statues Renovated

— by Kathy Wine

Jean Downey, Davenport artist, renovated the ten sculptures over the winter in the Credit Island Lodge. She made some essential repairs, sculpted and painted them to bring them as close to the Seurat "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" painting as possible.

Originally carved from wood in 1998, they are now wrapped in fiberglass and painted to replicate the Seurat figures. The paint scheme and art installation were the

inspiration of Ted McElaney, RiverWay Public art contributor, who designed and oversaw the installation. The carvings were done by Thom Gleich, Davenport. The maintenance and repairs have been done with funds from the Quad Cities Tweed Ride, a ride that always made a stop at the Sunday in the Park site. Downey sculpted a new head, created a new book, and otherwise renovated the pieces. Due to weather, the sculptures require occasional repair, but are always moved to avoid their being touched by flood waters. ☺

Bettendorf and Riverdale Floodplain Survey Underway

— by Josh Timm, River Action Intern

River Action was awarded a grant by Iowa American Water to organize first-floor elevation surveys of resident's homes that fall in the 100-year or 500-year flood plain in the cities of Bettendorf and Riverdale through the Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance. The grant money will be distributed to Townsend Engineering to conduct the surveying of overall 30 residential homes of Bettendorf and Riverdale.

The point of the survey is to determine if the first floor of the residence being measured is above the predicted flood elevation in the 100-year or 500-year flood plain. If the data collected includes that the property is under the predicted flood elevation in the flood plain, the homeowner



should continue with their flood insurance costs. On the other hand, if the surveyed elevation data shows that the property elevation is higher than the predicted flood plain elevation, the property owner can then start taking steps toward the Letter of Map Amendment which ultimately lowers flood insurance costs, or even completely

dismisses the costs since the home is mapped in the flood plain, but is safe from flood damage.

River Action is happy to be the grant holder of a project such as this one to inform the community flood risk and to help the possibility of lowering flood insurance costs. Likewise, River Action is also proud to share this surveyed data collected with local agencies to update the existing flood plain data and help contribute to Quad City flood management for future reference. An update of the project will take place at the Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance meeting on August 19th at 1:30-3:00 in the Riverdale City Hall that is open to the public. Future projects may be introduced at the Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance meeting as well. ☺

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RIVERINE WALKS

Patriots of the Prairies: John Brown Strides Down Brady Street

8/4/2021 & 8/7/2021

Learn about the abolitionists of Davenport that helped John Brown light the fuse under the Civil War.

Renewing Moline: Redeveloping the Riverfront

8/11/2021 & 8/14/2021

I-74 bridge construction offers an extraordinary opportunity to redevelop a portion of downtown Moline's "front porch." Hear the thinking for the future of this area.

Confluence

8/18/2021 & 8/21/2021

Enjoy the beauty and stories of the Mississippi and Rock river junction and the adjacent Hennepin Canal west of Milan.

Stubb's Eddy and Village of East Davenport

8/25/2021 & 8/28/2021

Learn why Stubb's Eddy was a gathering point for hundreds of years and its place as the oldest intact log rafting district in Iowa.

Legacy of Campbell's Island

9/1/2021 & 9/4/2021

Discover the early stories of conflict, the history, and the work to preserve the legacy of Campbell's Island.

CHANNEL CAT TALKS

Beiderbecke and Bellson

8/3/2021 & 8/5/2021

Learn about the lives of Bix Beiderbecke and Louie Bellson through recorded music, recently discovered historical information.

River Landscape Mosaic

8/10/2021 & 8/12/2021

Why does the river flow east-west here? How have humans changed the river? What are current waterfront uses and environmental issues in Pool 15?

Quad City's 'First Residents'

8/17/2021 & 8/19/2021

Explore the prehistory of the Quad Cities and discover why Black Hawk went to war with the United States.

Anticipating the Flood

8/24/2021 & 8/26/2021

The presentation will discuss the historic Characteristics of flood levels, forecasting river levels, and spring flooding.

— by Robert Dunn

ART ALONG THE RIVER

Videography

8/22/2021

Learn camera and YouTube basics to feel comfortable creating your own pieces and uploading to the platform.

Native American Drumming

9/12/2021

An Introduction to the cultural aspects of Native American drumming, participants will experience group hand drumming influenced by inter-tribal pow-wows.



The Channel Cat on one of its many daily runs on the Mississippi river.

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Starting a Chain Reaction

— By Kathy Wine

If anyone had the vision in 1989 to run a fast track organization, it was Kathy Morris, who took the helm of the Waste Commission of Scott County that year. Since, collections, tours, landfiling, education, and recycling have double, tripled, quadrupled, and more!. When asked how she persuades people in solid waste matters, her answer is “Keep it simple.”

With that mantra, she has conquered many challenges. Today, WCSC offers free, public tours of all its facilities: the Scott Area Landfill, Recycling Center, Electronics Recovery Center, and the Household Hazardous Materials Facility.

Its annual environmental grant program funds projects, programs, events, and curriculum with funding from user fees.

The Environmental Education Library at the Carrie Avenue Recycling Center is a great place to learn about recycling, reuse, crafts, and much more. It partners with Habitat for Humanity by sending the store reusable electronic devices for resale. The Electronics Recovery Center, with convenient hours M-F and even Saturday, operates a drop off at no charge for area residents.

Getting this done for the public and keeping it simple, is not all that simple, of course. Every three years the Commission submits a Comprehensive Plan to the IA DNR. Partners include Cedar, Clinton,

Jackson, Muscatine and Scott counties in Iowa; they plot a course of action between cities, counties, and sanitary disposal systems to further integrate management, waste reduction, and disposal methods.

Statistics tell the story. The first year of single stream collections, there were 16,201 tons processed. This year, 40,000 tons are projected! The first year of electronic waste collections, 2005, brought in 869,171 pounds; today it is 2,780,122 pounds. In 2015, the first year effort of selling electronics brought in \$107,416; in 2020, the total was \$457,115.

In 2005, the commission launched with Keep America Beautiful the iLivehere campaign asking the public to engage in picking up trash. Since then, 41,400 volunteers have worked over 57,180 hours. The effort has resulted in 1,107,859 pounds of litter: 20,606 tires, 261 appliances, 266 bikes, 363 pieces of furniture 123 TVs, and 79 monitors.

Since 2015, Event Recycling has supplied bins and bags for 30-45 events in the Quad



Kathy Morris cuts the ribbon at the launch of Davenport's single stream recycling program.

Cities. When recycled items are returned, they are weighed; to date, that total is 3.25 tons.

Morris' latest initiative is due to WCSC's robust metro programs. US EPA has solicited the commission to apply for a \$250,000 — \$500,000 grant in its Trash-Free Waters Program. With trash and litter a growing problem, driven by the ever-greater reliance on single-use packaging, Morris has convened the Trash Free Waters — Preventing More, Picking Up Less Task Force to look at ways to reach these goals. Partners will be looking at what trash we have in waterways, an education campaign, waste reduction, collection options, and potential policy or procedural changes. WCSC keeps starting chain reactions! 🌀

Lecture Offered as Tribute to Kay Patterson

— By Kathy Wine

River Action invites you to join fellow riverfront enthusiasts for a lecture by Dr. Norman Moline, Professor Emeritus at Augustana College, on Lois Wille's influential book, *Forever Open, Clear and Free — the Struggle for Chicago's Lakefront*, September 10, 7 p.m., Butterworth Center, Moline. It is offered as a tribute to Kay Patterson, River Action Board Member who died in April. He gives this preview of his lecture.

“That book, written in 1972, was a favorite of Kay and had an influence on her thinking and on her actions here in the Quad Cities. Wille describes the long history of efforts to save its Lake Michigan waterfront. It began in 1836 when three leaders of the young city, when asked by the state to sell land to pay for a new shipping canal, refused to sell the lakefront and made a promise to the people of Chicago. They wrote: “Public Ground

— A Common to Remain Forever Open, Clear and Free of any Buildings or Other Obstruction Whatever.” For the next 185 years generations of influential people in business and government worked to sustain that promise: to save the waterfront for its people for pleasure and beauty, to have it be accessible to all. Reviewing a few of the important struggles and decisions, we will see what it took to achieve that remarkable 26-mile long public waterfront. That story will help us understand Kay's desires to have a similar “open, clear and free” waterfront along our Mississippi River.”

It will conclude with a recognition by Kathy Wine of Kay's contributions to River Action — her advocacy, leadership, and generosity with resources and time — and how Kay applied them to the message in Wille's book. 🌀

eddy Calendar

*** Please check program websites for possible changes in schedule ***

August September October

River Action's Explore the River Series

Summer Education through Labor Day, 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

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

A free water ski show. Donations appreciated. backwatergamblers.com

Celebration Belle River Cruises

Cruises 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

Cruises 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. riverboattwilight.com

Mercado on Fifth

Fridays through Oct 8th, 5-9 pm, 5th Ave and 12th St, Moline, mercadoonfifth.com

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

Freight House Farmer's Market - (563) 322-6009,

421 W River Dr, Davenport, IA 52801 Saturdays 8AM-2PM

The Davenport Freight House Farmers' Market is located along the scenic Mississippi Riverfront, anchored by the historic Freight House Building in lovely downtown Davenport, Iowa.

Music on the River

Every Sunday at 6:00pm at LeClair Park in Davenport – Free admission

August

Toddler Tales: Seed Need

Aug 4, 10:00 – 11:00am Nahant Marsh Education Center. \$8.00 admission. Ages 3-5 with parents.



Bix Jazz Festival

Aug 5-7, Rhythm City Casino Resort



Freedom Run SK

Aug 5, 733 15th Ave. East Moline.

Quad City Botanical Center: Art in the Garden

Aug 7, 9 am-4 pm, 2525 4th Ave, Rock Island, \$8 adult, \$4 child

Local and regional artists, including jewelers, woodworkers, fabric artists, and others inspired by nature to create, will exhibit and sell their art pieces at this outdoor show. The handcrafted works will be on display in tents throughout the gardens and a variety of art price points are offered.



Port Byron/LeClair Tug Fest

Aug 12-14



River Action's New Kayak Fishing Tournament

Aug 20, 6-8 pm, during packet pick up at Credit Island Park, 2200 W. River Dr, Davenport

Participants will take to the Pelican Island Slough between Credit Island and the Crescent Bridge. Yard sticks will be given to each participant to measure each of their catches. The top two catches will receive a tackle box as a prize. All participants must have an Iowa or Illinois fishing license. Entry is free with a Floatzilla registration.

Alternating Currents Festival

August 19-22, 2021

The Alternating Currents festival will showcase 100+ performances, film screenings and art-related events at more than 20 downtown Davenport venues from Aug. 19-22. Designed to showcase the vibrant culture of our downtown areas, the annual event is billed as a music, film, comedy and art experience.

<https://www.alternatingcurrentsqc.com/>



River Action's Floatzilla

Aug 21, 7 am-3 pm, Lake Potter at Sunset Park, Sunset Lane and 18th Ave, Rock Island, \$30

River Action's annual paddle event. Paddlers will launch from five sites across the Quad Cities to take over the river for the day. Go to riveraction.org/floatzilla

September

Toddler Tales: In a Grasshopper World

Sep 1, 10:00 – 11:00am Nahant Marsh Education Center. \$8.00 admission. Ages 3-5 with parents.

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Riverfront Pops | The Music of The Rolling Stones: Mick Jagger & Keith Richards 1969

August 21 @ 7:30 pm – LeClaire Park, Davenport

The party of the summer returns to LeClaire Park with the music of The Rolling Stones. "Let's Spend the Night Together" along the banks of the Mississippi River rocking out to the band's greatest hits from the iconic albums Beggar's Banquet and Let It Bleed. <https://qcso.org/event/qcso-riverfront-pops-rolling-stones/>

River Action's Art Along the River: Videography

Aug 22, 2 pm, Le Claire Park Bandshell, 400 Beiderbecke Dr, Davenport, \$10, riveraction.org

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



River Action's Environmental Book Club

August 24, 7 pm, River Action office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport, riveraction.org

Discuss *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan. Meetings are open to the public and meet at the River Action office between Tremont and Federal Streets.



River Action's Senior Citizen Riverfront Golf Cart Tours

Thursday, Sep 2-3. Various locations

Tours on the second will be in Illinois, while tours on the third will be held in Iowa. \$25 per cart.

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< Calendar continued from page 13



River Action's Art Along the River: Native American Drumming

Sep 12, 2 pm, Quad City Arts, 1715 2nd Ave. Rock Island, \$10

An introduction to the cultural aspects of Native American drumming. Participants will experience group drumming in a drum circle influenced by tribal pow-wows.

Quad City Audubon Society: Field Trip

Sep 11, Wildcat Den State Park, quadcityaudubon.org
Meet at Credit Island Lodge at 7:00 a.m. Carpool/Caravan to Wildcat Den State Park near Muscatine, Iowa. Half day trip. Fall migration!

River Action Day of Caring Cleanup and Painting Project

Sep 23, 19406 Loud Thunder Rd. Illinois City 9:00am - Noon

Riverssance Festival of Fine Art

Sep 25-26, Lindsey Park, Davenport
\$25.00 application fee.

TBK Bank Quad Cities Marathon

Sep 25-26



Wapsi River Environmental Education Center's 1st Annual Monarch Migration Fun Run

Sep 11, 9:00am - Noon

Monarch Festival after run, 1:00 - 4:30pm



River Action's Taming of the Slough

Sep 12, 8 am, Bass Street YMCA, 1701 First Ave, Moline, riveraction.org

Join River Action for our annual Taming of the Slough Adventure Triathlon to paddle, mountain bike, and run your way to the top. The route will take you through the Sylvan Slough by kayak or canoe, then through one of the Quad Cities excellent single track mountain bike trails on Sylvan Island, and finish with a run through downtown Moline.

Quad Cities Environmental Film Series

Blue Grass Drive-In

Sep 20 7:30: "Honey Land" \$5.00 admission.

Sep 27 7:30: "Anthropocene: The Human Epoch" \$5.00 admission.

River Action's Environmental Book Club

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

Discuss *The Wizard and the Prophet* by Charles Mann. Meetings are open to the public and meet at the River Action office between Tremont and Federal Streets.

October

Bar-B-QC

Oct 1 & 2, LeClaire Park, Davenport, 11:00am - 11:00pm

In its inaugural year, Bar-B-QC will include wonderful barbecue from local and national vendors. Local personalities will judge the barbecue, with awards given out, and the public will vote for the people's choice winner. While savoring the barbecue, live music will flow throughout the event.



Upper Mississippi River Conference

Upper Mississippi River Conference

Oct 5-7, The Bend Event Center, 910 Bend Blvd. East Moline
Revisiting and raising the grade of the Mississippi River report card.

Toddler Tales: Spider Web Wonders

Oct 6, 10:00 - 11:00am, Nahant Marsh Education Center. \$8.00 admission. Ages 3-5 With parents.

River Action's Environmental Book Club

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

Discuss *One Man's Wilderness: An Alaskan Odyssey* by Sam Keith. Meetings are open to the public and meet at the River Action office between Tremont and Federal Streets.

Connect with Us



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.



OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY!

Salvaged from the 1856 berm grading in 2019 was a rail dating to the first railroad bridge to cross the Mississippi. These historic bookends will be given to donors who make contributions of \$150 or more.

To donate, go to riveraction.org.



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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