MAGAZINE



Connecting people to the river

Aerial view of the Roller Dam and Railroad Bridge at Lock & Dam 15 between Davenport, Iowa and the Rock Island Arsenal.

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PUBLISHER'S LETTER



Turning 40

— by Kathy Wine

hen River Action reaches the milestone in 2024 of turning 40, it would be common practice to mark the accomplishments of the years. And we have some. But I would like to think about it as we think of our own

birthdays. Turning 40 has the handle "Life begins at 40" because

Kathy Wine

that's when we have it all figured out—when it all starts making sense. I'd like to take this moment to look forward to all the next decade has to hold. Up until now, we have just been doing research.

Experience has taught us that following FEMA's mitigation planning for flooding is instructive: have good floodplain policies, manage stormwater runoff with natural solutions, collaborate with river communities on preparedness and prevention, and have a proven way to communicate all of this with the public. Above all else, enroll every river community in FEMA's Community Rating System that ultimately brings down everyone's flood insurance premiums and raises communities' eligibility for significant FEMA grants.

We need to connect our conservation areas so they are not just pocket parks. Green corridors well-planned will do this. Do it for wildlife and our own health.

To take advantage of the growing recreation trend of paddle sports, and in order to turn the river into an economic opportunity, we need area outfitters renting boats on the river. Entrepreneurs, see River Action; we have a business plan for you. Fact: all outfitters who served Floatzilla this year were outside the area.

Speaking of business plans, it makes sense to enlarge the Channel Cat Water Taxi service to the lower pool between Davenport and Rock Island. While the planning of Davenport's Main Street Landing is underway, let's return it to a real landing for the water taxi.

We have 200 miles of bike trails in the bi-state region, and now we need to add more. LeClaire, Princeton and Buffalo are our next job, all the while designing to connect them to other area trails.

For better and safer access to riverfront trails, building safe crossings and trail bridges is

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the solution. First Bridge is the eloquent answer at River Heritage Park.

While writing this, we are in the last stages of preparing for our conference Building Community Around the River. It is so important to catalyze civic action, and it is meetings like that this that ignite it. Panels provide discussion and spark insight with the goal of mobilizing people to work together to achieve common goals. It was the 2018 conference that launched the Quad City Flood Resilience Alliance. Let's do more of this!

And that takes me back 40 years to when Paddy Blackman, co-founder, urged, "We aren't going to react or respond, we are going to act. We should be River Action." Taking that to heart will catapult us, as it has in the past, into our next decade of work. (20)



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KATHY WINE, Publisher / Executive Director JEFF VANECHAUTE/pi design, inc., Editor & Design BETH CLARK, Ad Sales, Milepost Ventures, LLC. APRIL KLECKNER, Calendar Editor Contributing Writers KRISTEN BERGREN, Sierra Club

MICHAEL CORSIGLIA, Program Manager DAYNA KRAKLIO, Program Manager LAZLOW ZIEBEL, CRS Intern KATHY WINE, Executive Director Contributing Photographers RYAN BENAC, USACE. Ingimage.com Stock Photography Printing Services SUTHERLAND PRINTING

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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.

Resilency

— by Dayna Kraklio

rom flooding to derechos, we have stood as a community to overcome the disasters. River Action and other organizations are working to create a more prepared community through the Quad City Flood Resiliency Alliance (QCFRA) and other new programs.

The next QCFRA meeting will be held on November 16th from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM at Riverdale City Hall at which we will have a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) representative, Ryan Benac, speak on drone imagery and how they use the images to help cities and counties with disaster response. With the increasing threat of flooding here and around the world, drone imagery is becoming a useful tool in flood mitigation.

We will also have a representative from the city of Tulsa speak about their success in flood mitigation and the Community Rating System (CRS). This voluntary incentive program through FEMA that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirement of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), has given a class 1 rating in CRS to Tulsa. Their residents have the lowest flood insurance rates in the U.S. because of Tulsa's commitment to protecting the lives and property of its residents. With a class 1 rating, the NFIP policies that are issued and renewed in Tulsa receive a 45-percent discount on flood insurance premiums.

There are currently only three Quad City communities that are in the CRS: Davenport, Moline, and Rock Island County. Davenport and Rock Island County both have class 7 ratings; the city of Moline has a class 8 rating. The city of Bettendorf and Scott County are currently waiting to hear from FEMA after submitting their CRS applications, and the city of Le Claire is working on their application. River Action has assisted these communities by employing a CRS-trained intern from Augustana College to help with the applications. All communities that suffer from flooding should be in the CRS, but many still are not. Our hope is that hearing



from a community that has had a lot of success with flood mitigation and the CRS will inspire other communities to join the CRS and improve the lives of their residents.

Other organizations that are creating resiliency in the Quad Cities are Prairie River Network, the National Wildlife Federation, and the University of Illinois - Discovery Partners Institute. They are teaming up to develop a climate vulnerability assessment for the Quad Cities. They will assess the environmental factors that create risk for the Quad Cities, like frequent flooding from the Mississippi and Rock Rivers. With this, communities will be able to identify and pursue greater investments in nature-based solutions for community risk reduction. For more information on the climate assessment for the Quad Cities, please contact Nina Struss at nstruss@prairierivers.org.

A stop sign in Iowa City in 2008 shows just how high some flood waters can get in Iowa. Photo taken by the University of Iowa.

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My River Action Internship

— by Lazlow Ziebel

y name is Lazlow Ziebel, and I am in my Junior year at Augustana College majoring in Environmental Studies and Geography, with a minor in GIS. As a Community Rating System (CRS) Intern for River Action, I have been working with local communities affected by flooding. The first community I started to work with is Le Claire, Iowa in order to enroll them into the CRS program and help improve flood resiliency and response.

I recently gained certification from FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) for the National Flood Insurance Program and CRS course. This allows me to have a deeper understanding of land use and floodplain practices that can ensure residents get a discount on flood insurance. In CRS communities, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community's efforts to address flood damage to insurable property, strengthen the NFIP, and foster comprehensive floodplain management. I believe that the CRS can help foster the environmental, economic, and cultural vitality of the Mississippi River. I value advocating for the protection and enjoyment of the Mississippi River for people within the Quad Cities region, and believe the CRS is an effective way of doing so.



Lazlow holding his CRS certification he received from FEMA for his training in September 2023.

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ADOPT-A-PATH LOCATIONS

- In Illinois: Mississippi River Trail, Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, Hampton, Rapids City, Port Byron, and Cordova.
- In Iowa: Mississippi River Trail, Davenport, Bettendorf, and Riverdale In Iowa: Duck Creek Trail: Davenport
- and Bettendorf

How to Adopt-a-Path - by Kathy Wine

River Action's Adopt-a-Path program is working to keep the Quad Cities' recreational trails clean. The volunteer program is an informal agreement whereby citizens, organizations, local businesses and student groups help by picking up trash along trails throughout the year. Volunteers or "Trail Keepers" adopt half-mile sections of the Mississippi River Trail (Iowa and IL) and the Duck Creek Recreational Trail (Iowa) Nearly 40 of the 50 miles have been adopted.

Volunteers are still needed and can get more details by contacting River Action at 563-322-2969 or email: kwine@riveraction.org.

VOLUNTEER DUTIES INCLUDE:

- Pick up small items of litter along the path.
- The area to be kept clean would just be the immediate path and buffer areas; don't go down to the water's edge or into ditches.
- If you find large items, don't feel you have to pick them up. Give River Action a call, or your community's parks or public works department.
- You don't have to sweep the path or shovel mud or dirt from it. Use your own garbage bags, or come to River Action's office (822 East River Drive, Davenport) to pick up a supply. We also have gloves.
- Dispose of your collected litter either in a city trash receptacle or at your home. If you have a large number of bags (or extremely heavy ones), give us a call, and we can arrange to get them picked up. Try to leave them at a location accessible by motorized vehicles.
- Pick up your section as often as you can. Again, this is subjective. You don't have to do it weekly or even monthly. Perhaps a guideline would be: at least every two months during the spring to fall seasonin other words, four or five times a year.

• Occasionally, give us a call, e-mail us, or stop into the office and tell us how you or your group are doing.



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NURTURING OUR CONNECTION TO THE INFICANCE OF RIVER ACTION'S FLOATZILLA AND TAMING OF THE SLOUGH

— by Michael Corsiglia, Events Project Manager

In the heart of the Quad **Cities, where the Mississippi River weaves its majestic** path, River Action takes center stage as a steward and advocate for our great natural resource. Two of our most beloved events, "Floatzilla" and "Taming of the Slough," are more than just festivities; they are a celebration of our commitment to preserving and cherishing this monumental waterway.

INTRODUCING THE COMMUNITY TO THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

The Mississippi River, often referred to as the "Father of Waters," is a symbol of power and beauty. River Action's primary goal is to introduce our community to this awe-inspiring natural resource. Floatzilla, our annual paddle sports festival, brings people of all ages and backgrounds to the river's edge. It allows them to witness the river's grandeur, fostering a deeper connection with nature and a sense of pride in our shared heritage. As participants float along its gentle currents, they experience the magic of the Mississippi, sometimes for the very first time.

ENCOURAGING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND ENGAGEMENT WITH NATURE

In an age marked by screen time and sedentary lifestyles, it is essential to encourage physical activity and engagement with nature. Floatzilla and Taming of the Slough provide the perfect opportunity for individuals and families to get outdoors, get active, and connect with the environment. Kayaking, canoeing, and exploring the sloughs not only promote physical well-being but also inspire a sense of adventure and curiosity about the natural world.

RAISING AWARENESS AND FUNDS FOR RIVER ACTION

River Action's mission revolves around advocating for and preserving the Mississippi River and its ecosystem. Hosting these events is a way to raise awareness and funds that support our ongoing efforts. By participating in Floatzilla or Taming of the Slough, our community members become active contributors to the cause. Their involvement enables us to continue our vital work, protecting the river, its wildlife, and the ecosystems that depend on it.



ENCOURAGING A CLEAN COMMUNITY FOR ALL

The Mississippi River is more than just a sight to behold; it is a lifeline for our community. River Action understands the importance of a clean and healthy river, not only for its intrinsic value but also for the well-being of those who call the Quad Cities home. Through our events, we instill a sense of responsibility in our participants to keep our community clean. After all, a pristine river means better recreation, improved wildlife habitats, and a healthier environment for all.

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF RIVER LOVERS

One of the most gratifying aspects of Floatzilla and Taming of the Slough is the sense of community they create. These events bring together people from all walks of life who share a deep love for our community and its natural surroundings. In this shared love, we find common ground, building lasting connections that extend beyond the riverbank. We create a network of river lovers who are committed to preserving and enhancing our local environment.

River Action's Floatzilla and Taming of the Slough are not just annual gatherings; they are a testament to our unwavering commitment to the Mississippi River and the Quad Cities community. They serve as a reminder of the significance of this mighty waterway, the need to engage with nature, the importance of fundraising, and the responsibility to maintain a clean environment. Most importantly, these events bring us together as a community of river enthusiasts, ensuring that the beauty and grandeur of the Mississippi River remain an integral part of our lives for generations to come. So, join us in celebrating and preserving this natural wonder, and let the river continue to flow through the heart of our community.

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Riverwho? Riverwhat? Riverwhich? A Glossary of Terms

1 Mississippi: A public outreach program of the Mississippi River Network (MRN) and a growing national movement of over 20,000 **River Citizens.**

- 6 Simple Things You Can Do To Save the Mississippi River: A 26-page River Action handbook for homeowners with best management practices, a glossary of terms, and resource guide for reducing stormwater runoff. It is free and available at River Action or online at www.riveraction.org.
- Adopt A Path: A River Action program with families, individuals, and organizations to pick up cans, litter, and other debris from Mississippi River, Duck Creek, and Rock River recreation trails in 1/2 mile segments.
- American Discovery Trail: A cross country hiking and biking trail from California to Delaware. It crosses the Mississippi in the Quad Cities on the Arsenal Bridge.
 - **BMP:** Best Management Practices Devices, technologies, and techniques used to manage a resource or a process in the best way possible. BMPs usually are custom designed for a specific site. River Action uses this term to refer to stormwater runoff mitigation. Examples include: bioswales, rain gardens, native plantings, permeable parking, prairie restorations, and green roofs.
 - Bioswale: a landscape feature used to capture, detain, and cleanse stormwater runoff. The distinguishing feature of bioswales is a subsurface trench filled with large diameter gravel on top of which is installed planting medium and native plants. Stormwater runoff flows into the bioswale, is captured and cleansed, and then is slowly released back into the underlying water table. The native plants survive on the captured water. Bioswales are considered stormwater runoff BMPs (see above). River Action has constructed bioswales in Davenport and LeClaire, Iowa, and in Hampton, Illinois.
- Bi-State Regional Trails Council: The entity created and staffed by the Bi-State Regional Commission in 2004 that oversees and coordinates regional multi-use trail planning and design efforts.
 - **Bottomland Hardwood Forests:** A type of deciduous and evergreen forest found in broad lowland floodplains along large

rivers and lakes in the Unites States and other places. These forests are occasionally flooded.

- Brownfield: a planning term referring to a site that has been contaminated or has otherwise contains infrastructure from historical industrial usage.
- Channel Cat Water Taxi: Launched by River Action in 1995, but now managed by MetroLink, the open-air passenger ferryboat accommodates 47 people and seven bicycles. It makes stops between five docks in the QC;s with service daily from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. Weekend service continues through October, weather permitting.
- Channel Cat Talks: Lectures given by local professionals regarding the environment, culture, and history of the Mississippi River and Quad City region on the Channel Cat Water Taxi. Channel Cat Talks are apart of River Action's Explore the River Summer Education Series and run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
 - Corn Belt Ports: A multi-state (IA-IL-MO) multi-stakeholder initiative to establish three federally recognized Port Statistical Areas on the Upper Mississippi and Illinois River. The ports collectively rank as the inland part based on tonnage handled.
- **CRS:** Community Rating System, a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Over 1,500 communities participate nationwide.
- Davenport Riverfront Improvement Commission: Consisting of 11 members, it is charged with improving the riverfront through stewardship, collaboration, innovative planning, thoughtful development, and sound management. It has responsibility, supervision, and control of city riverfront properties.
- **Detention pond:** a water catchment device used to capture and temporarily hold water and slowly release it into the underlying water table.
- DNR Iowa: The IA Department of Natural Resources is an agency of the State of Iowa

formed in 1986, charged with maintaining state parks and forests, protecting the environment of Iowa, and managing energy, fish, wildlife, land resources, and water resources of the state. It is headquartered in Des Moines.

- **DNR Illinois:** The IL Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) operates state parks and recreation areas, enforces the fishing and game laws, regulates IL coal mines, operates the IL State Museum system, and oversees scientific research into the soil, water, and mineral resources of the state. It is headquartered in Springfield.
- Eddy: A movement of water, counter to a main current, causing a small whirlpool.
- **Eddy Awards:** Awards recognizing those who have moved against the current as in an eddy. They recognize individuals, organizations, companies, schools or governments for outstanding riverfront activity or development, well designed and environmentally responsible in the areas of education, design, river activity, arts, stewardship, and revitalization.
- **U.S. EPA:** United States Environmental Protection Agency. The federal agency charged with protecting the country's environment.
- nation's 25th largest port and the 6th largest FIRM: Flood Insurance Rate Maps are official maps of a community within the United States that displays the floodplains, more explicitly special hazard areas and risk premium zones, as delineated by the Federal **Emergency Management Agency.**
 - **FEMA:** Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and is charged with providing assistance to areas that have experienced a natural or mancaused disaster.
 - Fish and Fire: River Action's Earth Dav celebration that features the Eddy Awards, catfish dinner and auction.
 - French Drain: Also known as a check dam, French drains are ditches filled with a large diameter stone that slow the speed of stormwater runoff and reduce its erosive capacity. The pore spaces between the stones store excess stormwater. River Action has constructed French drains in Bettendorf, LeClaire, and Buffalo, Iowa.

► Great River Trail: A 62-mile trail along the Great River Road through 12 communities from Rock Island to Savanna, IL. It is part of the 475-mile Great Illinois Trail that goes from the Mississippi to Lake Michigan and loops around Northern Illinois.

- Green Drinks: An international organization with a local chapter sponsored by PACG (Progressive Action for the Common Good) whose purpose is to promote networking and environmental actions in our community. They meet monthly.
- Green roof: rooftop garden; they vary in thickness depending on the weight-bearing capacity of the existing roof. Green roofs temporarily hold stormwater and prevent it from entering a city's storm sewer system. They also prolong the life of the underlying roof by blocking out ultraviolet light; save energy by providing an extra layer of insulation; create animal habitat; and allow people to use previously unusable roof space.
- Impervious: something that can't be penetrated, as by moisture or water. Asphalt and concrete streets, driveways, sidewalks, and parking lots, as well as rooftops, are impervious.

Lights! River! Action! Foundation: The foundation, administered by River Action, that funded the lighting of the Centennial Bridge and continues to fund the maintenance of it.

Living Lands and Waters: An environmental, nonprofit organization established by Chad Pregracke, East Moline, in 1998. Since its founding, LL&W has grown to be the only cleanup organization of its kind in the world. Spending up to nine months a year a barge, the crew hosts river cleanups, watershed conservation initiatives, workshops, tree plantings, and other conservation efforts.

Milan Bottoms: Milan Bottoms is composed of 3,500 acres of diverse floodplain including open water wetlands, sloughs, and bottomland forest in Illinois, south of the confluence of the Rock River and the Mississippi River.

Mississippi Point: At the foot of 38th St., Bettendorf, mouth of Duck Creek, a cityowned passive park on the riverfront trail.

Mississippi River Connection Walking Guide: A pocket-size guide with 19 walking tour maps. Available at River Action, Visit Quad Cities, and at www.riveraction.org.

Mississippi River Trail: The MRT in the QC's passes through numerous riverfront communities; the terrain is flat and surface is asphalt and concrete. In its entirety, the MRT offers almost 3,000 miles of onroad bikeways and pedestrian and bicycle pathways for recreation and tourism.

Nahant Marsh: A 382-acre preserve in southwest Davenport, part of a 513-acre wetland bordered by the Mississippi River, Interstate 280, and Highway 22. The Nahant Marsh Education Center is open M-F and Saturday mornings. Trails are open daily sunrise to sunset.

- Native planting: an area planted with indigenous plants. River Action has installed native plantings in the lowa cities of: Bettendorf, Buffalo, Davenport, Princeton and LeClaire; and in the Illinois cities of: Hampton, Moline, and Rapids City.
- NFIP: National Flood Insurance Program, a program that provides insurance to help reduce the socio-economic impact of floods. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is managed by the FEMA and is delivered to the public by a network of more than 50 insurance companies and the NFIP Direct.

• Partners of Scott County Watersheds: A nonprofit organization dedicated to improving water quality and working toward flood reduction in Scott County by providing residents, developers, environmental organizations, educators, and government officials with education, technical support, and financial assistance to promote and install best management practices.501(3)(c) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving a 501(3)(c) nonprofit on dedicated to

- Permeable: Something that can be penetrated, as by moisture or water. Syn, pervious.
 - Permeable parking lot: also called a pervious parking lot; a parking surface treatment that allows stormwater runoff to pass through it, rather than flowing off in great quantities and/or at high velocity. A subsurface gravel bed cleanses the water and then allows it to percolate back into the underlying water table. Permeable parking lots are considered a stormwater Best Management Practice. River Action contributed funding for a permeable parking lot on Arsenal Island.
- PPI: Program for Public Information, a planning tool supported by FEMA to provide a step-by-step coordinated approach to flood hazard outreach.

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- Princeton Beach: A popular sandbar beach just north of Princton, Iowa with access only by boat.
- PACG: Progressive Action for the Common Good, a local nonprofit that works on actions for positive change, social justice, and environmental sustainability in the community.
- Propeller Club: National organization which promotes the American Merchant Marine, harbor improvements, and the development of trade with other countries.
- Quad City Conservation Alliance: A local alliance of conservation groups organized to address environmental and recreational resource issues in the greater Quad Cities. It operates the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island.
- Quad City Riverfront Council: Includes representatives from each community, Scott County, Rock Island County, the QC Chamber of Commerce, Rock Island Arsenal, Corps of Engineers, and River Action.
- The Quarter: The Quarter is a residential development with sweeping views of the Mississippi in East Moline. A visitor center is also located along the riverfront. Enter from 7th Street south of 12th Ave.
- Rain Garden: Similar to a bioswale, but lacking the gravel-filled trench. They instead rely on the top layer of native plants for water absorption. Rain gardens are positioned so rainwater from homes or from other sources provides them with a proper moisture level to nourish the native plants.
- Retain the Rain: Initiated by River Action in 2002, the programs seeks to raise public awareness about the damaging effects of stormwater runoff and provide residents with ways to reduce runoff from their properties.
- Retention pond: a water catchment device used to capture and hold water for long periods of time.
- Riverine Walks: Lectures given by local professionals regarding the environment, culture, and history of the Mississippi River and Quad City region while walking in significant sights all over the Quad Cities, but especially near the river. Riverine Walks are a part of River Action's Explore the River Summer Education Series and run on Wednesdays and Saturdays from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- RiverVision Plan: A plan created in 2004 with an intergovernmental agreement between the cities of Rock Island and

Davenport to facility rediscovery of the central city riverfronts as major regional attractions, coordinating development with other downtown projects to join the historic heart of the area into a future center for recreation, creativity, and economic growth. Davenport updated its portion of the plan in 2024.

- RiverWay: The Quad Cities' scenic stretch of the Mississippi River with 56 miles of riverside parks, trails, and overlooks between the river bluffs.
 Piper Mississippi River Refuge: A refuge since 1924 that stretches 161
 - Runnel: literally, a little brook; also a device that captures and conveys stormwater runoff. This is accomplished by constructing a shallow, narrow ditch lined with concrete pavers in such a way that some of the captured water slowly percolates into the underlying water table. If large quantities of stormwater runoff are present, the excess will be conveyed to a water-holding area or back into a natural waterway.
 - Sanitary Sewer: the system of pipes that collects human and food waste products and conveys them to a facility that removes or neutralizes the pathogenic or otherwise unhealthful materials.
- Storm drain: a system of pipes that collects and conveys stormwater runoff.
- Stormwater utility: an entity created by cities or counties to deal with the growing problem of excess stormwater. These utilities often charge residents and commercial properties a fee or tax that is used to fund the operation of the utility. Around the country, and internationally, some stormwater utilities provide incentives for residents to reduce stormwater runoff from their properties. In the Quad City area, Rock Island, Moline, and Bettendorf, and Davenport operate stormwater utilities.
 - UMRBA: Upper Mississippi River Basin Alliance. A governor-established, nonprofit forum for interstate water resource planning

and management on the upper Mississippi River with members solely from IL, IA, MN, MO, and WI.

UMRCC: Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee. Works to promote and preserve natural and recreational resources through wise use, conservation, and management. It accomplishes its work primarily through voluntary efforts of river resource managers.

• Upper Mississippi River Refuge: A refuge since 1924 that stretches 161 river miles from Wabasha, MN to Rock Island, IL and protects more than 240,000 acres of Mississippi River floodplain. The refuge hosts more than 3.7 million annual visits for hunting, fishing, wildlife observations, and other recreation. In 2024, the 100th anniversary of the refuge will be observed.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Under the Department of Defense, is the nation's oldest water resource agency. It deals mainly with water resources through the construction and maintenance of navigable streams and harbors and the physical structures found on them. The Quad Cities lies in the Rock Island District which administers water programs in a 78,000 square-mile area encompassing the eastern two thirds of lowa, the northern half of Illinois, portions of southern Wisconsin and Minnesota, and the northeast corner of Missouri. This includes 314 miles of the Mississippi River, 268 miles of the Illinois Waterway and their tributaries, and 197,000 acres of federal land.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: The USFWS is an agency within the US Department of the Interior dedicated to the management of fish, wildlife, and natural habitats. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., it has an Illinois-Iowa Ecological Services Field Office in Moline.
- Water table: the level below which the ground is saturated with water.

Find out more.



QC Environmental Film Series 2024

CAR (A

- **ATTEND** the first QC Environmental Film Series Student Fair before the movie on February 4th to learn from the creative student displays and from Joel Vanderbush, Niabi Zoo's Curator of Conservation and Education. We're excited to announce Joel will also be our reflection speaker for after the film that day, The Woman Who Loves Giraffes.
- **SHOW** your support for the QC Environmental Film Series with a purchase of our fandom t-shirts! Available online for pick up at River Action for \$25.
- **SAVE \$** with the QC Environmental Film Series Season Pass! \$25 for 6 movies (admission \$7, free for students).
- **CHEER** on students from Green Life (St. Ambrose), Clean Sphere (Black Hawk College), and Student Sierra Club (Augustana College) who are hosting films.
- Attention! High School Clubs, Classes and Homeschool Associations

Be part of the First QC Environmental Film Series Student Fair

- receive a \$100 honorarium for participation
- create a table display that will be exhibited in the Figge Art Museum lobby the day of the movie The Woman Who Loves Giraffes, Sunday, February 4, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:00
- use themes for displays inspired by The Woman Who Loves Giraffes such as: Dr. Anne Innis Dagg (the woman who loves giraffes!), giraffes, endangered species, zoos and education, women in science, wildlife conservation, animal habitat preservation



QC ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES 2024

All movies shown on Sundays at 3:00. Admission: \$7. Free for students.

Alhaclions

January 21 All That Breathes (hosted by QC Environmental Film Series committee)

January 28 Last Paddle? (hosted by Black Hawk College's Clean Sphere)

February 4 The Woman Who Loves Giraffes (hosted by QC Environmental Film Series committee)

February 18 The Hidden Life of Trees (hosted by St. Ambrose's Green Life)

February 25 WE THE POWER (hosted by Augustana College's Student Sierra Club)

March 3 Who Are the Marcuses? (hosted by The Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities)

See movie trailers, purchase season pass or admission tickets, and t-shirts at www.riveraction.org



REGISTRATION FOR THE QC ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES STUDENT FAIR

- Go to www.riveraction.org click on Quick Links, QC Environmental Film Series and fill out the Student Fair registration form
- Register by Friday, December 1, 2023
- Any questions: Contact Kathy Wine at kwine@riveraction.org or Kristen Bergren at ishibook@gmail.com
- Once registered, more information about the film and resources will be sent

eddy Calendar Please check program websites for possible changes in schedule

November

Green Drinks: Lead Pipe Project, Dr. Kimberly Murphy, Augustana College Nov 2, 5-7 pm, Huckleberries, Rock Island,

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Nov 4, 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. Free admission.



Nahant Marsh: Wild Woodworking

Nov 11, 10-11 am, Nahant Marsh Education Center, 4220 Wapello Ave, Davenport, nahantmarsh.org Build a nest box suitable for Iowa's smallest birds of prey. There will be a short presentation on Screech Owls and Kestrels. All tools and materials are provided. No woodworking experience necessary. \$40 members, \$45 non-members.

Quad City Audubon Society's Field Trip

Nov 12, 8 am, Rapids City, IL quadcityaudubon.org Field trip from Rapids City to Spring Lake to see migrating waterfowl. Meet at Shuler's Shady Grove Park/boat ramp in Rapids City, IL. Free admission.

Quad Cities Flood Resiliency Alliance Meeting Nov 16, 3-4:30 pm, Riverdale City Hall,

Discussion on Tulsa, Oklahoma's flood mitigation and its #1 CRS rating and how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers use drone footage to help communities with flooding.



Festival of Trees Holiday Parade

Nov 18, 10 am, Downtown Davenport, qcfestivaloftrees. com/parade

The largest helium balloon parade in the Midwest and the only televised Quad City parade!

Quad City Arts Festival of Trees Nov 18-26, RiverCenter, 136 E. 3rd St, Davenport, qcfestivaloftrees.com

Many special events throughout this 10-day holiday extravaganza! General admission \$10, Child \$5, free for children 2 and under.



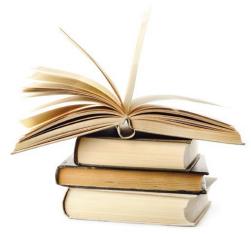
Small Business Saturday – November 25th

A day to celebrate and

support small businesses and all they do for their communities!







River Action's Environmental Book Club

Nov 28, 7 pm, River Action Office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport, 563-322-2969, riveraction.org Discuss The Silent Earth: Averting an Insect Apocalypse by Dave Goulson. Free and open to the public.

Giving Tuesday – November 28th Global day of giving to support non-profit organizations. Thank you for supporting River Action!

December

Christmas at the Village Dec 1-2, 6-9 pm, Village of East Davenport,

villageofeastdavenport.com

Children's activities, trolley rides, ice sculpting, live window scenes, and holiday characters throughout the Village of East Davenport. Fireworks on Saturday at 9:00 p.m.

Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Dec 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. Free admission.





Audubon's 124th Christmas **Bird Count**

Dec 14 through Jan 5, audubon.org/conservation/ join-christmas-bird-count Be a part of this annual tally of wild birds!



Green Drinks: Plant Biodiversity and Community Gardens, Heather Ballou, QC **Botanical** Center December 7, 5-7 pm, Huckleberries, Rock Island.

January

Green Drinks: Regenerative Agriculture, Monte Bottens (pending)

Jan 4, 5-7 pm, Huckleberries, Rock Island. **Bald Eagle Days**

Jan 5-7, QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave, Rock Island, qccaexpocenter.com

Live eagle programs and birds of prey demonstrations. Many display booths with information on outdoors-related organizations. Be sure to stop by River Action's booth! \$6 Adults, \$1 Children ages 6-15.



Nahant Marsh: Nature Hike

Jan 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. Free admission.

Quad Cities Farm Show Jan 14-16, QCCA Expo Center, 2621 4th Ave, Rock Island, quadcitiesfarmshow.com

Continued next page >





2250 E. Le Claire Rd., Eldridge, IA 52748 | www.davey.com



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QC Environmental Film Series: All That Breathes

Jan 21, 3 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W 2nd St, Davenport, riveraction.org, 563.322.2969

*Hosted by the QC Environmental Film Series Committee

ALL THAT BREATHES is a story of two brothers who run a bird clinic in Wazirabad, Delhi where over 20,000 raptors have been cured over the last 20 years. This film won Grand Jury Prize in World Cinema Documentary, the Golden Eye award at the Cannes Film Festival and was an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature Film nominee. \$5 single film/\$25 season ticket.

River Action's Environmental Book Club

Jan 23, 7 pm, River Action Office, 822 E. River Dr, Davenport, 563-322-2969, riveraction.org

River Action and Sierra Club host a monthly environmental book club. The book for January will be announced on River Action's website soon. The book discussions are free and open to the public.



QC Environmental Film Series: The Hidden Life of Trees

Feb. 18, 3 pm, Figge Art Museum, 225 W 2nd St, Davenport, riveraction.org, 563.322.2969

*Hosted by St. Ambrose's Green Life

THE HIDDEN LIFE OF TREES follows the maverick tree hugger, Peter Wohlleben, around as he tries to make the case for a complex, communicating community of wood. Based on his best-selling book of the same name. \$5 single film/\$25 season ticket.



To report dumping in rivers, streams, ditches, or ravines, call:

| Anywhere in Iowa | 1-888-No-Littr (665-4887) |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Bettendorf | 1-888-No-Littr (665-4887) |
| Davenport | (563) 326-7923 |
| Le Claire | (563) 289-4242 (Ext. 1) |
| | or (563) 388-3904 |
| Buffalo | (563) 381-2226 |
| Princeton | (563) 289-5315 |
| Moline | (309) 524-2014 |
| East Moline | (309) 752-1522 |
| Rock Island | (309) 732-2677 |
| Hampton | (309) 755-4524 |
| Silvis | (309) 792-5488 |
| Carbon Cliff | (309) 794-1230 |
| Cordova | (309) 654-2620 or (309) 738-3557 |
| Port Byron | (309) 523-3705 |
| Rapids City | (309) 523-2511 |
| | |

If after hours or on a weekend, call a non-emergency police number!



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.

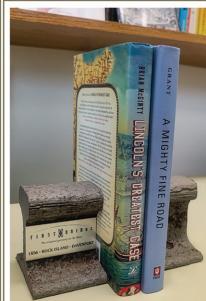






learn





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.

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.

Name: _

Address:

City, State, Zip

Phone (_____) _____ Cell (____)

Email:

www.riveraction.org

822 E. River Drive, Davenport, IA 52803

563-322-2969



www.mclaughlinsubaru.com

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