

Cedar Valley Visions



Fall 2010

Cedar County Conservation Board

Volume 22 Issue 3

A West Wind

By: Reba Reddick

“Winds in the east, mist coming in, Like somethin' is brewin' and bout to begin.”
-Bert, Mary Poppins old Friend.

It is amazing, to say the least, at how fast time can pass. Four years ago I was typing an article titled “The Roving of a Naturalist” in which I was introducing myself to the citizens of Cedar County as their new Naturalist. In that first article I wrote back in 2006, I talked of the places I had been, where the wind had blown me thus far, even mentioning the “strong breeze” that whipped past me, causing the prairie grasses to swirl as I thought back. Today, I am writing my farewells and saying goodbye to the CCCB staff and members of the community as I prepare to rove once again, being blown on by the winds of change.

In August I will be starting a new position in the Biology department at Augustana College. As with any change in life, I find myself filled with excitement, nervousness, anticipation and a little sadness. During my time here I was able to offer many new programs on topics I was interested in, along with continuing with some of the popular, long standing programs other naturalists had done in the past. I was able to take a successful Environmental Education program and build on it, making it my own. Now, I am preparing to move on and pass the program to another Naturalist so that they can put their own mark on it.

I am leaving behind many friends made over the last four years. There are so many people that I had a chance to get to know well, who helped me throughout my time in Cedar County. One of my favorite parts of working here was seeing several of the same kids grow up from one summer camp to the next. I will miss being recognized at Wal-Mart by an excited pre-schooler telling Mom “it’s Miss Reba!,” or having a teacher tell me that no introductions were needed when she informed her class that I was coming to visit. I truly hope that the programs I offered to you and your families while here were both fun and educational. And I hope even more that you continue to support the CCCB and its educational programs after I am gone.



New adventures await. A strong west wind has blown through, letting me know that it’s time to move on. I wish that I had the chance to say goodbye to each of you that has had a part in making my time here so enjoyable and rewarding. As my chapter here ends, a new one will begin for another Naturalist. How exciting it will be to have a fresh view and new ideas incorporated into the awesome EE programs here at the CCCB by a new staff member! I felt like a part of this community while I worked here, and know that the next Naturalist will receive the same acceptance and encouragement as I did. So, with a simple nod and a smile, I set out. If only I had a trusty umbrella, with parrot head and all, to carry me one my way.

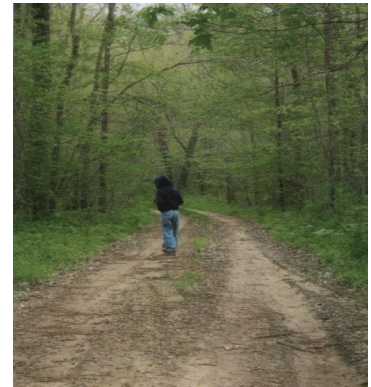
What I do have to carry with me are lots of great memories of friendly, smiling faces, fun games played, and a multitude of great times spent outdoors learning about nature and sharing with wonderful people. That’s better than an umbrella any day.

2010 Cedar Wild Photo Contest



Beauty in the Small Things

First Place– Pat Morris
Second Place– Mary Pat Coburn
Third Place– Lisa Olney



A Big Thanks again to the 2010 Sponsors

People in Nature

First Place– Gretchen Licht
Second Place– Delores Rohlf
Third Place– Callie Vallet

- **Scheel's All Sports**
 - **Wal-Mart**
 - **Photo Pro**
 - **Liberty Bank**
 - **Citizen's Bank**

Animals in Action

First Place– Delores Rohlf
Second Place– Pat Morris
Third Place– Mary Pat Coburn



Look in up coming newsletters for more information on next years Cedar Wild Photo Contest.



What's coming up...

Halloween Event- 'Vampire Valley'
Saturday, October 2, 4:00-9:00pm
Cedar Valley Park Campground and Shelter #3

Camp out and decorate your site, carve pumpkins, go trick-or-treating, take a hike on our haunted trail or watch a Halloween movie on our campground BIG screen. There's tons of activities to pick from and fun will be had by the whole family! And that's not even mentioning the plethora of Halloween candy, popcorn and other snacks that will be available.

Nature Tails -
Monday, November 1-Stars and Planets
Friday, November 5- Fishy Fish
10:00-11:00 am
CCCB Office

For ages 2 and up, this morning program will focus on introducing your toddlers to the natural environment. A game, book, craft, snack and other activities will teach your child about the wonders of nature in a fun, relaxed setting. Attend one or both days.

Registration Required. \$1 per child, per program.

Fall Astronomy
Friday November 5
6:30pm
Rochester Park



Brave the dropping temperatures to view the clear night sky after the haze of summer has gone. The stars are constantly shifting, revealing new stories to be read in the sky. Come and hear these interesting tales playing out above our heads. **Registration is requested.**

Fly Tying
Saturday, December 11
1:00 pm (call to check date and time)
CCCB Office

Think summer in December! Park Ranger Noah Krob will demonstrate and help you learn the delicate art of tying flies for your summer fishing outings. All ages welcome, no experience necessary for this hands-on program. **Please call to register.**

Free Room and Board
Wednesday, January 12, 2011,
6:00 pm
CCCB Office/Shop

Ever want to try building your own bird house? It's easier and more fun than you might think! Join the CCCB to try it out. Materials and some tools will be provided. You can also request homes for wildlife built by our staff using the coupon found on page 2 of this newsletter. Due to a lack of barn board supplies, a donation of \$5 per house is requested this year.

To order houses or for more details call or email us at cedarccb@iowatelecom.net. Please contact us if you have barn boards to donate to this program.

Registration Required.



The CCC Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month and are open to the public. They will be held at 7:00 pm at the Office, 713 E South St, Tipton, throughout the winter season.

October 11th
 November 8th
 December 13th



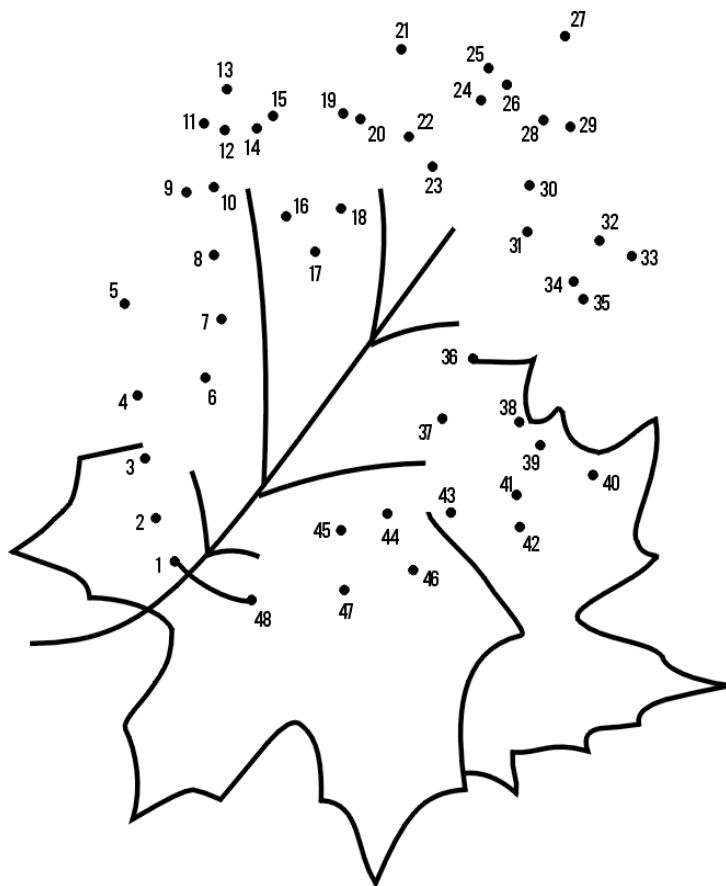
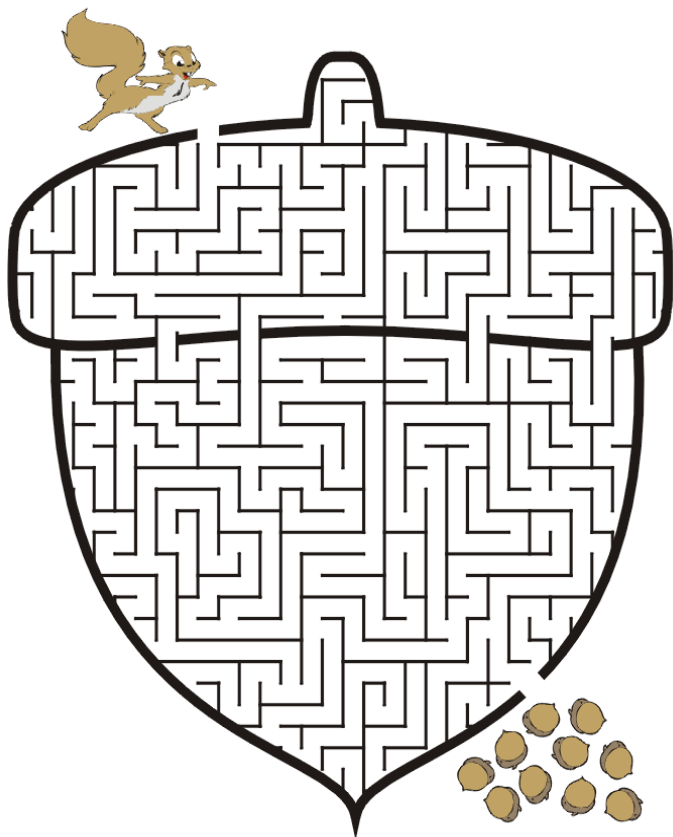
For more information on these programs contact the Cedar County Conservation Board office

KIDS FOR CONSERVATION

FUN KIDS ACTIVITY FOR THE FALL



Help the squirrel through the maze to find its acorns



A Quote for Any Harvest

*Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting
and autumn a mosaic of them all.*

- Stanley Horowitz

Conservation Board Members

Chairman

Marnell Scheeper.....Lowden

Vice-Chairman

Dick Maske.....West Branch

Secretary

Jean Driscoll.....Mechanicsville

Board Members

Leon Steinhagen.....New Liberty

Craig Jackson.....Tipton

Conservation Staff

Executive Director.....Mike Dauber

Park Ranger.....Noah Krob

Naturalist.....Sarah Subbert

Conservation Aide.....Harry Denny

Park Technician.....Lukas Gottschalk

Cedar Valley Visions is published four times a year by the staff of Cedar County Conservation Board. It is provided free of charge to anyone who requests to be on the mailing list. If you would like to receive your own copy, please phone the conservation office at (563)886-6930 or send your name and address to:
Cedar County Conservation Board
Courthouse, 400 Cedar St.
Tipton, IA 52772
or e-mail at
cedarccb@iowatelecom.net
Web address:
<http://www.cedarccb.org>

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New Faces

There's a new gal in town! Sarah Subbert, a graduate from the University of Northern Iowa, will be the new Naturalist for the Conservation Board. She will be starting some time in late September, after completing an extended internship with the Custer State Park in South Dakota. Originally from north-west Iowa, she may need some help getting settled in while she becomes familiar with the county and its citizens. Please feel free to stop by the office to meet her this fall and watch for EE programs that will give you an opportunity to see her in action.



It's time again to think about feeding the birds for the winter! Our staff can provide you with bird houses to add habitat to your backyard. To place your order, please fill out the form and return it to the CCCB by Monday December 13th, 2010. Houses, along with information about them will be available for pick up in January 2011. If you would like to build your own house, join our staff at the office on Wednesday, January 12th, 2011. Call for more information. (563) 886-6930.



Free Room and Board

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mark the following items you would like to receive:

Bat house Wren House

Bluebird house Bird Feeder

Wood duck house Kestrel house

Yes, I would like to make a house myself and will be able to attend the Wednesday, January 12th program!

Please limit request to no more than two per category and no more than six per a family.

Thank you

Requested Donation Amount- \$5 per house= _____
(please include donation with this order form)

Cedar County Conservation Board
 Mail: 400 Cedar Street
 Office: 713 E. South Street
 Tipton, IA 52772
 Phone 563-886-6930



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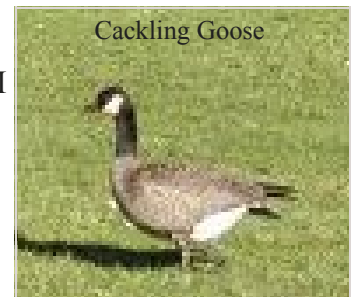
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Canada Geese—Did you know?

By: Holly Wilkens

Fall is approaching, with many signs in the air. The warm season grasses are blooming, and football season is near. The signs of fall are different for everyone, but my favorite one is waterfowl season and it's right around the corner! Therefore, I thought I'd share some information on Canada Geese with you.

Canada Geese, although once extirpated from Iowa, are now increasing in population size, and are becoming a nuisance in many areas. A little about their natural history - Canada Geese tend to nest in marshy areas, or near water. In the spring, they break into pairs and fight for a territory. The female goose will lay 2-8 creamy white eggs, with an incubation period lasting 25-28 days. While the nestling



Canada Goose

period last 42-50 days. But, when the goslings get older they do not fledge like most young. They stay with their parents, and towards the end of the summer they come together to form the large family groups they left in the spring. Canada Geese mate for life. They start to form pair bonds during their first winter, but the pair bond is rickety until the second or third year. Most pairs don't start breeding until their fourth year.

There once were eleven subspecies of Canada Geese which caused trouble for scientist. Just recently the four smaller species were broke into there own species called Cackling Geese. The Cackling Geese have the same life history traits as Canada Geese but are just smaller, with a shorter bill. They also have a slightly different call. The issue with similarity in these species is same as it is with the Snow Goose and it's look-a-like the Ross's Goose. Keep your eye out this fall for these birds and many other waterfowl species that will be flocking to a field near you!

Working to help instill "the conservation ethic" in the citizens of Cedar County.