



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Saturday, June 20 – Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area

- **2:30 – 5:30 pm** – Concurrent Sessions
 - *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic* – Nate Hoogeveen (Iowa DNR, River Programs Coordinator)
 - *Project WET Festival* – Rebecca Kauten and Kathy Scholl (Iowa Project WET/UNI Outdoor Recreation Studies Program)
 - *Iowa Herps*– Gail Barels (Linn County Conservation Department, Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center)

Sunday, June 21 – Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area

- **7:30 pm** – Concurrent Sessions
 - *Kayak Demonstration – Discover Paddling* (Windsurf Area) – Seatasea Watersports Center Staff
 - *Native Storytelling* – Wha’la – Michael Dixon (Tribal Affiliation: Cree, Canada)
 - *Hanging Bog State Preserve Field Trip* – John Pearson (Iowa DNR Preserves Program) & Matt Fisher (The Nature Conservancy)

Monday, June 22 – Seminole Valley Park

- **Afternoon Campground Program**
 - *Fly Casting Demonstration* – Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association
- **7:30 pm** – Concurrent Sessions
 - *The World Water Crisis: What You May Not Know but Should* – Tammy Becker (Living Lands and Waters)
 - *River Restoration and Dams* – Nate Hoogeveen (Iowa DNR, River Programs Coordinator)

Tuesday, June 23 – Palisades-Kepler State Park

- **7:30 pm** – Concurrent Sessions
 - *Prehistory Along the Cedar River: The Archaeology of Palisades-Kepler State Park* – Mark Anderson (The University of Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist)
 - *A Voyage on the Cedar* – Orlan Love (Cedar Rapids Gazette)

Wednesday, June 24 – Clarky’s Campground, Sutliff

- **6:45 am – Morning Campsite Program** (Palisades-Kepler State Park)
 - *Wildflowers, Lichens, and Old Trees in Palisades-Kepler State Park* – John Pearson (Iowa DNR Preserves Program)
- **Afternoon Campground Programs** (Sutliff)
 - *Iowa Soil and Water Conservation Society Conservation Tent*
 - *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic* – Iowa DNR Water Trails Program
- **7:00 pm** – Concurrent Sessions
 - *Iowa Birds of Prey* – Nathaniel Hart (Macbride Raptor Project)
 - *History of Sutliff and Cedar Bluff* – Sutliff Bridge Authority and Dean Moel
- **8:00 pm** – *Streamusic* – David Williamson (Collaborative Artist, Project AWARE)



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 25 – Cedar Valley Park

- **9:00 am – Alternative Land Based Improvement Project**
 - Rochester Cemetery Prairie Invasive Species Removal and Cedar Valley Park Project
- **7:30 pm – Concurrent Sessions**
 - *History of Cedar Valley and Geology of the Cedar River/Cedar Valley* – Reba Reddick (Cedar CCB)/Thomas R. Marshall (Iowa DNR Geological and Water Survey)
 - *People/Property and the Floods of 2008* – Rod Scott

Friday, June 26 – Saulsbury Bridge Recreation Area

- **On River Program**
 - *Rock Creek Island State Preserve* – John Pearson (Iowa DNR Preserves Program)
- **Afternoon Campground Program**
 - *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic* – Iowa DNR Water Trails Program
- **7:00 pm – Concurrent Sessions**
 - *The Past, Present, and Future of Nature in Iowa* – Connie Mutel (The University of Iowa)
 - *What We Have Learned From The Floods of '08* – Rob Middlemis-Brown (Iowa Water Science Center – U.S. Geological Survey)
- **8:00 pm – Bats in our Environment** – Vera Blevins (Bat World Heartland)

Saturday, June 27 – Saulsbury Bridge Recreation Area

- **3:00 – 5:30 pm** – Project AWARE Celebratory Finale



PROGRAM INFORMATION & PRESENTER BIOS



Saturday, June 20

Program Title: *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic*

Program Description: Can't keep that canoe straight? Worried about the rapids, dams, and other hazards on this year's Project AWARE route? This 2-hour primer is for you! We'll focus on simple boat control techniques, hazard identification, and learning to "read the river" in order to stay upright while finding that trash.

Presenter: Nate Hoogeveen (Iowa DNR, River Programs Coordinator)

Bio: Nate Hoogeveen, River Programs Coordinator for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, is an American Canoe Association certified instructor. He coordinates the Protected Water Areas, Water Trails, low-head dam safety, and Streamkeepers programs for the Iowa DNR.

Program Title: *Project WET Festival*

Program Description: Make your way through a number of educational activities about water. Activities are based on Project WET (Water Education for Teachers), an international program helping kids of all ages learn about water, water quality, and our role in the world around us.

Presenter: Rebecca Kauten and Kathy Scholl (Iowa Project WET/UNI Outdoor Recreation Studies Program)

Bio: Rebecca Kauten serves as the urban coordinator for the Iowa DNR Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Section. Dr. Kathleen Scholl is faculty at UNI where she teaches outdoor recreation courses.

Program Title: *Iowa Herps*

Program Description: View and learn about live Iowa amphibians and reptiles.

Presenter: Gail Barels (Linn County Conservation Department, Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center)

Bio: Gail has been a Conservation Education Specialist with the Linn County Conservation Department for 17 years and enjoys introducing Iowans to their native flora and fauna.

Sunday, June 21

Program Title: *Kayak Demonstration – Discover Paddling*

Program Description: Ever wanted to try paddling? Seatasea's Discover Paddling Demo is a chance for you to try out a kayak. With our fleet of different makes, models, and types of kayaks, our professional staff will give you a few pointers and you can take a kayak for a paddle. What a great way to check out a really great sport...and to find out what different types of boats you like.

Presenter: Seatasea Watersports Center Staff (Seatasea Watersports Center)

Program Title: *Native Storytelling*

Program Description: Wha'la will relate his tribal culture through the telling of stories passed down to him from his elders.

Presenter: Wha'la – Michael Dixon (Tribal Affiliation: Cree, Canada)

Bio: Wha'la has been a volunteer at Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center since moving to Iowa. He has provided numerous ceremonial and storytelling experiences for area residents.



PROGRAM INFORMATION & PRESENTER BIOS



Program Title: *Hanging Bog State Preserve Field Trip*

Program Description: This nature preserve, owned by The Nature Conservancy, features a “hanging bog” (hillside seep) with a population of Skunk Cabbage surrounded by mature upland forest. We will explore the hydrology of this unique wetland and identify trees, wildflowers, and lichens.

Presenter: John Pearson (Iowa DNR Preserves Program) and Matt Fisher (The Nature Conservancy)

Bio: John Pearson is a botanist with the Iowa DNR who oversees the state preserve system statewide.

Bio: Matt is the Eastern Iowa Project Director for The Nature Conservancy. He has been with TNC since November 2008, and before that he worked for the Iowa DNR’s Wetland Monitoring Program. Matt really enjoys talking about wetlands, especially fens and seeps!

Monday, June 22

Program Title: *Fly Casting Demonstration*

Program Description:

Presenter: Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association

Bio: The Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association, HFFA, is a non-profit organization of Iowa anglers and conservationists dedicated to the promotion of fly fishing and associated activities. The HFFA is an affiliate of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), an organization devoted to the promotion of all types of fly fishing and the protection of fly fishing waters and their inhabitants. The HFFA was founded in 1975 by a small group of concerned fly fishermen and now has active members throughout Iowa and surrounding states. Since the club's formation, they have been involved in conservation work to preserve Iowa's fly-fishing waters. The club has worked closely with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources on trout stream improvement in northeast Iowa.

Program Title: *The World Water Crisis: What You May Not Know but Should*

Program Description: This presentation explores aspects of the global water crisis, as written by Maude Barlow in her book *Blue Covenant*. While we in the Midwest are hardly experiencing a water scarcity (we’ve seen too much water!), most of the world is. From the droughts and growing deserts of Australia to the privatization and corporate control of vast aquifers to the pollution of what little freshwater we have left, the world’s supply of clean water is becoming more and more limited, creating a global crisis that is slowly beginning to boil.

Presenter: Tammy Becker (Living Lands & Waters)

Bio: Tammy Becker is the Programs Manager and former Education Coordinator for Living Lands & Waters. Over the last 6 years, she has coordinated 92 workshops for over 1,700 educators regarding issues confronting our rivers and natural resources. When not planning events, she spends her time writing grants, coordinating cleanups and restoration projects, driving boats, operating skid steers, and plucking garbage. Ahhhhh, all in a days work.

Program Title: *River Restoration and Dams*

Program Description: We talk a lot about watersheds, and think of the vast landscapes supplying waters to rivers. Have you considered how conditions of stream channels, their beds, and banks affect water quality? How normal transport of sediments is important to stream systems? We’ll look at river restoration, river connectivity, and how those ideas relate to dam modifications or removals that DNR River Programs is currently working on.

Presenter: Nate Hoogeveen (Iowa DNR, River Programs Coordinator)



PROGRAM INFORMATION & PRESENTER BIOS



Bio: Nate Hoogeveen, River Programs Coordinator for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, is an American Canoe Association certified instructor. He coordinates the Protected Water Areas, Water Trails, low-head dam safety, and Streamkeepers programs for the Iowa DNR.

Tuesday, June 23

Program Title: *Prehistory Along the Cedar River: The Archaeology of Palisades-Kepler State Park*

Program Description: Prehistoric people have occupied the Cedar River drainage for at least 13,000 years. From the Rummels-Maske site in Cedar County to the rock shelters of Palisades-Kepler State Park in Linn County, prehistoric people have left evidence of their existence. This talk will examine the occupations within both north and south units of Palisades-Kepler State Park.

Presenter: Mark Anderson (The University of Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist)

Bio: Mark L. Anderson is a Project Archaeologist at the Office of the State Archaeologist. Mark has been with the office for over 20 years conducting archaeological investigations across the state. These projects have yielded everything from abandoned 19th century historic farmsteads to 12,500-year-old Paleo-Indian sites. His research specialties include projectile point and lithic manufacturing, lithic raw material studies, geology/geomorphology, GPS/GIS applications, aerial photography remote sensing, and experiments in ancient technologies.

Program Title: *A Voyage on the Cedar*

Program Description: Orlan will talk about the 10-day canoe and kayak trip Gazette photographer Jim Slosiarek and he made on the Cedar River in the fall of 2008. The talk will highlight some of the river's best areas for fishing, paddling and observing wildlife and some of the changes wrought by the historic floods of 2008.

Presenter: Orlan Love (The Gazette)

Bio: Orlan Love, The Gazette's outdoor writer since 1994, has been paddling and fishing on Iowa's interior rivers for most of his life. His writings, which have included week-long projects on both the Upper Mississippi and Cedar rivers, have won numerous awards from the Iowa Newspaper Association and the Associated Press Managing Editors.

Wednesday, June 24

Program Title: *Wildflowers, Lichens, and Old Trees in Palisades-Kepler State Park*

Program Description: We will hike on the Cedar Cliff Trail to see 200-year old oaks and 300-year old cedars in forests bordering the Cedar River. Wildflowers, lichens, and scenic views are also in store!

Presenter: John Pearson (Iowa DNR Preserves Program)

Bio: John Pearson is a botanist with the Iowa DNR.

Program Title: *Soil and Water Conservation Society Conservation Tent*

Program Description: At the conservation tent there will be information and practical displays for Project AWARE volunteers regarding the work agencies at the local, state, and federal level are doing to improve Iowa's natural resources. Several professionals will be on hand to discuss conservation needs and opportunities on privately owned land. Volunteers will have the opportunity to write a message home on conservation-themed stamped post cards and pick up a free snack.

Presenter: Iowa Chapter - Soil and Water Conservation Society



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Bio: Iowa Chapter - Soil and Water Conservation Society is a scientific and education based organization dedicated to conservation of land, water, and other natural resources. We are 320 members strong in Iowa and our membership comes from a broad spectrum of conservation practitioners, researchers, students, and educators. To learn more about the Iowa SWCS chapter and see what our other yearly activities are visit www.iaswcs.org

Program Title: *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic*

Program Description: Can't keep that canoe straight? Worried about the rapids, dams, and other hazards on this year's Project AWARE route? This primer is for you! We'll focus on simple boat control techniques, hazard identification, and learning to "read the river" in order to stay upright while finding that trash.

Presenter: Iowa DNR Water Trails Program Staff

Program Title: *Iowa Birds of Prey*

Program Description: Nathaniel will discuss raptor morphology and ecology; raptor research and rehabilitation: habitat, diet, diversity (including specific identification of some species); raptor injuries and rehab; current research (disease, population, etc.); and conservation efforts.

Presenter: Nathaniel Hart (Macbride Raptor Project)

Bio: University of Iowa student, Macbride Raptor Project Staff.

Program Title: *History of Sutliff and Cedar Bluff*

Program Description: Dean will provide some of the history of Cedar Bluff and other points of interest along the Cedar River, including stories of the infamous John Dillinger's time in Cedar Bluff.

Presenter: Sutliff Bridge Authority and Dean Moel

Bio: Dean was born near the Cedar River and has lived near it most of his life. For the past 50 years, he has been a local in Solon. He is a World War II veteran. He farmed 40 acres near Sutliff and worked construction for a number of years. He has an extensive knowledge on the local history of the area.

Program Title: *Streamusic*

Program Description: The collaborative artwork and poetry of Project AWARE have expanded to include songwriting! Share your thoughts in words and music as we create new songs celebrating Iowa's rivers.

Presenter: David Williamson (Collaborating Artist, Project AWARE)

Bio: David is an artist who works in a handmade house and studio in central Iowa. As a sculptor and poet, his images celebrate life in the Midwest. He travels nationally as a creativity consultant to businesses, professional associations, and government agencies.

Thursday, June 25

Program Title: *Alternative Land-Based Improvement Project Option – Rochester Cemetery (Rochester) and Cedar Valley Park Improvement Project (near Tipton)*

Program Description: Rochester Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Cedar County and is known for its beautiful prairie flowers and grasses. During the morning, we will remove invasive species in the cemetery and then go on a guided hike to view the diversity of plant species present in this unique cemetery. The afternoon will be spent at Cedar Valley Park, a 228-acre park containing river



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bottomland and upland forest. We will work on several park beautification projects, including brush removal for a future movie area, mulching of trees, and planting of flowers in an area impacted by last year's flood.

Presenter: Iowa Geological and Water Survey Staff and Cedar County Conservation Board staff

Program Title: *History of Cedar Valley and Geology of the Cedar River/Cedar Valley*

Program Description: Cedar Valley is a park with a rich history. It has seen many changes over the years from its days as a working limestone quarry to a county managed park and camping area. Join the Cedar County Naturalist Reba Reddick and DNR Geologist Tom Marshall as they reveal the quarries' hidden mysteries through pictures and stories. Tom will also provide a brief overview of the geology of the Cedar River Valley. Tom's presentation will describe how the geology affects/interacts with the Cedar River.

Presenter: Reba Reddick (Cedar County Conservation Board) and Thomas R. Marshall (Iowa DNR Geological and Water Survey)

Bio: Reba has been the Naturalist for Cedar County for the past 3 years. She graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a degree in Biology interpretation and has been working in the Environmental Education field for 10 years in many places around the country for non-profit, county, state, and federal agencies. She has a passion for the outdoors and loves sharing her insight with others.

Bio: Tom Marshall has been a geologist with the Iowa DNR Geological and Water Survey since May 2008. He is completing his PhD in Geoscience (2009) from the University of Iowa. He has an MS and BS in geology from Oklahoma State University and is a native of Oklahoma City, OK. His areas of interest include Pennsylvanian Cherokee cyclic stratigraphy of the Midcontinent US.

Program Title: *People/Property and the Floods of 2008*

Program Description:

Presenter: Rod Scott

Bio:

Friday, June 26

Program Title: *Rock Creek Island State Preserve* (on-river program)

Program Description: Rock Creek Island is an island in the Cedar River at the mouth of Rock Creek near Rochester supporting a stand of bottomland forest. Few people visit this preserve because there is no walking access from the mainland. We will explore the island to identify trees and wildflowers.

Presenter: John Pearson (Iowa DNR Preserves Program)

Bio: John Pearson is a botanist with the Iowa DNR.

Program Title: *Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic*

Program Description: Can't keep that canoe straight? Worried about the rapids, dams, and other hazards on this year's Project AWARE route? This primer is for you! We'll focus on simple boat control techniques, hazard identification, and learning to "read the river" in order to stay upright while finding that trash.



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Presenter: Iowa DNR Water Trails Program Staff

Program Title: *The Past, Present, and Future of Nature in Iowa*

Program Description: For the past 180 years, people have been reshaping the character of the natural world in Iowa. The result is one of the most intensively managed agricultural landscapes on earth. Connie's talk will describe the technologies and mindsets that have produced this massive landscape transformation, and the resulting benefits and environmental problems, including some of those witnessed this week on the river. She also will describe changes that could improve Iowa's environmental integrity and water quality.

Presenter: Connie Mutel (The University of Iowa)

Bio: Connie Mutel has written or edited several books describing Iowa's natural landscapes and ecological restoration techniques, including *Fragile Giants: A Natural History of the Loess Hills* (1989) and *The Tallgrass Restoration Handbook* (2005). Her most recent book, *The Emerald Horizon: The History of Nature in Iowa* (2008), is the basis for this talk. Connie lives north of Iowa City and is employed as an historian and archivist at IIHR-Hydrosience & Engineering, an institute at The University of Iowa that is deeply involved in research on Iowa rivers. She and her husband enjoy regular kayak outings in Iowa and beyond.

Program Title: *What We Have Learned From the Floods of '08*

Program Description: Discussion of the causes of the flood and the impacts on water quality. Rob will also be addressing how precipitation patterns and land use changes affect streamflow.

Presenter: Rob Middlemis-Brown (Iowa Water Science Center – U.S. Geological Survey)

Bio: Rob Middlemis-Brown is the Director of the United States Geological Survey's Water Science Center in Iowa located in Iowa City, Iowa. Rob has been leading USGS's water resource programs in Iowa since 1994 with an emphasis on the impacts of agricultural land use on water quality in streams and ground water. Prior to arriving in Iowa, Rob was located in Ithaca, New York where he was an adjunct professor at Cornell University and the Program Leader for USGS water resource programs in western New York. He had also been with USGS in Michigan working on Great lakes issues, in Minnesota addressing the impacts of non-point source pollution on wetlands and lakes, and in Nevada investigating the impacts of long-term radioactive waste storage on water supplies. Rob has authored over 40 articles including one book and has provided over 100 oral technical presentations including congressional testimonies.

Program Title: *Bats in Our Environment*

Program Description: This is a two-part program to raise awareness about the important part bats play in sustaining a healthy ecosystem. Live bats will be on hand to shed some light on these amazing mammals and give reason as to why the need is so great to protect them and the places they live. If conditions permit, part two of the program will give all an opportunity to see an emergence of bats as they head out into the night to do their part as nature's number one night time bug busters.

Presenter: Vera Blevins (Bat World Heartland)

Bio: As a state and federal licensed wildlife rehabilitator for Iowa's indigenous species for seventeen years, Vera is now focusing on bats as her area of expertise. Her home based center is one of the 20 regional rescue centers in the United States for Bat World Sanctuary in Mineral Wells, TX, known throughout the world as one of the top leaders in bat rescue, rehabilitation, sanctuary, and education.



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