

# The W.R.E.N.

## Wapsi River Environmental News

### Winter 2011

Scott County Conservation Board's Environmental Education Newsletter

[www.scottcountyiowa.com/conservation/wapsi.php](http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/conservation/wapsi.php)

The Wapsi River Center is owned, managed and operated by the Scott County Conservation Board with programming and development assistance from the Clinton County Conservation Board.

## Wapsi Center Happenings & Scott County News

by Dave Murcia, Director

### Ecology Day ~ Art in Nature

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual event started with an **Earth-Friendly Art Kit** program using natural and recycled materials followed by **Precious Pottery** where participants made animals, beads and bowls. The day continued with **Nature Printing & Framing** using natural and recycled materials, **Digital Nature Photography 101**, explaining techniques and tips for outdoor photography, followed by supper hosted by the **Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc.** The day ended with the **Eastern Iowa Star Party** a celestial celebration. Thanks to all who supported the annual event including Bob Bryant and Julie Malake!



### Wapsi Center Deer Hunt

The Wapsi Center deer hunt held during the 1<sup>st</sup> regular shotgun season, December 4-8, offered 12 licenses to six hunters who harvested three deer from the area.

The deer hunt at the Wapsi Center, along with the Scott County Park deer hunt, was designated as a Special Deer Management Zone by the Iowa DNR. Successful applicants who passed the shooter's proficiency test and attended the hunter safety session were offered 75 licenses for the Scott County Park hunt (30 harvested). The Scott County Conservation Board is managing the population in order to balance plant and animal communities and this ecological management tool appears to be working. Fewer harvests were expected state-wide according to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources as the population in most counties is now approaching target goals.



### Eagle View Eco Center Improvements

Visitors to the Eco Center will see something new as they view exhibits in the live animal room. Particular emphasis has been placed on improving reptile and amphibian care in an effort to enhance the health of our "captive critters".

After attending a reptile session at the Fall Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN) Workshop, staff returned and made small but effective changes within enclosures as well as the whole wing of the Eco Center. Snake and turtle enclosures have been improved to maximize the health of each animal by promoting conditions for diets and overall activity. Enclosures will also be easier to maintain while eliminating substrate material costs all together. The new doors to the animal room will allow for energy efficiency during the heating months, too. Thank you to our skilled maintenance staff from West Lake Park for ensuring this project met our needs!

If you are interested in sponsoring an animal, please contact us at (563) 328-3286 for details or visit our website.



### Eagles Are Back

Bald eagles have returned to the Wapsi Center along the banks of the Wapsipinicon River! Best times to view eagles are December through March. On most occasions, the eagles return to the night roost from 3:30 P.M. to dusk. As many as 50 eagles have been observed at one time on the roost. It is located within 250 ft. of the Eagle View Eco Center where spotting scopes are available for indoor public viewing when the Center is open. Please be quiet when approaching the Eco Center!! **Winter hours for the Eco Center and its displays are Saturdays from 12:30 - 4:30 P.M. Admission is free.**

Speaking of eagles, please join Director Dave Murcia, partners from the US Army Corps of Engineers and staff at the Mississippi Valley Welcome Center in LeClaire, Iowa, for the annual **LeClaire Bald Eagle Watch** event.



# December's Stellar Showcase

by Lisa Gerwulf, Assistant Naturalist

& 29-30 ~ Capricornids, August 12-13 ~ Perseids, October 8-9 ~ Draconids & 21-22 ~ Orionids, November 17-18 ~ Leonids, and December 13-14 ~ Geminids.

The Geminid meteor shower took place in the wee hours of December 14; the peak of the annual astronomical event from December 7-17. The shower is known to produce as many as 100-120 meteors per hour! With the continued increase in intensity, this shower allowed for one of the best opportunity to view shooting stars, if sky conditions didn't hamper viewing.

If you are wondering where to look in the night sky, the meteor showers radiate from their namesake's constellation. For example: Lyrids ~ Lyra, Aquarids ~ Aquarius, Capricornids ~ Capricorn, Perseids ~ Perseus, Draconids ~ Draco, Orionids ~ Orion, Leonids ~ Leo, and Geminids ~ Gemini.

Shooting stars are actually particles, no larger than a grain of sand, that enter the earth's atmosphere at a high rate of speed, burn up and superheat the air around it. This in turn produces a visible streak of light.

This year, many would agree that Nature has a sense of humor when it comes to December 21 really being the first day of winter. At the time of the winter solstice, the sun is at its lowest point in the sky; therefore, the date has been delegated to kick-off the beginning of winter. For those of you who ventured out during the wee hours, you might have been treated to a rare celestial sight – a total lunar eclipse.

A meteor shower is the result of the earth's orbit moving the earth through a cloud of particles left behind by a passing comet. The space dust is created when the stellar object passing within close proximity to the sun, superheats, expands and then shedding particles which in turn spread out along the object's orbit.

What again is an eclipse? It has to do with the alignment of the sun, moon and earth. During a total solar eclipse, the moon's orbit is closest to the earth, and is between the sun and earth. When the sun is viewed, the moon's shadow is cast upon the earth hiding the sun from view. During a total lunar eclipse, the moon is directly overhead, and the earth is in between the sun and moon. When the moon is viewed, the earth's shadow is cast upon the moon hiding the moon from view. Since the moon's phase was full, it exuded a halo of coppery-red.

The Geminid meteor shower is unique in that the cloud of debris is not the result of a comet, but rather an asteroid. This asteroid (3200 Phaethon for you astronomy buffs) was discovered in 1983 and is believed to be a 3-mile wide space rock whose origins are still debated. Scientists wrangle over whether it's a sputtered-out comet or just a dust-shedding asteroid.

Unfortunately, our area succumbed to cloudy conditions. However, a friend of mine from eastern OH, downed his warmest winter attire, and with a strong cup of cold-brewed coffee in hand watched the event at 3:16 A.M. his time. He proclaimed it "an astronomically awesome event!"

The following is a list of annual meteor showers for 2011 courtesy of Skyscrapers, Inc.: January 3-4 ~ Quadrantids (radiates from Bootes), April 21-22 ~ Lyrids, May 5-6 ~ Eta Aquarids, June 14-16 ~ Lyrids, July 28-29 ~ Delta Aquarids

## Kids' Corner ~ Stellar Word Find

How many out-of-this-world terms you can find in this word find? Words are across, down and diagonal.

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| comet         | orbit      |
| asteroid      | earth      |
| meteor        | sun        |
| constellation | astronomer |
| moon          | phase      |
| eclipse       | solstice   |
| lunar         | winter     |
| shooting star | shadow     |

P	D	C	X	A	S	T	E	R	O	I	D
S	H	O	O	T	I	N	G	S	T	A	R
H	S	N	M	M	J	K	P	U	Y	S	X
A	O	S	U	N	E	L	M	A	Q	T	V
D	L	T	X	W	U	T	I	O	J	R	L
O	S	E	C	L	I	P	S	E	B	O	U
W	T	L	C	B	F	N	H	I	K	N	N
Q	I	L	A	M	P	L	T	U	E	O	A
S	C	A	S	O	P	K	B	E	A	M	R
M	E	T	E	O	R	H	L	P	R	E	F
T	U	I	H	N	V	D	A	R	T	R	K
P	X	O	R	B	I	T	E	S	H	N	G
L	M	N	I	S	T	W	V	B	E	K	F

# PLANT PROFILE : RIVER BIRCH

by Amy Newman, Seasonal Assistant Naturalist

In North America, there are approximately 13 species of birch that all share distinctive paper or scaly bark. Most are considered hardy broadleaf trees, but the river birch, *Betula nigra*, is the most resilient. River birch is native to Iowa and is sometimes referred to as black birch, water birch, or red birch. It is widely distributed and can be found in most of the eastern half of the United States. It extends from southern New England, west to Kansas and Minnesota and south to Texas and Florida. It is the most southern of all the birch species and is most often found along stream banks and other moist habitats. At the Wapsi River Center, it can be found near the aquatic lab and along the banks of the Wapsipinicon River.

The leaves of the river birch are alternate and triangular-shaped with double-toothed margin. The undersides of the leaves are velvety and light gray. Typical of birch species, the river birch has scaly or papery bark. As a young tree,



its bark reveals a salmon or cinnamon color. When the tree matures, the trunk appears dark red-brown or gray-brown with deep ridges. At full maturity, it can reach 40 to 70 feet high and 15 to 30 inches in diameter; often growing as a multi-trunked tree. River birch is monoecious, meaning the male and female flowers (or catkins) are on the same plant but are separate. Male catkins develop in fall and weigh down branches in the spring when the catkins are mature. Female catkins form in the spring as leaves begin to emerge. The flowers are pollinated by the wind (birch pollen heavily contributes to hay fever). Once pollination occurs, the female catkin



develops into a cone-like fruit. By late spring and early summer, the winged seeds are dispersed by water or wind. Water dispersal is vital because most seeds will end their journey on moist shores where they will quickly germinate.

River birch, prefer moist, acidic soil but have also adapted to survive in poor soils, extreme drought, moderate flooding and fire. However, it is shade intolerant. Another important adaptation lies within the tree's fast growing and extensive root system. It is able to

survive drought because the fibrous roots are shallow and have evolved a system that adjusts leaf stomata to maximize photosynthesis. Stomata are pore like structures found on the surface of plants; their main function is to allow carbon dioxide, water vapor, and oxygen to pass in and out of the leaf. River birch may also drop its leaves and small branches to conserve water. Not only can it thrive in poorly drained soils, but it has a resistance to bronze birch borer (*Agrilus anxius*). This insect is the bane of a birch lover's existence. The borer is attracted to the chemical rhododendrol, which is produced by all native birch species except river birch. Due to its number of adaptations, the river birch is used in erosion control and as a buffer in riparian habitats. Additionally, this hardy tree has often been used to re-establish areas once used for strip mines.

Cherokee and Chippewa tribes found some medicinal uses for this stream-side dweller. In order to treat dysentery, the natives would chew on the leaves. An infusion made from the bark was suitable as an analgesic (painkiller) and also used for gastrointestinal and urinary ailments.

Economically, river birch doesn't have the same value as its cousin paper birch, however the wood is lightweight, making it useful in manufacturing inexpensive items such as children's toys, basket materials and furniture. Birch beer and vinegar can be produced from the sap.

Many species of wildlife benefit from the river birch for food and shelter; small birds like redpolls and pine siskin utilize the tree as a nesting site. Other small birds, wild turkeys and grouse enjoy foraging on the seeds in spring. The leaves, buds, and young branches are eaten by white-tailed deer and other browsers.

Its attractive bark, charming form, and resistance to diseases make the river birch a much desired native species suitable for landscaping and natural resource management. Now that you have learned some identifying features, see if you can discover how many river birch trees are in your neighborhood or nearby wild spaces.



# WILDLIFE PROFILE : WALLEYE

by Michael Granger, Naturalist

This fall's weather has been great for fishing along the Wapsipicon River. After last summer's heavy rains and high water levels, new holes and sand bars have developed. A river ecosystem is ever changing and a wonderful place to explore. At one of my frequent fishing holes the list of species caught this fall has been record setting. I was often surprised at what was on the end of the line when it was reeled in. The list includes white bass, smallmouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, red fin sucker, carp, northern pike, mooneye, freshwater drum and walleye. Yes . . . walleye! This fall I caught three of the most beautiful walleye I have caught



in my life, actually the only walleye I've ever caught in my life.

The walleye, *Stizostedium vitreus*, is a member of the ray-finned fish belonging to the order Perciformes, which includes 7,000 species worldwide. Within the order, the walleye belongs to the family Percidae which contains 125 species, 20 of which can be found in Iowa. The group can be further divided into three subfamilies including the Percinae (perches), the Luciopercinae (walleye and sauger) and the Etheostomatinae (darters).

Walleyes are the largest member of the perch family normally attaining lengths from 15 - 20 inches. Walleyes, as with other members of the perch family, have slender bodies and hard bony gill covers which are razor sharp. I recall being very careful with yellow perch I caught as a boy on fishing trips to Minnesota because of their sharp gill covers. Walleyes are golden in color along the sides and have a greenish-olive coloration when viewed from above. Five, dark-colored saddles partially encircle the fish from head to tail. The belly is a creamy white. There is a separation between the spiny and fleshy portions of the dorsal fin (giving it the appearance of two dorsal fins), which is a very distinctive trait within the family. I was also fairly amazed at the large "canine" teeth that walleye have on the roof of the mouth and lower jaw. These teeth give the walleye a bulldog-like look, and make handling them a delicate operation. The walleye also has a distinctive white patch on the bottom of its tail, which aids in differentiating it from the sauger, *Sander canadensis*, which has none. The name "walleye" refers

to the large, silvery eyes which help the walleye see in low light levels. This is known as "eye shine" which is commonly seen in nocturnal mammals. This amazing eye allows the walleye to hunt throughout the night and in turbid or murky waters. Walleye are sensitive to bright light and will seek out deeper pools in rivers and lower lake depths.



Walleyes live in a variety of aquatic habitats and are commonly known to inhabit large deep lakes in the Great Lakes region and Canada. Here in Iowa, they occur in inland lakes, bordering rivers, tributaries, and reservoirs. In Iowa, lake populations of walleye are enhanced by hatchery fish. Iowa fish hatcheries produce 125 million walleye fry to be introduced throughout the state.

Walleye is a much sought after game fish and is one of the finer tasting fish. I know a gal who has had "walleye omelets" prepared by her friend in Minnesota. Both Minnesota and South Dakota claim the walleye as their state fish. Walleye fishermen are a tough breed, being that walleye feed during some of the most foul weather conditions. The term "walleye chop" refers to the wavy conditions this weather brings. Under these conditions baitfish get churned up and disoriented by the waves

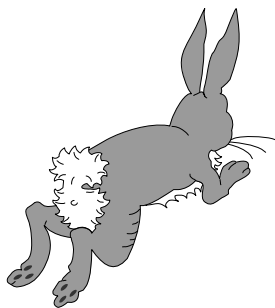
making them easier prey.

Walleye fishing at nighttime can also be productive when using live bait and jigging minnows in deeper waters. Many walleye are also taken through the ice, for those who would like a cure for cabin fever. For me the excitement and thrill of catching walleye, without a boat no less, has been a thrill, I now know more about this amazing fish and look forward to catching more right here in Scott County, Iowa!!!



## January

**22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Snowshoe Tracking ~ 10:00 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Come explore the wintery wilderness at the Wapsi River Center via

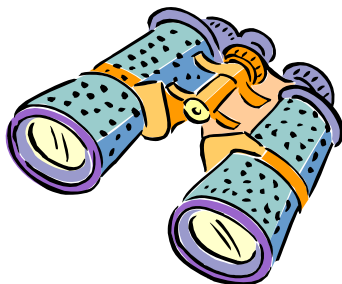


snowshoes. Learn about the history of snowshoes and then search for animal tracks and signs of activity. Winter fun for everyone! Please call to reserve equipment; (563) 328-3286. **BYOM ~ Bring your own mug.**

**29<sup>th</sup> ~ Recycled Card Crafts ~ 2:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Did you know that during the holiday season we generate 5 million tons of trash? Recycling is the key! By attending this fun afternoon program, participants will learn to make gift boxes, decorative tags, ornaments and much more from recycled holiday cards. Scissors, glue, rulers and pencils will be provided; participants need only to bring cards. Pre-registration is required by calling (563) 328-3286. **BYOM ~ Bring your own mug.**



**29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> ~ LeClaire Bald Eagle Watch ~ Mississippi Valley Welcome Center** ~ Join Wapsi River Center Director Dave Murcia, partners from the US Army Corps of Engineers and staff at the QC Welcome Center for the annual Bald Eagle Watch event. Participants will learn about our national symbol with outdoor viewing opportunities on the river at Lock & Dam 14 as well as indoor presentations about raptors in general. This free event will include 3 live birds of prey! Presentations on Saturday will be at 10:00 A.M., 11:00 A.M. and Noon. Presentations on Sunday will be at 1:00 P.M., 2:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. The Mississippi Valley Welcome Center is located at 900 Eagle Ridge Road ~ LeClaire, Iowa. Call (563) 322-3911 for more information.



# Winter

## February

**5<sup>th</sup> ~ Bettendorf Science Fair ~ 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. ~ Bettendorf Middle School** ~ Join Wapsi



River Center Director Dave Murcia at the annual science fair and learn about many different aspects of science including the Wapsi River Center's Birds of Prey program featuring two live raptors! This event is free to the public.

**5<sup>th</sup> ~ Winter Fun Day ~ 9:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Come to the Wapsi River Center for a fun-filled day of winter activities. This is an event the whole family can enjoy, so plan to come out and discover winter at its best. A limited number of skis and snowshoes are available, so please call to reserve equipment; (563) 328-3286. **BYOM ~ Bring your own mug.**

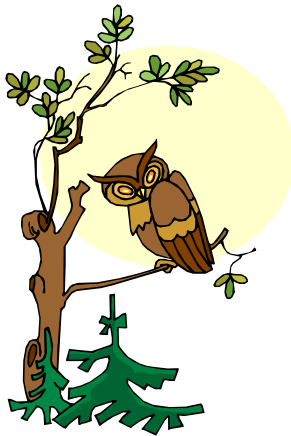
**9:00 A.M. ~ Cross-country Ski Clinic** ~ Come learn the basics of cross-country skiing and tour the Wapsi Center trails, if conditions allow. Participants will learn about proper skiing techniques, safety and equipment. Participants may bring their own equipment.

**12:30 P.M. ~ Snowshoe Nature Hike** ~ Join Michael Granger, Wapsi River Center Naturalist, on this excursion into the Wapsi River Center's woodlands. We will be traveling the way of the Native Americans and early pioneers, looking for signs of life in the still, winter woods.



# Events

**2:00 P.M. ~ Winter Bird Feeding** ~ Come learn how to identify winter birds; plus how to attract and feed our feathered friends. Fun for all ages!



**3:00 P.M. ~ Wonderful Owls** ~ Learn how to identify Iowa's owls and those that reside at the Wapsi River Center. Amazing nocturnal adaptations make these birds incredible hunters. Learn about these amazing raptors and then do some bald eagle viewing in the comfort of the Eagle View Eco Center.

**4:30 P.M. ~ 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off** ~ The Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc. will be hosting this annual competition. Please bring your best chili creation to share, and possibly win the coveted chili cup!!! Donations are accepted, and please bring your own table setting.

**5:30 P.M. ~ Frostbite Star Party** ~ Winter is a great time for astronomy. The sky is never clearer than on cold, winter nights. The winter constellations center around Orion, the Great Hunter. In the sword hanging from Orion's Belt, one can find the Orion Nebula, which is one of the most spectacular objects to be seen through a telescope. The St. Ambrose University's Menke Astronomical Observatory is the location; park in lot A.



**7:00 P.M. ~ Folk Concert ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Relax and enjoy an evening of acoustical guitar and vocal offerings of the music of Paul Simon, Peter Meyer, John Denver, John Prine and several others as rendered by local talents. You may participate by using one of our simple percussion instruments, bringing your own, singing along, slapping your knee, tapping your foot or just being a quiet listener.

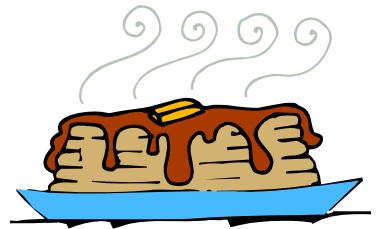


**17<sup>th</sup> ~ Friends of the Wapsi River Center, Inc. Meeting ~ 7:00 P.M. ~ Gander Mountain** ~ Join us at the Gander Mountain Store in Davenport to learn about current events, happenings and volunteer opportunities at the Wapsi River Center.

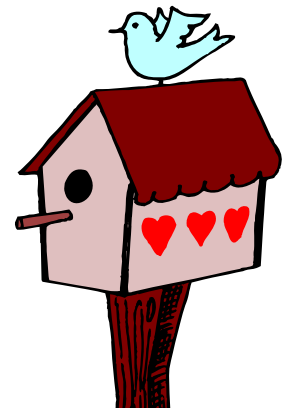
**26<sup>th</sup> ~ Maple-Syruping Demonstration ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join Tom Greene as he discusses the history and procedure of tapping trees for syrup. Handouts and where to find tapping equipment will be provided to participants. Please call (563) 328-3286, if you are interested in attending.

## March

**5<sup>th</sup> ~ Maple-Syruping Demonstration ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join Tom Greene as he discusses the history and procedure of tapping trees for syrup. Handouts and where to find tapping equipment will be provided to participants. Please call (563) 328-3286, if you are interested in attending.

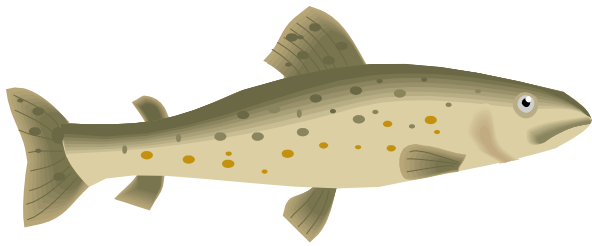


**10<sup>th</sup> ~ Birdhouse Workshop ~ 6:30 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ You can build your own bluebird, wren, kestrel or wood duck nest box from a kit to provide for wildlife in your world. You will also learn about the correct placement and maintenance



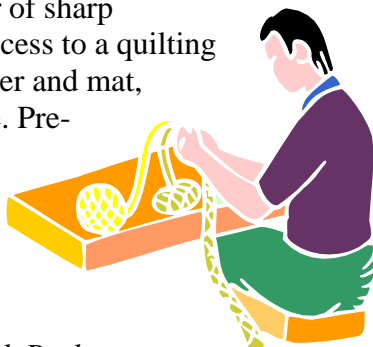
of the boxes. The kits will be available for a small fee to cover materials. Fees are \$5 for a wren or bluebird and \$25 for a wood duck or kestrel box. Please call (563) 847-7202 before March 7 to order your kits.

**17<sup>th</sup> ~ Friends of the Wapsi River Center, Inc. Meeting ~ 7:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join us at the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center to learn about current events, happenings and volunteer opportunities at the Wapsi River Center.



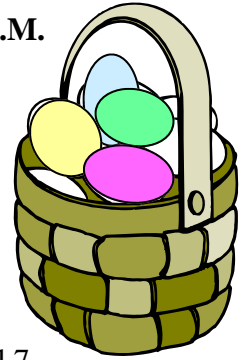
**19<sup>th</sup> ~ Trout Release ~ 10:30 A.M. ~ West Lake Park** ~ Trout will be released by representatives from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources at West Lake Park. This year there will be 1,800 rainbow and 200 brook trout released at Lake of the Hills. Come join us for this spectacular event.

**19<sup>th</sup> ~ Recycled Stitches ~ 2:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Come join naturalist Lisa Gerwulf as she shows you how to create a uniquely versatile yarn from recycled plastic bags. "Plarn" (plastic yarn) is not a new fad, but rather a frugal technique reminiscent of the Depression Era. Participants will learn about the plastic industry, plastic's waste-to-energy potential, as well as how to create two versions of "yarn" out of recycled shopping/grocery bags. Knitted, crocheted, woven, braided and corded items will also be on display. Those interested need not be fancywork experts to enjoy this program. Each participant needs to bring 5 plastic shopping/grocery bags and a pair of sharp scissors. If you have access to a quilting tool called a rotary cutter and mat, consider bringing these. Pre-registration is required, by calling (563) 328-3286 to reserve your spot.



**April ~ Spring Sneak Peeks**  
~ more events to come in the spring newsletter

**9<sup>th</sup> ~ Natural Dyed Eggs ~ 2:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ This program takes a natural-spin to the centuries old craft of dying eggs. Bring a dozen hard-boiled eggs and the whole family for this history-rich how to. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration would be appreciated by calling (563) 328-3286 by Thursday, April 7.



**16<sup>th</sup> ~ Earth Day Expo/Quad Cities Earth Week Fair ~ 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. ~ QCCA Expo Center** ~ The Quad Cities Earth Week Coalition is hosting its 8<sup>th</sup> annual Earth Week Fair at the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island, IL. This event is free to the public and will feature over 60 booths offering hands-on activities, demonstrations, make-and-take crafts, literature, videos, quizzes and other interactive projects. For more information: [www.qcearthweek.org](http://www.qcearthweek.org) or contact Erin Robinson-Vorac at (563) 388-1403 or [evorac@wastecom.com](mailto:evorac@wastecom.com)

**21<sup>st</sup> ~ Friends of the Wapsi River Center, Inc. Meeting ~ 7:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join us at the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center to learn about current events, happenings and volunteer opportunities at the Center.

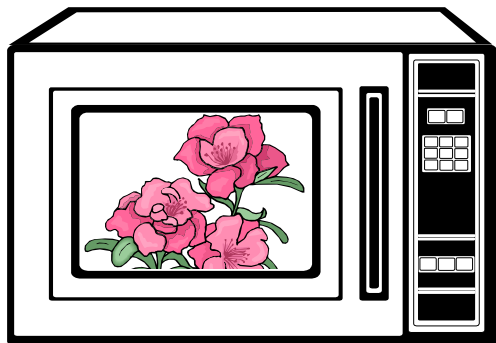
**23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Wildflower Hike ~ 11:00 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join naturalist Amy Newman on a woodland hike and enjoy the first flowers of spring. These flowers can only be seen this time of year before the forest floor is shaded by the foliage of the trees. Bring a camera, if you wish.



**23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Wild Edibles ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Spring** is the time for harvesting tender leaves and flowers. Learn how to identify nutritious and edible plants that can be found in your own backyard. This session will include a hike, taste testing and recipes. Please call (563) 328-3286 to register.



**30<sup>th</sup> ~ Flower Preservation ~ 10:00 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Come learn the art of preserving flowers in this fun and informative session. The program will include a make-n-take press, unique uses for dried flowers and instructions on drying flowers with a microwave! All materials are provided at no cost, but supplies are limited. Please pre-register at (563) 328-3286.



**30<sup>th</sup> ~ Paper Making ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Not your ordinary paper making project! Create beautiful paper using additives from nature. Perfect for stationery and adding that personal touch to all occasion cards. Come learn about paper making techniques and processes. Space is limited; call (536) 328-3286 to register.



## *The Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc. Seeks New Members*

The purpose of the Friends of the Wapsi Center, Inc., is to support the ongoing activities of the Wapsi River Center. We do this by volunteering to help with school groups, interpretive activities throughout the year, donating maintenance skills and in hosting the Eagle View Eco Center. We operate a gift shop housed at the Eco Center which offers a wide variety of items ranging from books and other educational materials to home decorating items.

As a tax-exempt organization, we can raise funds which the Wapsi River Center uses for special projects and environmental education material purchases. The Friends Group also pitches in to help with special events like the Volunteer Workdays, Ecology Day, Bald Eagle Days and various workshops.

The Friends are an enthusiastic group of citizens just like you. Will you join us? You are invited to attend our monthly meeting on the third Thursday at 7:00 P.M. The Eagle View Eco Center is the site for meetings during the months of March thru October, and Gander Mountain is the site for meetings November thru February. Drop-ins are welcome! Call the Wapsi Center for more information, (563) 328-3286. Join by sending the form below to: Carol Rogers, Treasurer ~ 1103 East Garfield ~ Davenport, IA 52803.



**YES! I want to join the Friends' Group.** Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 5.00 newsletter  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 contributing member  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 supporting member

**WAPSI RIVER E. E. CENTER**  
**31555 52ND AVENUE**  
**DIXON, IA 52745**  
**Tel: (563) 328-3286**  
**Fax: (563) 843-2845**

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*For All Seasons*

**~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Eagle View Eco Center Hours ~ Saturdays ~ 12:30 - 4:30 P.M. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~**

“The W.R.E.N.” is published quarterly by the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center and the Scott County Conservation Board.

**Scott County Conservation Board**

Members:

John “Skip” O’Donnell  
Carol Fennelly  
Beth McAleer  
Rich Mohr  
Gene Weis

Director:

Roger Kean

**Phone Numbers**

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Scott County Conservation Board  
(563) 328-3280

Clinton County Conservation Board  
(563) 847-7202



**Wapsi River Environmental Education Center Staff**

Scott County:

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Clinton County:

Mark Roberts, E. E. Coordinator  
Chuck Jacobsen, Interpretative Naturalist  
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**Mailing List**

If you would like to receive “The W.R.E.N.” and do not have internet access, please send a post card to the Wapsi River E. E. Center at the address above.

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