

# The W.R.E.N.

Wapsi River Environmental News

SPRING 2015

Scott County Conservation Board's Environmental Education Newsletter

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The Wapsi River Center is owned, managed and operated by the Scott County Conservation Board

## Wapsi Happenings

By: Director, Dave Murcia



### Quad City Bald Eagle Days 2015

This year's BED event was held January 9-11 with mixed weather that limited attendance as well as viewing of the eagles along the river. During the school day, the booth saw approximately **1,000 students, teachers, and adults** from all over the Quad City area including both Iowa and Illinois schools! This year our theme was, "Winter Homes" and showcased our eastern screech owl and black rat snake. We would like to thank our **Friends** members, and all the **volunteers** for assisting with the booth. A special thank you to **Julie Ross and RSVP** for a huge response to volunteerism!

### Winter Fun Day 2014

This year 133 participants enjoyed activities and programming thanks to another snowy yet "warm" winter day. The annual event started with X-C- skiing followed by snow shoeing, winter bird feeding, furs of Iowa, and the Chili Cook-off! Voting this year gave the traveling **Chili Cook-off** trophy to **Friends** member **Ingrid Bogdanowicz**,



congratulations! Thank you to our volunteers and **Friends** members for supporting the event!

### Bobcat Rescue at Wapsi

Thanks to cooperative efforts by Dixon farmer Greg Paustian, IA DNR Officer Ed Kocal, and Wapsi River staff, a 30-35 pound bobcat was rescued and released back to its native home range along the Wapsi River.

Last November Mr. Paustian found a bobcat in a building he was tearing down and made a call to IADNR Officer Ed Kocal in an effort to safely remove the wild cat. In the process of trapping the bobcat, the cat ended up in a pit filled with water and was then snared by Kocal. At that



point Kocal realized it was getting hypothermic and called Wapsi Center Director Dave Murcia to locate a possible safe overnight location for recovery.

The Wapsi Center offered a safe, dry, and warmer recovery sight and monitored the cat until morning. The following day the cat was dry and ready for its natural habitat. After planning the release, the cat was let free of the overnight cage and bounded back to the forest along the Wapsi River.

Many people do not get a chance to see such beautiful native creatures as a bobcat. A big thank you to all involved in the rescue and release of this bobcat. As a reminder, please do not attempt to capture wildlife on your own, contact local agencies for assistance.

## New Owl at Wapsi

The Center is proud to announce a new member to our **Bird of Prey** program with the addition of a new eastern screech owl. Thanks to our partners at **S.O.A.R. (Save Our Avian Resources)** our program has grown to include another non-releasable bird. These birds are now used for education and are not able to survive in their natural habitat due to injuries typically caused by human impacts like car collisions. We are fortunate to maintain these birds and are able to promote awareness of human-animal relationships through these *ambassadors of the night*. Come out and see them at the Eagle View Eco Center or at our next Birds of Prey program!



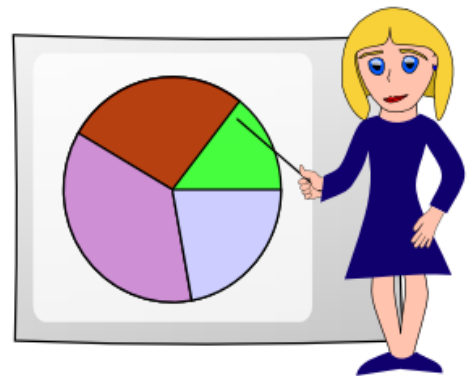
## School and Public Programs

From September-February of this school year, 6239 students, teachers, and parents participated in 43 field visits at the Wapsi Center. A total of 56 public presentations were attended by 619 participants on-site while approximately 1447 participants attended programs off-site that included Bald Eagle Days.

The Wapsi Center takes an interdisciplinary approach to environmental education and maintained **100% satisfaction ratings** through comments cards. The Center also met at least one **Iowa Core** requirement for all Iowa school programs surveyed. The Center's staff can help plan your field trip to meet educator needs. Visit our website and view/download our **Field Trip Planner**. If you are an educator who wants to schedule a field trip or take advantage of our dormitory and schedule an overnight field trip, give us a call at (563) 328-3286.

## Need a Guest Speaker?

Please feel free to call the Wapsi River Center at (563) 328-3286 if you are in need of a speaker for your club, business, civic organization, school in-service, or event. We do not charge for speaking engagements and come equipped with our own PowerPoint projector and laptop in needed.



# COME CELEBRATE EARTH WEEK 2015!

Come celebrate "Earth Week 2015" with us here at the Wapsi River Center by helping us do some Spring cleaning on Saturday, April 18th, 2015 starting at 9:00 A.M.

There will be duties and tasks that will suit all ages levels and groups. Our annual Spring work day

has always been a tradition here at the Wapsi Center since the beginning. Past activities have included cleaning up our roadways, brush clearing, landscaping, mulching, planting, woody species removal from our prairie, and tidying up the Eagle View Eco Center.

Please consider signing up your family or group for a morning of Spring cleaning and light refreshments afterwards. Please call to register (563) 328-3286.



# SPRING EVENTS

## APRIL

**1<sup>st</sup> ~ Pioneer Village Opens!** ~ The Dan Nagle Pioneer Village we be open 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. daily for the 2015 season. (The village will be open until October 31<sup>st</sup>).

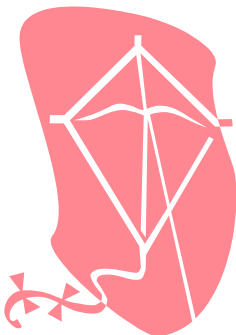
**3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Scott County Conservation Board offices will be closed for holiday observance.**

**10<sup>th</sup> ~ Citizen Science: Iowa Frog and Toad Call Survey Workshop ~ 5:30 - 9:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Do you enjoy watching wildlife? If so, the Iowa DNR's Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program wants your help! If you are interested in helping with a statewide yearly survey of frogs and toads in Iowa, come and join us at an Iowa DNR sponsored workshop on Friday, April 10, 2015 from 5:30pm-9:00pm at the Wapsi River Environmental



Education Center in Dixon, IA. The \$10 registration fee pays for a meal, training materials, a subscription to the VWMP monthly newsletter, and certification costs. For more information and a registration form, visit: <http://www.iowadnr.com/volunteerwildlifemonitoring/> or e-mail [vwmp@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:vwmp@dnr.iowa.gov).

**11<sup>th</sup> ~ Kite Making 101 ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ "Up, up and away!" Nothing can make your spirits soar like building and flying your very own kite. Using sticks, string, paper and glue, create a traditional diamond bow kite. After construction, participants will go outside for a test flight. Interested participants are asked to pre-register by April 22nd, (563) 328-3286. Supply cost is \$1.00 per kite.



**16<sup>th</sup> ~ Friends of the Wapsi Center Meeting ~ 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Please join the Friends of the Wapsi Center Inc. for an update on Wapsi happenings, current events and volunteer opportunities.

**18<sup>th</sup> ~ Spring "Earth Week" Workday ~ 9:00 A.M. - Noon ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join the Friends of the Wapsi River Center and Staff for a celebration of "Earth Week" for our annual spring work day. There will be jobs to suit all ability levels. Enjoy light snacks and refreshments compliments of the Friends of the Wapsi Center. Please call to register your family (563) 328-3286.



**22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Earth Day** ~ Find your personal way to show the earth you care and celebrate the 45th anniversary of Earth Day. More information and activities may be found at: <http://www.earthday.org>.

**23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Plant Some Shade ~ 4:00 - 6:00 P.M. ~ West Lake Park** ~ In support of Earth Week, the Scott County Conservation Board is pleased to announce that Mid-American Energy Company customers in Iowa are eligible to purchase a variety of trees for \$30 each (the remaining cost is funded through a Mid-American grant). Purchase is initially limited to 2 trees per household and advanced purchase is recommended as there are a limited amount of trees available. Order forms should be mailed no later than April 16th - only checks are accepted - no credit card or cash orders. If you have questions regarding this, call (563) 328-3280. Ordering forms may be found online at: [www.scottcountyiowa.com/conservation](http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/conservation).



**24<sup>th</sup> ~ Arbor Day** ~ Did you know that Arbor Day is the only holiday that looks to the future? Planting a tree shows faith in that future! It's also a great way to commemorate a birth, death, anniversary or other special event.

**25<sup>th</sup> ~ Picnic & Picasso ~ 11:00 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Take a walk on the wildflower side with naturalist Emily. Look for spring flowers bringing color to life and join me for a picnic in the forest!

Afterward, the blooming artists will be able to paint their own springtime art on canvas in a guided step-by-step painting experience.

Bring a lunch with you, cost is \$5/painting. Registration is required and limited to 10 painters. Call (563) 328-3286.



## MAY



**2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Pioneer Village Soda Shop Opens!**

~ The Dan Nagle Pioneer Village Soda Shop will be open for the 2015 season. (9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. daily and 11:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. on Saturday and Sundays).

**2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Wildflower Hike ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join us for a hike to identify some spring woodland wildflowers like rue anemone, hepatica, Dutchman's breeches, Jacob's ladder, spring beauty, dog tooth violet and many more. Please call to register (563) 328-3286.

**2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Moonlight Frog Chorus ~ 6:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Experience the sounds of the season, in search of the frogs and toads which inhabit the Wapsi River Center. Please bring a flashlight and waterproof footwear. Please call to register (563) 328-3286.

**9<sup>th</sup> ~ Menke Star Party ~ Dusk ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join Dr. Mitchell, Director of the Monsignor Menke Observatory, for a celestial tour of the spring sky. Please call (563) 333-6141 on the day of the event to find out if the weather conditions will permit viewing

**21<sup>st</sup> ~ Friends of the Wapsi Center Meeting ~ 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Please join the Friends of the Wapsi Center Inc. for an update on Wapsi happenings, current events and volunteer opportunities.

**23<sup>rd</sup> ~ Citizen Science: Pollinators! ~ 10:00 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Please join our seasonal naturalist, Becky Horton, at our third installment of our Citizen Science series to learn about the Great Sunflower Project. This ongoing summer project will teach you about pollinators in your garden. Also learn about threats harming our local pollinators. Take a hike to explore our prairie. Please pre-register by calling (563) 328-3286.



**24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Pioneer Village Heritage Days ~ 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. (Each day) ~ Dan Nagle Walnut Grove Pioneer Village** ~ Enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of yesteryear! The past will come to life at the Village as interpreters and actors recreate pioneer life. There will be pioneer craft demonstrations, folk music and performances by the Wapsi Wranglers and a Kickapoo Indian Dancer. Dan Nagle Walnut Grove Pioneer Village is located on the north end of Scott County Park. Admission is \$2/adult and \$1/children.



**25<sup>th</sup> ~ Scott County Conservation Board offices will be closed for holiday observance.**

**28<sup>th</sup> ~ Davenport Horticulturalist Society Meeting 6:30 - 8:30 P.M. ~ Duck Creek Park Lodge** ~ Join Michael Granger, Wapsi River Center Naturalist, for a "Walk in the Woods" at the Duck Creek Park Lodge

located at 3300 East Locust Street, Davenport, Iowa. For more information on the club please call Dennis Derer at (563) 391-1599.

**May 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Kayak Scavenger Hunt ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ West Lake Park** ~ This activity is for kayak beginners and experts alike. We discuss boater safety before heading onto the water. We will practice paddling exercises before beginning a leisurely scavenger hunt contest. Limited seating and pre-registration is required. Please call (563) 328-3286..

## JUNE

**5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> ~ Free Fishing Weekend** ~ Sport fishing license requirements have been waived for residents of Iowa by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources the weekend of June 5-7, 2015.

**6<sup>th</sup> ~ Fishing Clinic ~ 9:00 A.M. - Noon ~ West Lake Park** ~ This program is exclusively sponsored by The Quad City In-Fisherman and is part of the FISH IOWA angler education program.



Open to Scott County residents grades K-6. Children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult, moms and dads are encouraged to attend. All poles and tackle are provided. Registration begins at 8:00am.

**6<sup>th</sup> ~ Archery Basics ~ 10:30 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Learn how to use a bow and arrow in this informative and fun hands-on class. You'll learn safety and proper archery techniques according to National Archery in the Schools (NASP) guidelines. Children must be in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and above to participate. Please call to pre-register (563) 328-3286.

**6<sup>th</sup> ~ Menke Star Party ~ Dusk ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Join Dr. Mitchell, Director of the Monsignor Menke Observatory, for a celestial tour of the spring sky. Please call (563) 333-6141 on the day of the event to find out if the weather conditions will permit viewing

**10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> ~ EDIWILD 2015 ~ See special add page 8.**

**18<sup>th</sup> ~ Friends of the Wapsi Center Meeting ~ 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Please join the Friends of the Wapsi Center Inc. for an update on Wapsi happenings current events and volunteer opportunities.

**20<sup>th</sup> ~ Quad City Triathlon ~ 7:00 A.M. ~ West Lake Park** ~ Come watch the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Quad City Triathlon held at West Lake Park. Participants will be swimming 600 yards, biking 15 miles and running 3.1 miles. Spectators are welcome. For information contact: [ericarno@msn.com](mailto:ericarno@msn.com) or visit: [www.qctriathlon.com](http://www.qctriathlon.com).

**22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> ~ Junior Naturalist Summer Camp ~ 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. ( Each day) ~ Nahant Marsh, Davenport, Iowa** ~ Enjoy outdoor recreation and

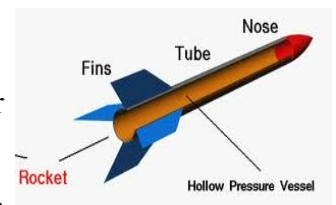


discover what it is like to be a wildlife biologist. Campers will learn how to protect, identify, track and collect data on many plants and animals. In addition they will learn how skills like archery, canoeing, and fishing. Please call to register 1-888-336-3907, or for more information call Nahant Marsh at (563) 323 -5196.

**27<sup>th</sup> ~ Picnic & Picasso ~ 11:00 A.M. ~ Wapsi River Center** ~ Bring the kids out for a fun day of peeking into a pollinator's paradise, a picnic in the prairie, and painting a pretty picture! That's a lot of P's, but it's all about the Bees! Bring a lunch with you, cost is \$5/ painting. Registration is required and limited to 10 painters. Call (563) 328-3286.

## JULY

**1<sup>st</sup> ~ Pop Bottle Rocketry ~ 1:00 P.M. ~ Scott County Library (Eldridge Branch)** ~ Join Wapsi River Center naturalist Mike Granger for a lesson on rocketry. Learn Newton's 3 laws of motion and make your own rocket. Please call the Eldridge Library at (563) 285-4794 to register.



**3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Scott County Conservation Board offices will be closed for holiday observance.**

# PLANT PROFILE: Common Elderberry

By Naturalist: Michael J. Granger

Let me introduce you to a common shrub along the trails here at the Wapsi River Center: Common Elderberry, *Sambucus canadensis*. The shrub is easily recognizable by its straight branches with light greyish to brown bark. I have always known that it has been well documented that Elderberry stalks were hollowed out and used by Native American Indians for collecting maple syrup, plus I have enjoyed making whistles from sections of its stems.



STEMS

Common Elderberry can be found throughout the United States, much of Eastern Canada, Hawaii, and in Greenland. Elderberry is a fast growing perennial, requiring full sunlight, making it a prevalent edge species. Early in the spring time the buds of the Elderberry begin to swell. Eventually a compound leaf will emerge. The compound leaf of elderberry is



USDA: RANGEMAP

bright green with several lance shaped leaflets measuring 6 inches long and about 2 inches wide. Flowers develop from late June into August. Common Elderberry may reach 7- 10 feet tall, and a mature stand may be 20 years old. It is known for its fast growth. Elderberry reproduces itself by seeds or root suckers. On cleared areas it has grown into dense thickets.

Flower clusters are in umbels 4 – 10 inches across. Each flower is ¼ inch, white in color and fragrant. Flowers are found on canes that are 2 years or older. There may be numerous umbels on an individual plant. Fruits ripen from late July into September. They are round, slightly bitter, edible purple-black berries with crimson juice. Each is less than 1/4 across, borne in large clusters. Each berry contains 3-5 small seeds. There are about 230,000 seeds per pound.

Elderberry provides a food source for a variety of animals. When flowering, many honeybees,

hoverflies, and butterflies are drawn towards the umbels of small white flowers. In fact, a thorough lesson on insects can be given while standing only feet away from their blossoms, in late summer. Bears, white-tailed deer, small game birds, and small mammals love to eat the purple fruits in late summer. It provides nesting cover and perching places for a variety of birds, and cover for young pheasants and quail.



FLOWER BLOSSOM

Elderberry has many historical uses. Native Americans would make many useful items. A hollowed out branch was used for maple tree sap collection. Elderberry branches were used to make the shaft of arrows. Flutes and whistles were constructed by boring holes into stems hollowed out with hot sticks. Clapper sticks were made by splitting the stem and clapping the two halves against each other. Clapper sticks were used ceremonially to accompany singing and dancing. Elderberry berries make a purplish dye used in basketry.

Elderberry fruits were relished by the Native Americans for food and medicine. The flowers were used in folk medicine and were thought to cure just about any ailment. Headaches, twitching eyes, indigestion, and colds are just some of the ailments treated with elderberry. The berries are high in Vitamin C, but have alkaloids in them so are to be used with some caution. The berries of elderberry have been gathered from the wild for making wine, jellies, candy, pies, and sauces.



FRUITS

Every time I have students and I come upon elderberry, I am ready to tell them the many uses for the plant. From historically being used for syrup collection, to making whistles and curing a headache, the elderberry is a conversation piece when it is encountered.

# ANIMAL PROFILE: Northern Leopard Frog

By Naturalist: Becky Horton



It's a warm spring night late in April around 9:00pm. You are standing near a body of water having a quiet conversation with a couple of friends. Soon you realize that you need to speak louder to talk

over the chorus of various frogs and toads. That's when you decide to listen to the frog calls. At first you hear the typical high pitched plucking, chirping, or thumb-on-a-comb sounds. All of a sudden, you hear a loud deep snoring sound followed by a series of short grunts. That would be the Northern Leopard Frog, *Rana pipiens*.

Northern leopard frogs get their names from the irregularly shaped dark spots that appear on their backs and legs. These spots are usually outlined by a lighter color. Their back and legs vary from green to brown and their ventral surface is pale green or white. Their distinguishing feature is a pair of dorsolateral folds that run from the back of the eye down their back side. These dorsolateral folds are lighter in color, typically being a cream or pale green color. Not only are there brown and green morph frogs, but there is a third spotless morph called the "burnsi" morph.

Tadpoles are dark brown or gray with a pale tan tail, light blotches on the underside, and dark tiny spots on the dorsal side. The pickerel frog (*Rana palustris*) is a very similar



looking frog and is often confused with the northern leopard frog. The way to tell them apart is by the shape of their spots. The spots of the pickerel frog are square shaped and often paired in pattern, while the spots on the leopard frog are irregular in shape and pattern. Another big difference between the northern leopard frog and the pickerel frog is that the skin of the pickerel frog is somewhat toxic and therefore should not be used as bait or housed with other frogs.

The size of the northern leopard frog ranges from 3 to 5 inches in length from nose to rump making them a medium sized frog. Females are slightly larger

than males. In the wild they can live anywhere from 2 to 4 years of age.

The range of this frog is most of the northern half of North America, but not on the Pacific Coast. They are found throughout Canada and in the northern states of the United States.

They are generally found near ponds, marshes, and well-covered grasslands. Northern leopard frogs are carnivores and will eat just about anything that will fit in their mouths. They usually

ambush their prey by sitting quietly and waiting for prey to cross their paths, then they pounce with their powerful hind legs to catch their prey. They eat ants, flies, beetles, smaller frogs (including their own species) and even small snakes and birds. In April, northern leopard frogs begin calling and mating. They lay their eggs in a mass in a pond attached to twigs or other objects. The tadpoles grow rapidly and will leave the water as frogs by July. A fun fact is that a group of frogs is called an army of frogs!

The northern leopard frog is easily recognizable by most middle and high school students. It is the main frog that is used in most biology lab frog dissections. It was also once collected by the food industry for the delicacy of frog legs. However, beginning in the late 1960's, their population along with other frog populations started to decline. The cause for the decline has not been determined, but it is likely due to a combination of factors such as pollution, habitat loss, the introduction of invasive species, drought, disease, and pesticides. In Iowa, it is still considered common and you need a valid fishing license to possess this frog for bait.

With the global decline of many of the frog species, the Iowa DNR Wildlife Diversity Program coordinates a statewide survey of frogs and toads every year. If you are interested in helping out with the survey, contact your local conservation board or state DNR representative to see what you can do!



■ Northern Leopard Frog Range

Information provided by:

National Geographic, Allaboutfrogs.org, and herpnet.net.

# MICROSCOPE

# MANIA!

By Naturalist  
Emily Santiago



Tardigrades, also known as “water bears” or “moss piglets”, are the toughest (and in my opinion, the cutest) creatures on the planet. They were first described in 1773 by Johann August Ephraim Goeze, a German pastor and were given their name 3 years later by Italian biologist Lazzaro Spallanzani. Since then, over 1000 species have been discovered. They’ve been around for half a billion years and have survived all 5 mass extinctions!

They are short and plump with 4 pairs of legs, with 4 to 8 claws on each called “disks”. Despite being 0.5 mm long, they can survive for many years in extreme environments from temperatures just above absolute zero to over 300° Fahrenheit. They can also live without food or water for 10 years, only to become completely active again when conditions

allow. They can survive the low pressure of a vacuum and 6 times the pressure of water in the deepest part of the ocean- the Mariana Trench. And let’s not forget to mention, they can withstand 1,000 times more radiation than other animals. They aren’t technically extremophiles, because while they are capable of surviving in these extreme environments, they don’t seek them out.

The best place to find them is in regular old moss or lichens. Soak the moss in water for a while and then squeeze the drippings into a petri dish. Search for them under a microscope, but be patient and take your time because they are very small. In fact, they are smaller than the period at the end of this sentence.



Image: Eye of Science/Science Source 1

## EDIWILD 2015: Quad City Pollinator Conference



June 10 & 11, 2015



POLLINATORS: IN THE BACK YARD & ON THE BACK FORTY  
JUNE 10-11, 2015 | JUMER'S HOTEL, ROCK ISLAND, IL

**EDIWILD (Educators in the Wild)** is a 2-day educators’ workshop to facilitate the incorporation of environmental education into the school curriculum. The workshop will emphasize environmental stewardship and this year’s theme is **“Pollinators: In the Back Yard & On the Back Forty”**.

**This year’s activities, tours and topics include:** Research, bee keeping, restoration & conservation, agricultural practices, private lands, attracting pollinators, and much more. Tours will be taken to view local sites including Nahant Marsh.

**Further details and registration information will be posted at:**  
[www.qcpollinatorconference.org](http://www.qcpollinatorconference.org). Please also check the AEA9 at: [www.mbaea.org](http://www.mbaea.org) for credit info.





James & Jane Varcho  
Dean Hurliman  
Tony Singh Family  
Mike Dauber  
Jolinda Burr  
Tom Greene

Kyle Moeller & EICCD  
Kay Newman & SOAR  
National Mississippi River  
Museum

## RSVP

Friends of the Wapsi Center

Justin Baugh & The HON  
Company

Julie Ross

IA DNR:

Troop 37 Wheatland/Calamus

Cassie Druhl,

Ed Kocal

Nahant Marsh

Mike & Wanda Gacioch

Jeff Harrison

Farm & Fleet- Davenport

Teresa Azure

Holly Schulte

Ray & Andy Johnson

Jan Aguire

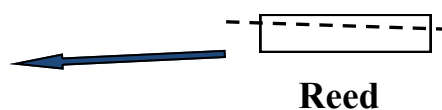
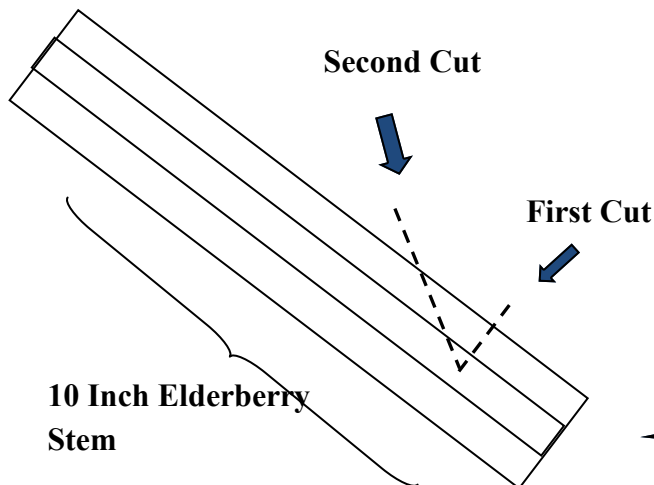
## Making an Elderberry Whistle:

If you have a stand of woods in your area you may have some Common Elderberry growing. Here is how to make an Elderberry whistle. Cut a length of dried stem about 1 inch in diameter and 10 inches long. Take a coat hanger and hollow out the inside pith. The pith is soft and punky and fairly easy to remove. You can also use a chain saw file to

poke out the pith. Next make a straight cut 1 inch from the front end of the whistle. Cut half way through the stem.

Next, using a sharp knife cut a notch back to the first cut from the bottom end? Then, find a small stick or dowel which will fit into the inside of the stem. Trim this stick down so it fits in tightly.

This will be the “reed” of the whistle. Shave the top of the reed at an angle sloping towards the front of the whistle. (The key is to just let a little bit of air to enter into the whistle). Insert the reed and blow into the stem, while covering the bottom hole. Trim and adjust the reed to get the perfect note!



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

**Mailing List:** To receive a copy of the WREN free of charge, please send a postcard to the address above.

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Mike Granger, Naturalist  
Emily Warren, Naturalist  
Becky Horton, Seasonal Assistant Naturalist  
Leroy Haeffner, Resident Caretaker

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