

Calendar of Events

Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, 4500 Sioux River Road, Sioux City, Iowa 51109

Exit 151 I-29, Take State Road 12 north for 4 miles to the Nature Center.

To register for events or for more information call 712-258-0838 Or check our website www.woodburyparks.org

All events are free of charge unless noted.

Hours: Tues. – Sat. 9am-4:30pm; Sun. 1-4:30pm. Closed Mondays.

January 1: *Stub Gray Shooting Range Closed* until March 1.

Saturday, February 10: *Owls of Iowa*, 10:00 a.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Come meet Harlan the live Barred Owl and learn about the other owl species found in Iowa.

Tuesday, February 13: *Nature Tales*, 10:00 a.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time about owls. We'll hike too, weather permitting. Please pre-register by calling 712-258-0838 or email tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

February 16 – 19: *Great Backyard Bird Count*. Information found at www.birdcount.org. Count birds at your feeder or in your yard to participate in one of the largest citizen science projects in the world. Go online to report your results.

Saturday, February 17: *Camping Knots*, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Ages 10 and up. It's better to know a knot and not need it, than to need a knot and not know it. From easily formed getaway knots to tensioning trucker's hitches, adjustable guy lines, hauling loops, simple pulley systems and more, you are guaranteed to leave this program feeling confident and ready to impress your campfire pals with your notable "knottiness." Program is free to attend. Pre-registration is appreciated but not required. Contact Resource Naturalist, Tyler Flammang, with any questions at 712-258-0838 or tflammang@woodburyparks.org.

Wednesday, February 21: Internship Applications Due for Summer Naturalist & Habitat Intern. For more info and application: <http://woodburyparks.org/employment/>

Friday, February 23: *Painting With Light*, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Ages 18 and up. Ever had your name written in lights? Or wanted to capture fireworks? You'll learn the techniques and gear settings needed in this exciting, hands on program. **Attendees will need to provide their own camera, tripod, and shutter remote (optional). Digital SLRs with a full manual setting or digital cameras with a fireworks scene mode will work best.** Please bring your camera's owner's manual if you have one. Don't have your own gear, but still interested? Come join us anyway! Program is free to attend. Pre-registration is REQUIRED. Contact Resource Naturalist, Tyler Flammang, with any questions at 712-258-0838 or tflammang@woodburyparks.org.

Saturday, February 24: *Woodbury County Pheasants Forever Banquet*. Sergeant Bluff Community Center. For ticket information contact Scott Rustwick at 712-277-2263.

Sunday, February 25: *Woodbury County Conservation Foundation Annual Meeting*, 1:30 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. The Annual Meeting will be followed by a program on the Missouri River by Steve Jauron.

Sunday, February 25: *A 50-Year Historical Look at the Missouri River*, 2:00 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Learn about the recent history of the Missouri River from retired Iowa DNR Conservation Officer Steve Jauron. Jauron worked from 1969 to 1982 as an Iowa Water Patrol Officer on the Missouri River. He continued to work as an Iowa DNR Conservation Officer in Woodbury County until his retirement. Jauron has spent countless hours on the Missouri River and will share images and stories of his time on this great river. This program is free, open to all and part of the Annual Meeting of the Woodbury County Conservation Foundation.

March 1: *Stub Gray Shooting Range* reopens March 1.

Friday, March 2: Full Moon Night Hike, 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Take a hike? Don't mind if we do! Dress for the weather by wearing layers and sturdy footwear with good ankle support. We'll be hiking to several overlooks around the center to take in the evening air, the sounds of the forest, and hopefully a 99.9% illuminated moon that floats 229,237 miles away from us! Contact Resource Naturalist, Tyler Flammang, with any questions at 712-258-0838 or tflammang@woodburyparks.org.

Tuesday, March 6: Homemade Sugar Scrubs, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. DPNC. Clean, healthy and vibrant skin is easy to obtain at home with natural ingredients. We'll learn the benefits of making and using a sugar scrub and how to make them. Each person will take home their own mini spa treatment. Cost: \$3 per person. Pre-register by calling 712-258-0838 or email Naturalist, Theresa Kruid at tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

Saturday, March 10: National Wild Turkey Federation Loess Hills Longbeards Banquet 5:30 p.m. at the Masonic Temple in Sioux City. Contact Mark Bower at 712-251-5718 for ticket information.

Tuesday, March 13: Nature Tales, 10:00 a.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time about turtles. We'll hike too, weather permitting. Please pre-register by calling 712-258-0838 or email tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

Saturday, March 17: Backcountry Fire Building Skills, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Ages 10 and up. **Children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult.** Whether you're into epic through hikes, quick weekend getaways, lazy weeklong campground stays, or relaxing backyard gatherings, knowing how to start a fire with various fuels and ignition sources is always knowledge worth having. Plus, it's just fun to impress your friends! Attendees will have their chance to work with ignition tools such as flint and steel, Ferro cerium rods, bow drills, and more. Program is free to attend. Pre-registration is appreciated. Contact Resource Naturalist, Tyler Flammang, with any questions at 712-258-0838 or tflammang@woodburyparks.org.

Thursday, March 22: Volunteer Awards Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Nature Center Volunteers mark your calendar for this date and plan to join us for dinner, conversation and awards. More information to follow.

Wednesday, April 4: Summer Day Camp Early Registration begins for Woodbury County Conservation Foundation Members. For more information contact camps@woodburyparks.org. To become a member go to <http://woodburyparks.org/membership>

Thursday, April 5: Trumpeter Swan Release, 1:30 p.m., Little Sioux Park, 1746 O'Brien Avenue, Correctionville, Iowa. The Iowa DNR will release three Trumpeter Swans at Little Sioux Park with the assistance of Woodbury County Conservation Board. The event includes a 20-minute swan/wetland presentation, a unique opportunity to touch and view the swans up close, and a historic photo opportunity with the kids. As the largest North American waterfowl, these magnificent all-white birds can weigh up to 32 pounds with an 8-foot wingspan. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. The event is held rain or shine. For more information contact 712-258-0838.

Saturday, April 7: Sauntering with Jack Phillips/The Naturalist School, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. A Saunter is a way of walking in wild places that creates space within ourselves as nature opens before us. A Saunter is for human adults, for the nourishment of body and soul. Our method of sauntering seeks to deepen native intimacy and contemplation of nature. For a contribution of \$20, participants will receive a copy of *A Pocket Guide to Sauntering*, and an afternoon of walking contemplation, writing, and inspiration in the rugged Loess Hills. Wear good boots and bring a notebook. **Please register by Monday, April 2** by contacting the center at 712.258.0803. For more information, contact jackphillipsrca@gmail.com or visit www.thenaturalistschool.org.

Tuesday, April 10: Nature Tales, 10:00 a.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Pre-schoolers, join us with an adult for this special story time about raccoons. We'll hike too, weather permitting. Please pre-register by calling 712-258-0838 or email tkruid@woodburyparks.org.

Wednesday, April 11: *Summer Day Camp General Registration OPENS.* For more information contact camps@woodburyparks.org.

Thursday, April 12: *Frog and Toad Call Survey Workshop,* 6:30 - 9:30 p.m., Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Be a volunteer wildlife watcher (listener)! Learn more about frogs and toads in our region in this workshop and help with an important citizen science project. Cost for training is \$5 per person. For more information and a registration form visit: <http://www.iowadnr.com/volunteerwildlifemonitoring/> or e-mail vwmp@dnr.iowa.gov.

Saturday, April 28: *Volunteer Work Day,* 9:00 a.m.– Noon, Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center. Help us spruce up the trails, gardens, Nature Playscape and grounds this spring. Wear sturdy shoes and bring work gloves. Pre-registration is appreciated so we can plan our volunteer tasks.

Monday, May 1: *Woodbury County Conservation Board Campgrounds open for the Season.* Pressurized water systems, restrooms and park facilities at Snyder Bend Park, Little Sioux Park, Bigelow Park and Southwood Conservation Area will open for the camping season. Camping is first-come, first-served. See more at: <http://woodburyparks.org/camping/>

May 4-6: *Camping Kickoff Weekend in Woodbury County Conservation Board Campgrounds.* Camp at Snyder Bend Park, Little Sioux Park, Bigelow Park and Southwood Conservation Area this weekend and earn a free camping pass for a night of camping later in the season.

Saturday, May 12: *Wildflower Walk,* 10:00 a.m., Fowler Forest Preserve. Join Naturalist Dawn Snyder to hike the trails and search for spring blooming wildflowers. This event is part of Iowa Wildflower Week. Fowler Forest is located one-half mile west of Smithland, Iowa, on State Highway 141. The event is free and open to the public. Wear sturdy walking shoes and dress for the weather.