

CONSERVATION CORNER



SPRING 2025, ISSUE 2

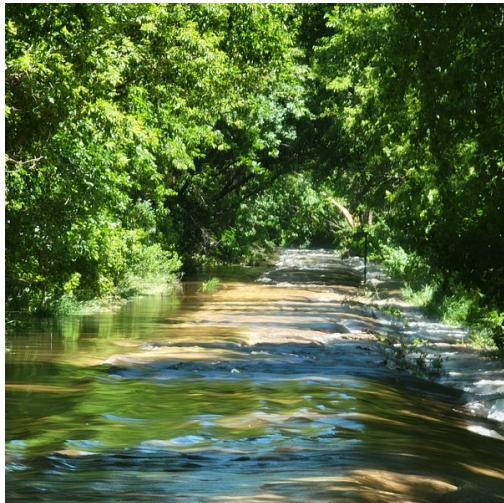
Three Rivers Trail - Back Open!

The Three Rivers Trail starts East of Rolfe and goes through Bradgate, Rutland, Humboldt and Dakota City. It is 33 miles long and has 475 acres of preserved habitat along with 28 bridges. Of those 28 bridges, three old railroad bridges are found in the Pocahontas County section of the trail. Those bridges include "The Rolfe Keystone Bridge" built in 1903, "The Pilot Creek Trail Bridge" built in 1924 and the "Bradgate Trail Bridge" built in 1902.

Considered a multi-use recreational trail it is perfect for walking, biking and snowmobiling. The trail was originally a part of the old Chicago and Northwestern railroad. Once it was abandoned the Conservation Boards for Pocahontas, Humboldt and Wright counties came together to purchase their respected sections of land and made the Three Rivers Trail what it is today.

The trail crosses three rivers; the West Fork of the Des Moines River, the East Fork of the Des Moines River and the Boone River which is how it got its name: The Three Rivers Trail.

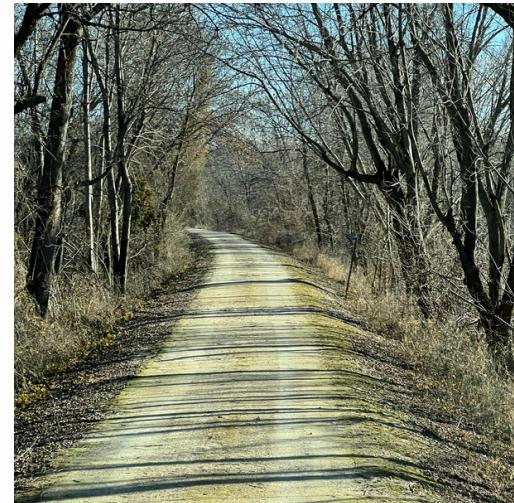
In June of 2024 historic flooding in Northwest Iowa caused a temporary closure of a section of the trail in Pocahontas County. This flooding caused a major wash out on parts of the trail (as pictured below). The PCCB has been working hard to make the necessary repairs to the trail and we are excited to say the trail is officially open again!



June 2024 - Flooding



September 2024 - Wash Out



December 2024 - New Surface

Last Call on Trees for the 2025 Tree and Shrub Sale!

We have a small variety of trees still available for purchase for our 2025 Spring Tree and Shrub Sale.

Please call our office or stop in to confirm availability.

Trees are expected to be delivered at the end of April. Those who purchased trees will receive a phone call once the trees are in and a pick up time can be scheduled.

KIDS SUMMER DAYCAMP

WITH NATURALIST ADAM

Need something fun and educational for your kids or grandkids to do this summer? Join Naturalist Adam at one (or all) of our many summer camps we have planned. Sign up today by going to our website or by [clicking here](#)



June 24 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 5-6
- Fishing at Cooper's Cove

June 25 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 7-9
- Kayaking at Lizard Lake

June 26 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 10-12
- Marsh Stomp at Crotty Wetland



EXPLORE THE LAKES AND WETLANDS OF POCOHONTAS COUNTY, PARTICIPATING IN ACTIVITIES LIKE FISHING, KAYAKING, AND A MARSH STOMP.



July 22 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 5-6
- "Can the sun cook my food?" at the PCCB Nature Center

July 23 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 7-9
- "Can my egg fall off the roof?" at the PCCB Nature Center

July 24 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 10-12
- "If a tree falls in the forest." at Cooper's Cove



CAMPERS WILL JOIN NATURALIST ADAM AS WE TRY TO SOLVE ALL OF SCIENCES GREATEST UNKNOWN'S LIKE, "CAN YOU DROP AN EGG OFF A ROOF?", "IF A TREE FALLS IN THE WOODS AND NO ONE IS AROUND TO HEAR IT, DOES IT MAKE A SOUND?", AND "CAN THE SUN COOK MY FOOD?"



August 12 from 10 AM - 2PM

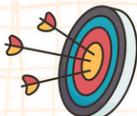
- Ages 5-6
- Bear Hunt: Starting at Elbert Park

August 13 from 10 AM - 2PM

- Ages 7-9
- Double Ball and other Native American Games at Rosenberger Park

August 14 from 10 AM - 2PM

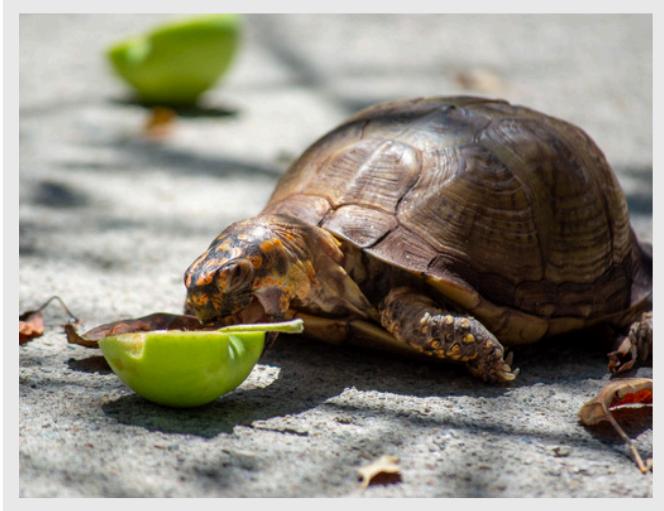
- Ages 10-12
- Archery and Air Rifle Shooting Competition at Rosenberger Park



COME ONE AND COME ALL FOR A DAY OF SPORTING IN FUN EVENTS LIKE DOUBLE BALL, ARCHERY, AND A BEAR HUNT!

Naturalist Chat

Meet Scotty!



Scotty is our Eastern Box Turtle and one of three different species of turtles we currently have in the Nature Center. Eastern Box Turtles are one of the most commonly seen wild turtles in the United States. While they are most often found in the eastern part of the country they can be found in other states as well, including Iowa.

There are a few core characteristics to tell if it is an Eastern Box Turtle, they include: a high-domed, round and hard upper shell, a hooked jaw (some even have a noticeable overbite), and webbed feet. Color and markings on the shell can vary from turtle to turtle.

In the wild you will most likely find them near ponds, fields, meadows or woodlands. They prefer wet environments or places that there is a lot of rain but they also like the warmth of the sun and to “sun” themselves on a nice day.

Easter Box Turtles are omnivore so they will eat just about anything. Some favorites are berries, insects, roots, flowers and eggs. Scotty’s favorite foods are carrots and lettuce.

In the wild they usually live between 25-35 years but in some instances they can live to closer to 100, especially in captivity. Scotty is 30 years old!

Graduation Rentals

Now is the time to reserve a shelter house, trailer tables or picnic tables for your graduation party or other special event. Call us at 712-335-4395 or email conservation@pocahontascounty.iowa.gov today to make your reservation.

Shelter House rentals are \$50/day.

Trailer Table rentals are \$25 per trailer/per day.

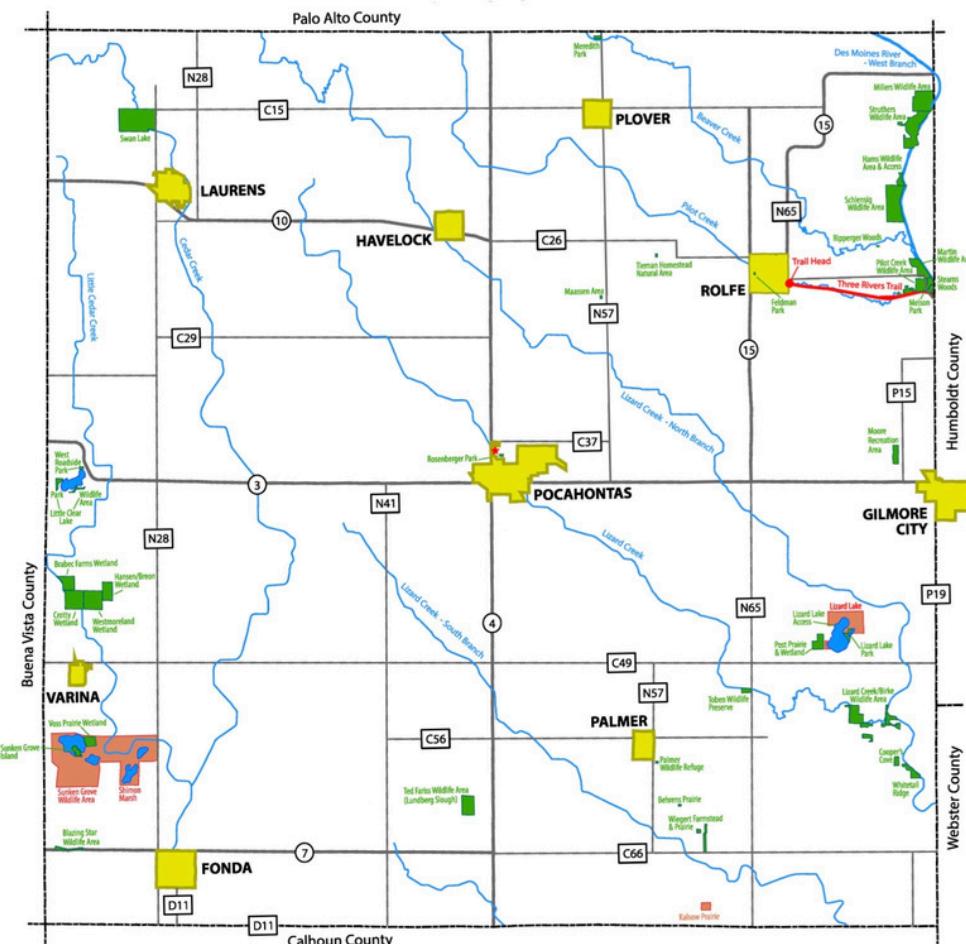


Save the Date:

41st Annual Wiegert Prairie Fall Fest | Sunday, August 24, 2025
“It’s a-MAIZE-ing”

Staff Board

- Director
 - Brian Reis
- Naturalist
 - Adam Mann
- Operation Supervisor
 - Kyle Scheidegger
- Maintenance Tech
 - Aaron Samuelson
- Park Ranger
 - Dallas Heuton
- Natural Resource Manager
 - Mason Stall
- Office Manager
 - Alicia Kopriva
- Dean Zuetlau - Pocahontas
- Ray Wolf - Varina
- Avery Aden- Palmer
- Shawn Behrendsen - Rolfe
- Randy Gustafson - Laurens



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