

Nahant News

WINTER 2019

Volume 13, Issue 1



4220 Wapello Ave. • Davenport, IA 52802
www.nahantmarsh.org • 563.336.3370

See page five to learn why Nahant Marsh uses prescribed fire as a method for natural resource management. Photo by J. Wiebler.



ABOUT NAHANT MARSH

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Davenport, IA 52802

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Natural Resources Technician II

MADELINE KULL

Natural Resources Technician I



It's not too late to GROW YOUR GIFT

Through the generosity of a private donor
and the Community Foundation of the Great
River Bend, EVERY GIFT MADE TO NAHANT
MARSH by December 31, 2018 WILL BE
MATCHED, up to \$30,000.

Mail or deliver your donation to: Nahant Marsh,
4220 Wapello Avenue, Davenport, IA 52802, or donate online:
www.nahantmarsh.org/get-involved/donations/.



Nahant Marsh preserve is one of the largest urban wetlands on the Upper Mississippi River. It is comprised of marshy areas, mesic, wet and sand prairie, and bottomland forest. A spring-fed quarry, known as Carp Lake, and the surrounding grounds are part of the Nahant Marsh preserve as well. The 305-acre preserve is owned by the City of Davenport and the Nahant Marsh Board, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Conservation and restoration efforts on the preserve are directed by the Nahant Board. The educational programming is overseen by Eastern Iowa Community Colleges (EICC). EICC's Advanced Technology Environmental Education Center (ATEEC) is also a critical part of Nahant Marsh.



LOOKING BACK AT ANOTHER GREAT YEAR

by Brian Ritter, *Executive Director*

It's difficult to choose the highlights for this year because there were so many positive things, both big and small, that have occurred at Nahant Marsh. Through the many hard-working volunteers, staff, board, and sponsors, we accomplished a great deal:

- 39 critical acres were added to the preserve. With help from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and from a number of generous donations, we are able to expand the preserve to 304 acres. Work has already begun to remove trash from this site and over the next few years, the area will be transformed back into wetlands and prairies. Trails will be added to the parcel that will allow visitors to witness this transformation.
- 743 species identified during a 24-hour period. With help from The Guardians of the Prairie and Forests, over 190 people participated in Nahant Marsh's first BioBlitz on June 22-23, 2018. They identified several species that had never been recorded at Nahant Marsh before and re-discovered species that had not been observed in many years. This BioBlitz gives a biodiversity baseline. We will hopefully repeat this again in ten years to compare the state of biodiversity to this year's results.
- 20,000 people participated in Nahant Marsh programming this year. This was another new record and included students from fourteen different K-12 school districts and nine colleges. New programs, like the "Beginning Birding Tours" with Kelly McKay, provided new educational experiences at the marsh.
- Four floods and one drought occurred this year at Nahant Marsh. This is not necessarily a highlight. What was a highlight is how staff, volunteers, and visitors were able to be resilient and adaptable. Creating a larger wetland preserve at Nahant and elsewhere along our rivers is one way to help mitigate against these increasingly frequent events. Nahant Marsh is doing our part by creating and protecting more wetlands.



May 2018 flood. Photo by C. Woollums.

- 261 volunteers helped with a variety of activities this year, including educational programs, natural resource management, and research. This includes removing over 200 tires, a boat, and dozens of bags of trash from our new property.
- 42 students participated in research at Nahant Marsh in 2018. This included one high school student, 31 undergraduate students, seven graduate students and three Ph.D. students. Their research helps us to better understand the marsh and make better decisions on how to protect it and surrounding areas.
- The Internet was upgraded from 1 MB to 100 MB. Through our partnership with EICC and the City of Davenport, we were able to vastly improve our Internet speed. This will allow students, researchers, and staff to improve their efficiency and will allow for future expansion.
- One outdoor turtle enclosure was built by McKeegan Snyder as a part of his Eagle Scout project. This enclosure allows Nahant's captive turtles to get sun, exercise, and enrichment during summer months.

We have many new initiatives and partnerships that we will be rolling out in 2019. Stay tuned.... And as always, thank you for making conservation a priority in our community!

WORK AND WONDER AT NAHANT MARSH

by Curtis Lundy, *Board President*



Web with morning dew at Nahant Marsh. Photo by J. Malake.

Our mission: *to protect, enhance and restore Nahant Marsh through education, research and conservation.* Our vision: *to foster wonder, appreciation and stewardship of the natural world.*

Wonder, appreciation ... of the natural world, not just at the marsh, but in your backyard, your field, in the park nearby, and along the river. We do what we can at the marsh to allow the water to do its work: infiltrate, filter, slowly release. The marsh provides a permanent home for turtles, frogs, fish and dragonflies and motel and dining services for migrating ducks, sandhill cranes, and song birds. We fight to protect the land from invasive plant and animal species. We invite you to help in the good fight.

We include goats in our army, as well as encourage bees and butterflies to do their part. Otters, bobcats, and hawks fight to keep a healthy balance of inhabitants.

The fight goes on. So, too, do inspiring sunsets and early morning bird songs. Spider webs are created nightly that rival the finest medieval tapestry. Work and wonder happen at Nahant five miles from downtown Davenport, just across the river from Illinois.

The staff and board invite the greater QCA community to come to Nahant to wander, participate, and contribute to the unending work and wonder that is Nahant Marsh. Bring your children.

In partnership with The Joyce & Tony Singh Family Foundation, the Nahant Marsh Education Center will be presenting the First Annual Oberholtzer Awards on February 23, 2019 at Modern Woodmen Park in Davenport, Iowa.

The purpose of this event is to recognize past, present, and future conservation leaders either from or working in our area who have made significant contributions towards understanding and protecting the natural world. The “future” awardee will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. The event will also be a fundraiser for Nahant Marsh. The keynote will be delivered by Charity Nebbe, host of *Talk of Iowa* on Iowa Public Radio, and host of *Iowa Ingredient* on Iowa Public Television.

The award is named for Ernest Carl “Ober” Oberholtzer, a Davenport, Iowa native, Harvard-educated explorer who was a founding member of the Wilderness Society. He was instrumental in protecting the wilderness and lakes of Northern Minnesota. Mr. Oberholtzer died on June 6, 1977 in International Falls, Minnesota and is buried in Oakdale Cemetery in Davenport.

Nomination forms to recognize past, present, and future awardees are available at www.nahantmarsh.org.

Nomination deadline is January 30, 2019.

Saturday, February 23, 2019

Oberholtzer Awards

Recognizing past, present, and future champions of conservation from the Quad Cities Region

With Keynote by Charity Nebbe and Live Auction

Modern Woodmen Park | 9:30 a.m.-Noon

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Limited tickets available at www.nahantmarsh.org

Nahant Members: \$40 / Guests: \$50

Reserved Tables for 8 Guests: \$500 (includes private pre-event coffee talk with Charity Nebbe)

If you have questions or would like to donate an item/items for either the live auctions or raffle baskets, please contact Lindsey at 563.336.3374 or lmkenedy@eicc.edu.

SUMMARY OF THE 2018 “BEGINNING BIRDING TOURS” PROGRAM

by Kelly J. McKay and Britt C. Vickstrom

Sponsored by



In 2018, the Nahant Marsh Education Center initiated a “Beginning Birding Tour” program at the marsh. This program was financially and logistically supported by the Nahant Marsh Education Center along with a \$2,000 grant from the Quad City Audubon Society. Similar to the program conducted for the past two years at Rock Creek Park by the Clinton County Conservation Board, the objectives of this effort were to develop better birding skills among the public as well as to establish a core group of skilled “citizen scientists,” for projects like the Christmas Bird Count and Illinois State Spring Bird Count, in addition to many other citizen science programs.



Beginning Birding class at Carp Lake. Photo by B. Vickstrom.

During this inaugural year, we conducted 12 tours at the marsh during the spring migration, summer breeding, and fall migration seasons. The tours alternated between Wednesday and Saturday mornings beginning around sunrise (6:30-7:00 a.m.) and continuing until 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. depending on the interest of the participants. Tours also alternated among regions of the marsh including: 1) east side of the marsh, south of the education center, 2) east side of the marsh, north of the education center, 3) west side of the marsh and along Wapello Avenue, and 4) Carp Lake area. However, due to frequent flooding this year, the latter two routes were only accessible a couple of times each.

The initial year of this program was, we believe, very successful. Overall, 104 total participants took part in the tours (more than eight individuals per tour), ranging from a low of three participants to a high of fourteen participants. Furthermore, the success of this program was demonstrated by the fact that several participants in the tours also were involved with the BioBlitz Program conducted at Nahant Marsh in late June, and several others have signed up to participate on various local Christmas Bird Counts this season.

In regard to the birds, Nahant Marsh proved to support an extraordinary number of species through the spring, summer, and fall seasons. Overall, these tours identified 138 total species! Diversity during the program ranged from a low of 39 species observed on July 21 to a high of 72 species encountered on May 2. This produced an average of slightly over 54 species per tour. In 2018, this program yielded 26 species of waterfowl and other waterbirds, nine species of raptors, ten shorebirds, and all seven species of woodpeckers native to Iowa. Additionally, we observed six species of flycatchers, five vireos, four thrushes, eight sparrows, seven blackbirds, and all six species of swallows native to Iowa. An impressive diversity of warblers was also recorded during the tours (19 species)! Some of our highlight species included: American black duck, red-shouldered hawk, sandhill crane, pileated woodpecker, willow flycatcher, blue-winged warbler, prothonotary warbler, bay-breasted warbler, chestnut-sided warbler, black-throated green warbler, Lincoln’s sparrow, rusty blackbird, and Orchard Oriole. Furthermore, we encountered five very “good” species such as a single immature Little Blue heron molting into adult plumage, four whimbrels flying low over the marsh, and singles each of Bell’s vireo, sedge wren, and LeConte’s sparrow.

FLOODING, BLIZZARDS, AND STRONG WINDS—OH MY!

by Kinsey Nielsen, *Natural Resource Manager*

Natural resource management has encountered many obstacles this fall and winter. The impacts of another flood affected Nahant Marsh for several weeks. As seen in the photos from October 12th, the water was several feet above normal and covered all of the lower trails at the marsh. This included the boardwalk down to the floating dock and nearly all of the north side of the preserve. High water prevents access to many areas, making maintenance work challenging and limiting what work can be done by the natural resources crew. During the high water, we were still able to remove undesirable trees from the upper forest areas and cut small trees from the prairies near the nature center that did not go under water.

We were able to perform a prescribed burn to one acre of the sand prairie just before the first major snowstorm. The fire helps to control weedy species growing in the prairie and allows for more desirable native species to grow there in the future. We will continue to remove woody vegetation from the prairies throughout the winter and reseed some areas to improve plant diversity.

PRESCRIBED FIRE 101

A prescribed burn is defined as using fire intentionally for the purpose of forest management and prairie restoration. A successful burn helps to reduce excess plant litter, enhance plant diversity, suppress woody/invasive plants, and improve wildlife habitat.

Several factors that are considered before using prescribed fire include:

Fuel – Height and type of fuel (tall grass prairie, forest, etc.)

Wind – Wind speed and direction should be carefully monitored before and during the burn.

Relative Humidity – Relative humidity should be determined prior to the burn.

Air Temperature – Air temperatures should be determined prior to the burn and recorded before, during, and after the burn.

Topography – Areas with steep slopes and hills require extra planning.

Firebreaks – Size, location and type of firebreaks are important to know when planning a prescribed burn.



Flooded dock and trails on October 12, 2018. Photo by K. Nielsen.



Flood water at the catwalk. Photo by K. Nielsen.



Prescribed burn in November. Photo by J. Wiebler.

FEATURED MAMMAL: COYOTE

by Sammi Boyd, *Natural Resources and Education Graduate Assistant*

Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) are found throughout North America, including Nahant Marsh. Iowa's largest canine species at four feet long and 30 pounds, coyotes eat smaller mammals, birds, eggs, carrion, and more. The breeding season starts in January and February. They then make dens in logs, brush, dirt, or even use other animals' dens as their own to have pups in. Coyotes are **crepuscular**, meaning mostly active at dawn and dusk.

Coyotes were originally thought to be a prairie and forest species, but they are frequently being found in more urban settings, such as Nahant Marsh. It is more likely to see signs of coyotes than to see coyotes. Here at Nahant Marsh, we find coyote tracks along the trails and even up to the front door! Coyote tracks are about 2.5" long and 2" wide. Because coyotes are canines, their tracks will have claw marks above the toes. Coyote scat is about 4" and usually contains fur, berries, and small bones. Next time you are walking the trails at the marsh, be on the lookout for signs.



(Right) coyote tracks at Nahant Marsh after a December 2018 snow. Photo by J. Wiebler.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Programs for All Ages

SATURDAY GUIDED HIKES

Join a Naturalist for a guided hike along the trails at the marsh. Hikes are offered on the first Saturday of the month and give visitors an opportunity to experience the environmental changes as the plants and wildlife adapt to the seasons. Whether you are a regular visitor or first-timer, there is always something to learn and experience at the marsh.

February 2, March 2, April 6 from 9-10 a.m.

Cost: \$5 suggested donation

SPRING MIGRATION HIKE

As the largest urban wetland on the upper Mississippi River, Nahant Marsh serves as a resting spot on the great bird spring migrations. This creates the perfect opportunity for nature enthusiasts to see a wide range of migrating waterfowl. Please feel free to bring a camera and remember to come dressed for the weather.

March 28 from 5-6 p.m.

Cost: \$5 suggested donation



Cross-country skiing on the trails. Photo by K. Nielsen.

(continued on pages 9 and 10)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS (continued)

SAVE *the* DATE

Oberholtzer Awards: February 23, 2019

Trivia Night: March 30, 2019

Spring Celebration & Eco-Egg Hunt: April 13, 2019

Spring Cleanup: April 27, 2019

Adult Programs

BREAKFAST NATURE CLUB

Learn the secrets of Iowa's wildlife during this monthly class at Nahant Marsh. A continental breakfast is included in the fee. Feel free to bring your own coffee mug or travel container. Programs are held on the first Friday of the month from 8-9 a.m.

February 1: Freshwater Mussels

March 1: Turtles of Iowa

April 5: Make-n-Take Terrariums

Cost: \$5 Members / \$10 Guests

HEALING GARDENS FOR FOOD & WELLNESS

During this interactive class, you will learn how to create a beautiful healing garden in your landscape. Information on how to place and grow nutrient-dense veggies, fruits and herbs will be shared. Taught by Fred Meyer, Permaculture Designer at Backyard Abundance, and Jen Kardos, Horticultural Therapist at EPIC Functional Medicine.



February 16 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$25 Members / \$35 Guests

MASTER CONSERVATIONIST

The Master Conservationist program uses field experiences and online training to cover a broad range of conservation issues and topics. These experiences help Iowans make informed, intelligent choices for a lifestyle of stewardship. Topics include wildlife diversity, prairies and grasslands, woodlands, waterways, conservation practices and planting the seeds of conservation. Participants receive 32 hours of online and outdoor hands-on education led by trained professionals in their field.

Tentative Dates:

March 20, 6-8 p.m., April 10, 6-8 p.m., May 4, 8 a.m. -Noon

June 15, 7:15 a.m. -4:15 p.m., July 10, 6-8:30pm,

July 24, 6-8 p.m.

Cost: TBD

Contact Kinsey at 563.336.3375 or ksnielsen@eicc.edu for more information.

HEALING HAPPENS IN THE GARDEN

Your landscape can be a wonderful source of healing for your body and spirit. During this engaging class, you will learn practical techniques for improving your wellness in the garden. Cultivation methods for easy-to-grow medicinal plants will be shared along with simple ways to prepare them. Taught by Mandy Dickerson, Herbalist at Moon in June Herbs, and Jen Kardos, Horticultural Therapist at EPIC Functional Medicine.



March 23 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Cost: \$25 Members / \$35 Guests



Don't miss Marsh Madness Trivia Night on March 10 at the Center for Active Seniors, Inc. (CASI) in Davenport: 1035 W. Kimberly Rd., Davenport, IA, 52806. A silent auction is included as part of this annual fundraiser, hosted by local favorite, Mr. Trivia. Doors open at 6 p.m., with trivia beginning at 7 p.m.

All walk-ins to Trivia Night are welcome, however, advanced registration is strongly encouraged and appreciated. All beverages must be purchased from the bar, but participants are welcome to bring in their own food.

March 30 beginning at 7 p.m.

Cost for Tables of 8: \$70 Members / \$80 Guests

Don't have a full table of 8? Make some new friends and fill in a table the night of. Cost is \$10 per person.

Contact Lindsey at 563.336.3374 or lmkenedy@eicc.edu with questions.



(continued on pages 9 and 10)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS (continued)

Youth Programs

HOMESCHOOL

Nahant Marsh Education Center provides a monthly program specifically geared towards homeschooled children, grades K-9th. Each program includes a lesson, hands-on activity and outdoor exploration and is held on the last Friday of the month from 2:30-4 p.m.

January 25: Backyard Birds

February 22: Planets, Moon, and Stars

March 29: Weather— Tornadoes, Hailstorms, & Blizzards— Oh My!

April 26: Snake Studies

Cost: \$6 Members / \$8 Guests

TODDLER TALES

A great way to introduce young children, ages 3-5 years old, to the wonders of the outdoors! The second Tuesday of each month from April-October, Nahant Marsh educators will lead a nature-themed story, craft, and outdoor adventure. Programs are held on the second Tuesday of the month from either 10-11 a.m. or 2-3 p.m.

April 8: April Showers

Cost: \$3 Members / \$5 Guests

Family Programs

OWLS

Learn about owls in this family-friendly program. As nocturnal raptors, owls have many amazing adaptations to hunt prey at night. Learn about the habits of these birds by looking at skulls, wings, and mounts. Students will also get to study and dissect owl pellets.

February 9 from 10-11 a.m.

Cost: \$3 Members / \$6 Guests. No fee for adults accompanying children.

WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS

Families will learn important tips and skills to help them survive in the wild. Some activities include shelter building and fire building.

March 9 from 10-11 a.m.

Cost: \$3 Members / \$6 Guests. No fee for adults accompanying children.

BIRDS

Explore the trails in search of birds on the water, in the prairie and up on branches. Participants will make something to take home for the birds.

May 11 from 10-11 a.m.

Cost: \$3 Members / \$6 Guests. No fee for adults accompanying children.



Celebrate spring at Nahant Marsh! At their leisure, children can participate in either a Hide-and-Seek Egg Hunt (great for younger children) or a GPS Scavenger Egg Hunt (best for older children). The egg hunts will run from 9-11 a.m. Bring your own basket! There will also be a variety of nature-themed hands-on activities where children and their families will learn about local wildlife. For ages 3-12.

Refreshments will be available for purchase. This is a fundraising event and all proceeds go to support environmental education and natural resource projects.

April 13 from 9 a.m.-noon

Cost: \$5 Members / \$7 Guests / Children 2 and under are free. No fee for adults accompanying children.

Pre-registration for programs is strongly recommended, either online at www.nahantmarsh.org or by phone at 563.336.3370.

Bald Eagle Days

Friday, January 11th: 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
kids 6-15 free

Saturday, January 12th: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday, January 13th: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

COME AND SEE US!

QCCA Expo Center

FEATURED INSECT: GOLDENROD GALL FLY

by Jimmy Wiebler, *AmeriCorps Naturalist*



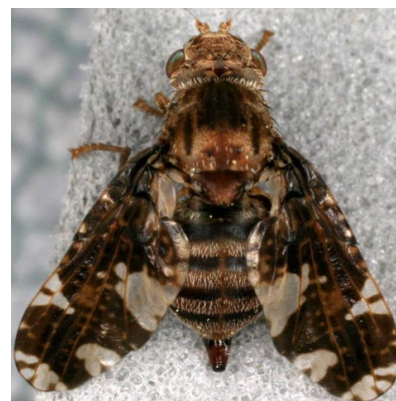
Winter is here. Although it can appear lifeless outside, a closer look reveals otherwise. Many species are out there, baring the season's brutal conditions—some perhaps under the snow and frozen—but they are not dead. The goldenrod gall fly (*Eurosta solidanginis*), a freeze-tolerant insect, is one example, and it is both common and widespread. This fly has a special relationship with a local flowering plant called goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*), and it uses this plant to overwinter.



Goldenrod gall. Photo from livingprairie.ca.

In late spring, adult flies will lay their eggs into the tip of a growing goldenrod stem. Only one egg will survive, from which a larva will hatch. The larva will then chew its way down the goldenrod stem, and its saliva will signal the plant to form a gall: a spherical, protective casing that surrounds the developing larva. In here, the larva will feed on the inside of the gall and continue growing through late summer. In autumn, falling temperatures and the death of the plant signal the fly to begin its preparation for winter. During this time, the larva will produce massive amounts of glycerol, a sugar alcohol that protects it during the winter. Glycerol serves as an antifreeze that prevents the fly larva's cells from freezing, which would be lethal. Yet, it survives freezing of its body tissues in the spaces between cells, and it can withstand temperatures as low as -40°F! The larva will remain dormant in its gall for the entirety of the winter, which could last several months.

Higher temperatures in spring initiate transformation of the larva into a pupa, and in a couple of weeks after that, an adult. The life cycle repeats. Next time you visit Nahant Marsh, look for goldenrod galls along the prairie edge as you walk our trails, and marvel at the incredible strategies some species use to survive the winter.



Adult Goldenrod Gall Fly. Photo from bugguide.net.

WITH APPRECIATION

PARTNERS



FALL '18 ANIMAL "ADOPTIONS"

Ben Doerscher "adopted" Rizzo.
Aryanne "Cha Cha" Encarnacion-Cox "adopted" Sunny.
Evelyn Hogg "adopted" Porky.
Guthrie, Laithe, Juniper, and Court Hulse "adopted" Rizzo.
The Lamb Girls "adopted" Bob.
"Rescued" "adopted" Squirtle.

FALL '18 IN-KIND DONATIONS

Dr. Lyn Cochran
Girl Scout Troop 5772
Amy and Kevin Kay
Curtis Lundy
Brian Ritter
Linda Spalding

WITH APPRECIATION(continued)

FALL '18 DONATIONS

Lynn Abel
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 Anonymous
 John and Liz Arter
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 Linda and Michael Baxley
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 Ann Werner
 Cal and Jill Werner
 Mark and Deborah Werning
 Cindy Whitaker
 Cathy and John White
 JoAnn Whitmore
 Jack Wiley
 Jonathan and Sarah Wilmshurst
 Kathy Wine
 Heidi Woeber

FALL '18 HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS

In Honor of Denise Bulat
 by the Bi-State Regional Commission
In Memory of Anne Corbi
 by Roland Caldwell
In Honor of Michael Flaherty
 by the Schiller Family Foundation
In Memory of Dr. Bill Hoffman
 by Curtis Lundy
In Memory of Peter C. Petersen
 by Mary Lou Petersen
In Honor of Julie Plummer
 by the Chapter IB-PEO Sisterhood
In Memory of Elaine Schneff
 by Michael and Mary Francis Stopulos
In Memory of Elaine Schneff
 by Curtis Lundy
In Memory of Richard von Maur
 by Curtis Lundy

FALL '18 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Catherine Alexander and Michael Woods
 Kyle August
 Stephanie Bergstrand
 Paul and Kathy Brown
 Denise Bulat
 Linda Cook
 Les and Jane Cox
 Rich Craddick
 Marilyn Davis
 Melonee Docherty
 Candace and Ronald Egger
 Nancy Flaherty
 Linda Goff
 Kelly Harrouff and Family
 David Iglehart Family
 Amy and Kevin Kay
 Kathleen and Andy Lenaghan
 Mark Marmorine
 Cathy Meehan
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 Greg and Mary Schermer
 Tony and Helen Schiltz
 Leo Schubert and Susan Sharar
 Julie Schumann
 Kendall and Susan Schwartz
 Jerry Skalak Family
 Mark Slater
 Eileen Smith
 Dr. Thomas and Mary Ann Stoffel
 Linda Walgrave
 JoAnn Whitmore
 Lee Ann and Wayne Wille

FALL '18 GRANT AWARDS

Hubbell-Waterman
 Moline Foundation
 Riverboat Development Authority
 Thiesen's More For Your Community

thank
you

for your **GENEROUS** participation
 in our matching challenges!

WITH APPRECIATION(continued)

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KIDS CORNER

by Signey Hilby, *AmeriCorps Naturalist*



DECORATE A CHRISTMAS TREE FOR WINTER WILDLIFE.

This year, decorate an outside Christmas tree with edible ornaments for the winter wildlife living in your backyard!

PEANUT BUTTER PINE CONES

- 1• Collect opened pine cones.
- 2• Cut 12" of cotton string and tie it to the top of each pine cone.
- 3• Using a knife, spread a thick layer of smooth peanut butter all over the pine cone surface.
- 4• Roll the peanut butter covered pine cone in a bowl full of birdseed.
- 5• Hang on an outdoor tree and watch for winter wildlife.



PEANUT BUTTER PINE CONES

POPCORN AND CRANBERRY GARLANDS

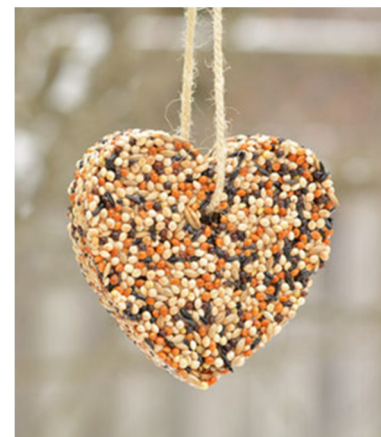
- 1• Pop a bag of unbuttered popcorn.
- 2• Cut embroidery floss or another heavy string into 5-foot lengths.
- 3• At one end of the embroidery floss, tie a stopping knot. On the other end of the embroidery floss, thread a needle.
- 4• Thread on popcorn and cranberries in any pattern until the thread is full.
- 5• Remember to leave enough room to tie an ending knot before hanging on an outdoor tree.



POPCORN GARLAND

BIRDSEED ORNAMENTS

- 1• Mix together $\frac{3}{4}$ cup flour, 3 tablespoons corn syrup, and 4 cups birdseed. Set aside.
- 2• Stir one packet of unflavored gelatin in $\frac{1}{2}$ cup warm water until dissolved. Pour over the above ingredients that were set aside.
- 3• Spread nonstick spray on the inside of cookie cutters.
- 4• Fill the inside of cookie cutters with the birdseed mixture, making sure to pack it in tightly.
- 5• Using a drinking straw, poke a hole near the top of each ornament and thread a string through it for hanging.
- 6• Carefully remove the ornaments from the cookie cutters and place on waxed paper.
- 7• Let dry for several hours before decorating with peanut butter and hanging outside.



BIRDSEED ORNAMENT

MAP YOUR ADVENTURE



EDUCATION CENTER HOURS

Monday–Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon (extended to 3 p.m. April–October)

There is no fee to visit the Education Center, but donations are always appreciated.

PRESERVE HOURS

Open Daily from Sunrise to Sunset

If the main gate is locked, trails are accessible from the front parking lot. Look for the opening in the fence near the kiosk.



GETTING TO NAHANT MARSH

**Nahant Marsh
4220 Wapello Ave.
Davenport, IA 52802**

From Davenport, Iowa—Take Highway 22 south (Rockingham Road), turning left on Wapello Avenue (the last turn before the I-280 overpass).

From Rock Island, Illinois—Take I-280 into Iowa to the Highway 22/Rockingham Road exit. Turn right onto Highway 22, and then right onto Wapello Avenue.

**Follow Wapello Avenue toward the river.
Nahant Marsh will be on the left just before the railroad crossing.**