

Program Sign-up will begin August 18th at 8:00am - Call the Starr's Cave Nature Center (319)753-5808

Des Moines County Conservation

Fall 2017 Environmental Education Newsletter

It's time to sign up for another semester of fieldtrips and classroom programs from Des Moines County Conservation! Sign-up for programs begins at 8:00am on Friday, August 18th. Call the Starr's Cave Nature Center at (319)753-5808.

Next Generation Science Standards are here! We have been working hard at the Starr's Cave Nature Center to update our programs to reflect the standard they support. Because of this, some of our programs will be offered at different grade levels than they previously have been. This also means that we are creating new programs to better support our teachers.

You can find an updated Des Moines County Conservation Environmental Education Program Guide on our website (See page 2 for additional resources).

Check out the new programs for second and fourth grade classrooms focusing on water quality and pollinators! We will soon have new displays and educational totes for our teachers to check-out as well!

NEW! Second grade programs

Where Did My Soil Go? Students will use a stream table to investigate how water can change the shape of the land and come up with ways to prevent erosion.

Bee a Pollinator! Students will explore the process of pollination through hands on activities and experiments.

NEW! Fourth grade programs **Who Polluted the Mississippi?**

Through an interactive story, this program demonstrates how pollution from many different sources adds up. We all have a role to play!



Build a Pollinator Learn how plants attract pollinators and discover the structures that make these plants and animals unique. Students build their ultimate pollinator!

Our new programs focus on the Next Generation Science standards our teachers will be implementing throughout the following year. These new programs are the result of a Resource Enhancement And Protection Conservation Education Program (REAP CEP) grant we were awarded this past winter.

Monarch butterflies will be moving through Burlington, Iowa, from about September 6th through September 20th. During that time we are

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focusing on monarch butterfly conservation education.

Sign up for a classroom program or fieldtrip during those dates to tag live butterflies with your students and be part of a large citizen science project!

Every year millions of monarch butterflies make the approximately 2,000 mile journey from all over North America to the Oyamel fir forests of Mexico. Adult monarch butterflies spend the winter clustering beneath the forest canopy until they begin their journey north in the spring.



Don't miss the Great American Solar Eclipse Monday, August 21st! A partial eclipse will be visible from Burlington, Iowa, but if you want to see the total solar eclipse you need to travel.

Additional Resources...

Visit the link below to look at our new program guide - it has descriptions for the most popular programs we offer for different grade levels and identifies the Next Generation Science Standards they support. We are constantly updating our programs but you can always find an up to date copy on our website or by following the link below:

<http://ia-desmoinescounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/1496>

Bus scholarships are available! These funds can help pay the bus expense so your students can have the opportunity to experience a fun-filled day of learning during a fieldtrip. Funding is limited, please call the Starr's Cave Nature Center to learn more at (319)753-5808.

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