

November / December 2011

2012  
CALENDAR

# OUTDOORS

THE DNR'S MAGAZINE OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION





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on  
perfection.

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of the tractor that helped  
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# FARMALL PRIDE

## Men's Suede Moccasins

*Soft, cozy suede with  
plush faux shearling  
interior lining*

*Famed Farmall tractor  
art across the top of  
the moccasins*

*Durable rubber soles*

*Available in Men's  
whole sizes 8-13*



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### Share the rich history of American farming

Show your *Farmall Pride* with all-new men's moccasins available only from The Bradford Exchange. Custom crafted of handsome black suede, these exclusively designed moccasins are luxuriously lined with plush faux shearling for warmth and comfort. Durable rubber soles offer versatile wear. Best of all, the top of each moccasin features artwork of a Farmall tractor that will show your pride in a true American classic in comfort and style. Imported.

[www.bradfordexchange.com/farmallmoccasin](http://www.bradfordexchange.com/farmallmoccasin)

### Dependable and affordable; satisfaction guaranteed

Available in men's whole sizes from 8-13, the "Farmall Pride" Men's Moccasins are a remarkable value at just \$69.95\*, payable in three convenient installments of \$23.32 each, and backed by our 30-day money-back guarantee. This is a limited-time offer and we expect heavy demand for these first-of-a-kind men's moccasins. To acquire yours, send no money now; just return the Reservation Application today or you could miss out!



*Bold artwork of a classic  
Farmall tractor on the  
top of each moccasin*

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**YES.** Please reserve the "Farmall Pride" Men's Moccasins for me in the size checked below as described in this announcement.  
Limit: one per order.

Please Respond Promptly

- ☐ Size 8 01-12641-011    ☐ Size 10 01-12641-013    ☐ Size 12 01-12641-015  
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Mrs. Mr. Ms.

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address

City

State

Zip

**-E51621**

\*Plus \$9.99 shipping and service. Please allow 4 to 8 weeks after the first payment for shipment. All sales are subject to product availability and order acceptance.

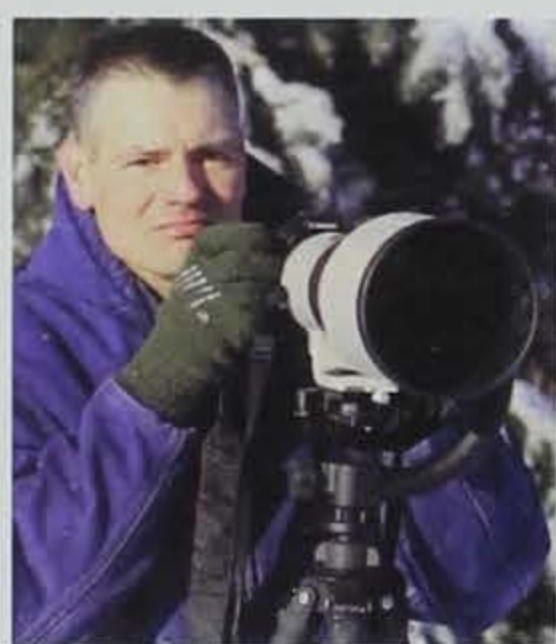


# Contributors



**PATTY TROM-BIRD** is a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law and an attorney for the federal district court in Des Moines. She lives in Gilbert and enjoys photographing wildlife on hikes around

Iowa and trips to national parks. Her images have been used by Ames High sports teams, the Greenlee School of Journalism, McFarland Clinic, *Our Iowa* magazine and Willow Bridge Greetings.



A columnist stint at the *Mason City Globe Gazette* led to a career change for freelance writer and photographer **TIM ACKERMAN**, an ex-physician assistant. An avid hunter, angler and conservation-

ist, he shares an acreage with wife Lynne (and assorted dogs and cats) near the Ventura farm where he grew up and the cemetery where his great-great-grandparents are buried.



**RON HULSE** of Knoxville has spent nine years photographing wildlife, insects and birds near Lake Red Rock when not cycling, hiking or volunteering. An avid paddler, he also helps find sponsors to introduce osprey locally and raises awareness of siltation at the reservoir.

## DNR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



**CLAY SMITH** witnesses some of Iowa's best images from behind his video and camera lenses. A professional photographer for more than 30 years, including 14 as videographer and producer for Iowa Public Television, he spent the last 11 as staff photographer for

*Iowa Outdoors* and [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov). He lives in Urbandale with his wife, Gayle.

# IOWA OUTDOORS

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2011 • VOLUME 70 • ISSUE 6

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## DNR MISSION

To conserve and enhance our natural resources in cooperation with individuals and organizations to improve the quality of life for Iowans and ensure a legacy for future generations.

## EDITORIAL MISSION

We strive to open the door to the beauty and uniqueness of Iowa's natural resources, inspire people to get outside and experience Iowa and to motivate outdoor-minded citizens to understand and care for our natural resources.

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Keepers of the Land program matches volunteers with natural resource service needs statewide. Give back to Iowa's lands, waters and skies. Call 515-281-0878 to match your interests with needs or visit [www.keepersoftheland.org](http://www.keepersoftheland.org).

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Charitable giving of land, funds, and goods and services greatly enhances Iowa's outdoor living. Contact: Kim Rasler at 515-281-7122.

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The DNR Nature Store offers apparel and gifts with profits for parks. Order online at [www.iowanaturestore.com](http://www.iowanaturestore.com) or 1-866-410-0230.

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To subscribe, or for any subscription issues or questions, call 1.800.361.8072 Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. or weekends 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For ease in processing, please have an issue with a mailing label available at time of call. To purchase a single copy for \$5, call 515-281-5918.

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Our website, [www.iowadnr.gov](http://www.iowadnr.gov), is loaded with information for all ages and needs. Buy licenses, reserve campsites or learn more about our environment online. See our magazine television show at <http://iptv.org>.





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**JANUARY 21-22, 2012**

.....  
 View eagles outdoors, feeding and roosting along  
 the banks of the Mississippi River with spotting  
 scopes & trained guides.

.....  
 A large concentration of Bald Eagles call  
 Keokuk their winter home!

.....  
 Contact us for more information on Eagle viewing  
 and Bald Eagle Appreciation Days

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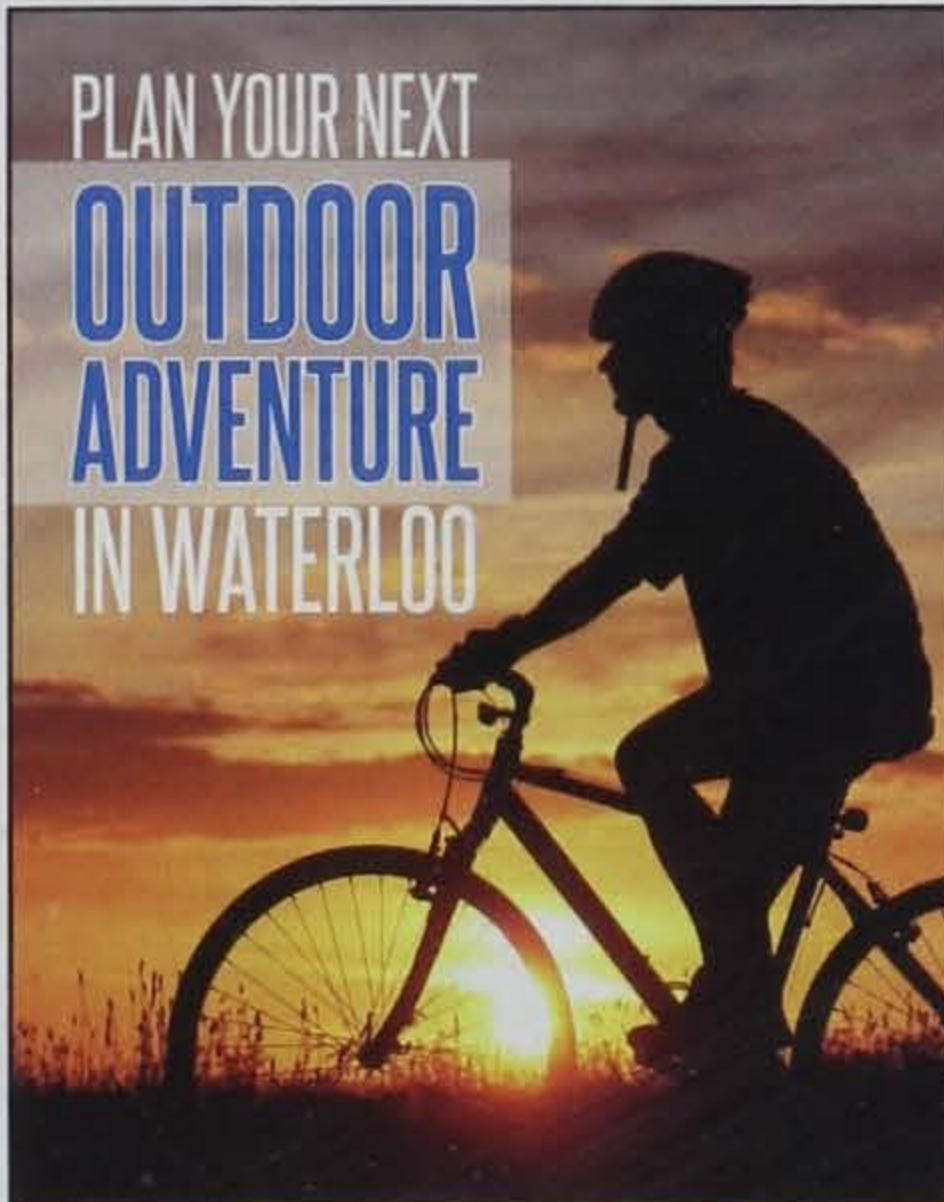
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2011

## DECEMBER

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

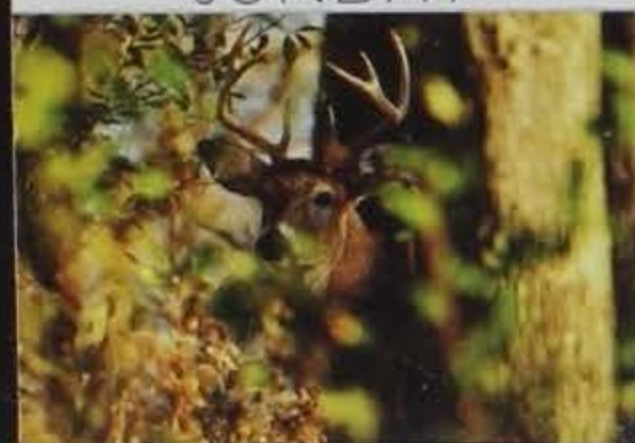
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



ON THE COVER: During fall mating season, bucks are generally less wary which allows good viewing.

—BY RON HUELSE

Give Iowa Outdoors as a holiday gift—order at 1-800-361-8072

Order gifts from [www.iowanaturestore.com](http://www.iowanaturestore.com) or 866-410-0230

Muskie season closes on Iowa Great Lakes

Fall turkey gun/bow season closes  
Archery only turkey and deer seasons close

First shotgun deer season opens

4

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Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
First shotgun deer season closes

Duck season closes in north zone

Second shotgun deer season begins

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Geminid meteor shower, Dec. 13-14

Christmas bird count through end of December

2012 hunting and fishing licenses go on sale  
Duck season closes in south zone

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Second shotgun deer season closes

Late split deer and fall turkey  
bow season opens

Late muzzleloader deer season begins

Hanukkah begins

Winter solstice—first day of winter

Best ice fishing occurs late December  
to mid-January

Nonresident antlerless deer  
holiday season, Dec. 24 – Jan. 2.

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

Christmas

Last day of Hanukkah

New Year's Eve

Ring in the new year at Honey  
Creek Resort. For event details  
call 877-677-3344.



A tender moment on a cold day for a doe  
and her fawn as they huddle together in  
a woodland.

—BY RON HUELSE

Let work slide for a while.

► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

## NOVEMBER 2011

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## JANUARY 2012

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29	30	31				



# IOWA STATE FOREST NURSERY

Our purpose at the state forest nursery is to provide quality, affordable native trees to landowners for timber production, wildlife habitat, erosion control and aesthetics.

Native trees are one of the keys to having a healthy woodland. To improve quality we are continuing to identify additional locations for seed collection from native forests and wildlife areas.

START YOUR NATIVE FOREST TODAY!  
ORDERS PLACED BY PHONE OR ONLINE  
1-800-865-2477  
WWW.IOWATREEPLANTING.COM

Try ordering ONLINE with real time inventory updates! It's easy! Simply create an account with your contact and order information and it will be saved for future orders.

Orders can be placed **August 1 - May 31**.  
Out of state landowners can place orders after **February 1**.

Minimum orders are 500 plants except to fill in plantings from the previous year or for specialty packets. Please do not send payment at this time.

Some restrictions apply and are listed on our website.

For free tree planting advice, planting plans, and assistance with cost share contact your district forester today for more information.



Claims for any cause must be made within 10 days of receipt of plants. No warranty, expressed or implied, as to the productiveness or life of the material, and the nursery will not be responsible for results or economic losses incurred or claimed by the consumer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pick up ☐ Ship ☐ | Fall ☐ Spring ☐  
Week you would like seedlings: \_\_\_\_\_  
Order Last Year: Yes ☐ No ☐  
County where Planted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternative Shipping Address Yes ☐ No ☐

HARDWOODS:	SIZES	PRICE PER 100 TREES	QUANTITY /SIZE
Sugar Maple	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Silver Maple	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
River Birch	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Shellbark Hickory	6-12"	\$40	
Shagbark Hickory	6-12"	\$40	
Northern Pecan	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Hackberry	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Kentucky Coffeetree	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Black Walnut	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Sycamore	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Cottonwood	14" Cutting 12" Rooted Cutting	\$37 \$37	
Hybrid Poplar	14" Cutting 12" Rooted Cutting	\$37 \$37	
Aspen	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Black Cherry	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
White Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Swamp White Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Chinkapin Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Bur Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Black Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Pin Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Red Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Mixed Oak	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Basswood	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Hybrid Willow	14" Cutting 12" Rooted Cutting	\$37 \$37	

EVERGREENS	SIZES	PRICE PER 100 TREES	QUANTITY /SIZE
Concolor Fir	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	
Bald Cypress	8-16"	\$25	
Norway Spruce	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	
White Spruce	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	
Jack Pine	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	
Red Pine	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	
White Pine	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	
Scotch Pine	8-16" 17-24"	\$25 \$40	

PACKET TYPE	PRICE	QUANTITY
Turkey Packet	\$110	
Pheasant Packet	\$110	
Quail Packet	\$110	
Songbird Packet	\$20	
Create-a-Packet	\$110	1. 2. 3. 4.

SMALL TREES AND SHRUBS	SIZES	PRICE PER 100 TREES	QUANTITY /SIZE
Black Chokeberry	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Serviceberry	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Buttonbush	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Silky Dogwood	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Gray Dogwood	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Redosier Dogwood	8-16" 17-24"	\$37 \$52	
Hazelnut	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Ninebark	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Wild Plum	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Chokecherry	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Sand Cherry	8-16"	\$37	
Arrowwood	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Nannyberry	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	
Highbush Cranberry	8-16" 17-24"	\$40 \$55	

## Shipping:

SIZE	SHIPPING COST
8-16"	\$5 per 100
17-24"	\$10 per 100
Out of state orders may require additional shipping charges.	

Fall shipments start the last week in October and spring start the first week in April. We reserve the right to limit the amount of trees shipped per week. Orders must be paid in full before shipping.

**Payment:** Payments for spring under \$100 and all fall orders are due two weeks from confirmation. Spring orders more than \$100 but less \$1,000 require 20 percent down within two weeks of confirmation while orders more than \$1000 need 10 percent down. All balances are due by March 1. **Down payments are non-refundable after March 1 if order cancelled.**

**Note:** Credit card payments can only be processed for the full balance. Cash or checks are accepted as down payment.

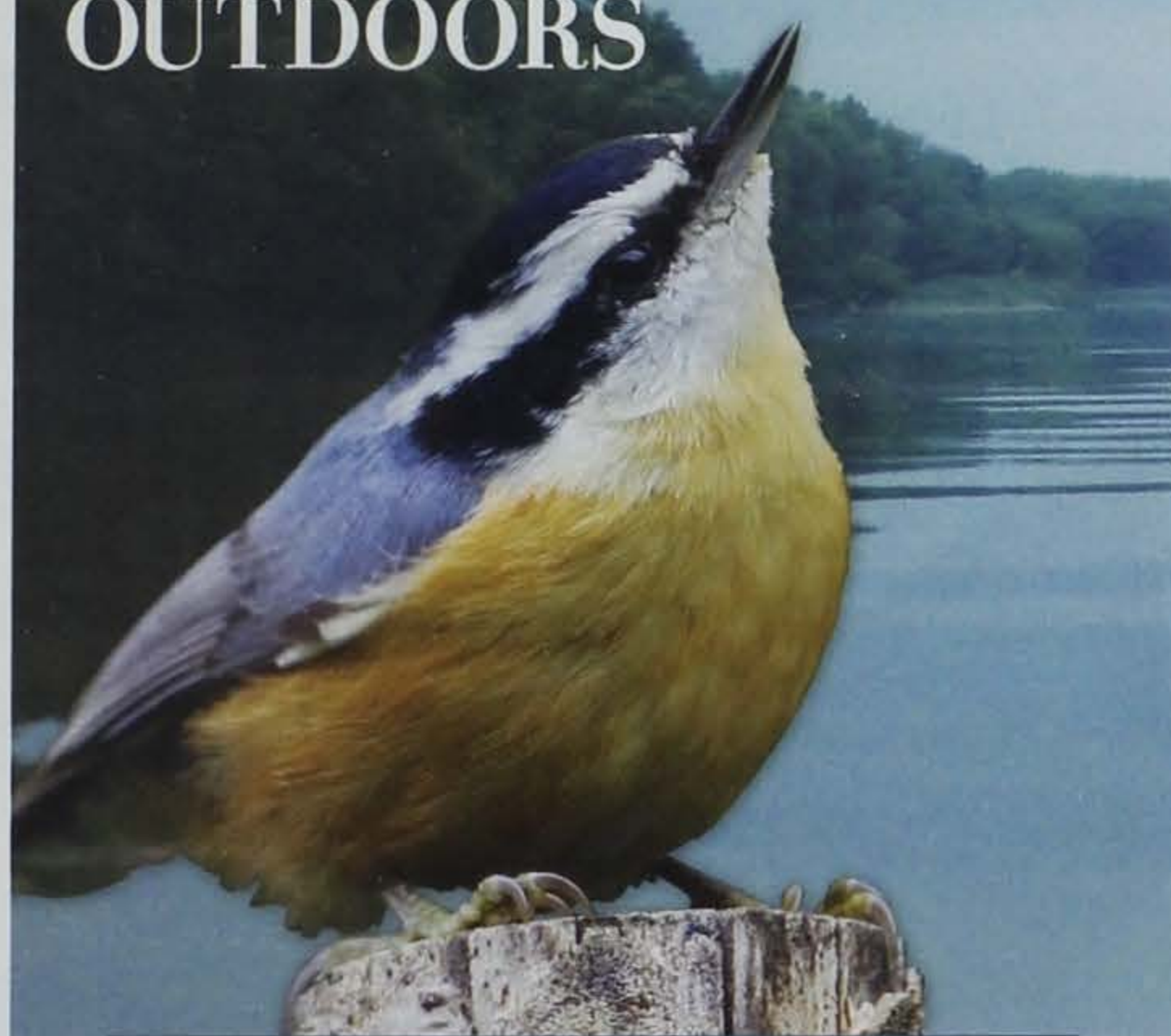
**Shortages:** We do our best to estimate a saleable inventory but due to the nature of a natural product we may run short. We reserve the right to offer you a refund or substitution.

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32 tons of trash, 104 sponsors, 429 participants and  
one big "THANK YOU!"

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[www.iowaprojectaware.com](http://www.iowaprojectaware.com)







2012

## JANUARY

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 1 <b>New Year's Day</b> Annual New Year's Day paddle below Saylorville Dam, Polk County	2 Look for bald eagles feeding below dams and open water areas	3 Fox squirrels begin to mate Quadrantids meteor shower peaks Jan. 3-4	4 Canada goose, brant season closes in north zone	5	6	7
8 Light goose season closes in north zone	 9	10 Pheasant, late muzzleloader deer and archery deer and turkey seasons close 2011 hunting and fishing licenses expire	11 January antlerless deer season begins in southern Iowa Canada goose, brant season closes in south zone	12 1912 State record low temperature set in Washta, -47°	13 Men's Night at Honey Creek Resort State Park, 877-677-3344 Light goose season closes in south zone	14 Light goose Conservation Order begins
15 Domestic rainbow trout spawning peaks	 16 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>	17	18	19	20	21 Mid-winter bald eagle and migratory bird counts begin
22	 23 Fox and coyote mating season begins (mid- to late January)	24	25 Registration for DNR hunting and conservation camps begins. iowadnr.gov	26	27	28
29 Bridal and Prom Expo at Honey Creek Resort State Park, 877-677-3344 January antlerless deer season closes	 30 Aerial deer survey runs into February	31 Quail, partridge, ruffed grouse, squirrel and trapping (excluding beaver) seasons close	Search woods for shed antlers	 <p>Spread your wings and take off.</p> <p>► <a href="http://travelIOWA.com">travelIOWA.com</a></p>		



During a winter storm, an immature eagle comes in for a landing below Lake Red Rock dam.  
 —BY RON HUELSE

**28th Annual Bald Eagle Appreciation Days**  
 January 21-22, 2012

KEOKUKIOWATOURISM.ORG  
 800-383-1219

**KEOKUK**  
 KEOKUK AREA CONVENTION AND TOURISM BUREAU



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## FEBRUARY

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2012

FEBRUARY

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

5

Great horned owls are on the nest  
in early February

6



7

Bald eagles are staking territories  
and building nests

8

Groundhog Day

1934 work began on the Zebulon Pike  
Lock and Dam in Dubuque

9

1996 State record low temperature tied  
in Elkader, -47°

10

2010 Earthquake felt in eastern Iowa

11

Kids at the Creek at Honey Creek  
Resort State Park, 877-677-3344

12

1875 Meteor strikes near Amana,  
leaving 800 pounds of meteorites  
Valentine's Day/Murder Mystery Dinner  
at Honey Creek Resort State Park,  
877-677-3344

13



14

Cardinals and chickadees begin  
singing mating calls

15

Walleye season closed on Iowa Great Lakes

16

Great Backyard Bird Count Feb. 17-20  
[www.birdsource.org/gbbc](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc)

17

18

1909 Wallace Stegner, prominent  
author and conservation voice,  
born at Lake Mills

19

Permanent ice fishing shelters must be  
removed from state lakes unless deadline  
is extended

Presidents Day

20



21

Valentine's Day

Mardi Gras

22

Ash Wednesday

23

Chorus frogs begin singing  
as soon as ice goes out

24

Turkey vultures return when snow melts  
and carcasses become visible

25

Can reserve campsites for Memorial Day  
weekend; 1-877-IAPARKS or  
[iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com](http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com)

26

1846 William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody  
born near LeClaire

27

A year-round resident, the red-bellied  
woodpecker peeps over a tree after  
a morning snow.

-BY RON HUELSE

28

Although ice fishing slows, river fishing  
is excellent for walleyes in open water  
below dams

Cottontail hunting season ends

29

Come and see what's up.

travelIOWA.com

JANUARY

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MARCH

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# 2012 MARCH

# IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
		Look for returning robins and bluebirds	REAP education grants due May 15, <a href="http://www.iowareap.com">www.iowareap.com</a>		Wine and Jazz Festival at Honey Creek Resort State Park, 877-677-3344	Mars closest to Earth for best night view of the red planet
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Check out spring deals for outdoor wear, books and guides at <a href="http://www.iowanaturestore.com">www.iowanaturestore.com</a> or 866-410-0230	Woodcock mating display flights begin	Northern pike netting begins after ice-out on Mississippi River and Iowa Great Lakes	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Owls will be on nestlings Daylight saving time starts	Look for blooming pasque flowers		Spring peeper frogs may begin calling in eastern and southeast Iowa	Dogs prohibited on all state-owned game management areas until July 15	Quilt show at Honey Creek Resort State Park, 877-677-3344	St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Cottontails may be seen courting— jumping airborne and chasing mates under the moonlight		Vernal equinox - first day of spring Spring tree planting can begin if frost is gone from ground	1961 Iowa Legislature chooses the oak as Iowa's official tree. Listen for gobbling wild turkeys	Watch for coyote pups in wild areas		Take photos of woodland Dutchman's breeches and dogtooth violets in bloom
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		After ice-out, migratory waterfowl return	Beavers begin making scent mounds of piled mud, grass and sticks coated with scent oils near ponds	Can reserve campsites for weekend prior to Fourth of July; 1-877-IAPARKS or <a href="http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com">iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com</a>		1933 President Franklin Roosevelt signs the bill to create the Civilian Conservation Corps



A female gadwall near the Winnebago River  
in Hancock County.  
—BY TIM ACKARMAN

**Pack more  
into your trip.**

► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

## FEBRUARY

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## APRIL

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# 2012 APRIL

# IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1  April Fools' Day	2  Weekly trout stocking begins	3  DNR's deer and raccoon spotlight surveys typically begin	4  Running water available in campgrounds around mid-month, after threat of frost gone	5  Full waterfowl migration typically underway	6  1982 Iowa's latest subzero temperature recorded, -9°F at Manchester Good Friday	7  Prairie Chicken Festival at Kellerton Bird Conservation Area, Ringgold County. Youth turkey season runs through April 15
8  Easter Brunch at Honey Creek Resort State Park, 877-677-3344 Easter Sunday	9  Walleye gill netting underway	10  Safety education classes begin; check out <a href="http://www.iowadnr.gov">www.iowadnr.gov</a> for dates and locations	11  Gosling hatch begins this time of year	12  1954 Iowa Conservation Commission launches first-in-the-nation TV show "Outdoor Shop Talk" produced by staff	13  Turkeys on nests incubating eggs	14  2010 Wisconsin meteor lights up northern Iowa skies
15  Watch water areas for return of shorebirds Light goose conservation order ends	16  First turkey season runs through the 19th	17  Reserve camp sites and cabins; <a href="http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com">iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com</a> or 1-877-IAPARKS	18  Deer shed winter coats Eagle hatch begins	19  Look for fox pups in wild areas	20  Second turkey season runs through the 24th	21  Watch Lyrids meteor shower in absence of moonlight for good viewing
22  1980 Iowa's earliest official 100° day recorded at Fort Dodge and Waterloo 42nd Earth Day Anniversary	23  Hike southern Iowa woods for morels	24  American toad begins singing	25  Third turkey season runs through May 1	26  Save money and reduce emissions—install compact fluorescent lightbulbs	27  Arbor Day Plant a shade tree on south or west side of home to reduce cooling bills	28  Around wetlands, look for return of garter snakes from hibernation
29  Bobcat mating begins	30  Iowa income taxes due: Support wildlife—check the Fish and Wildlife Fund box on your tax form  A trio of turkeys strut in the morning light. —BY TIM ACKARMAN	Catfish begin biting on dead fish in warm, shallow waters	Pheasants and quail begin nesting	 <p><b>"Wooden"</b> you like a break?</p> <p>► <a href="http://travelIOWA.com">travelIOWA.com</a></p>		



**Battle of Pea Ridge Civil War Reenactment**  
April 28th - 29th, 2012  
[KEOKUKIOWATOURISM.ORG](http://KEOKUKIOWATOURISM.ORG)  
800-383-1219

**KEOKUK**  
KEOKUK AREA CONVENTION AND TOURISM BUREAU

*24th Annual*

**MARCH**

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**MAY**

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2012

MAY

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Discover Iowa  
adventures.> [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

1

Red-tailed hawks nesting  
Look for return of whip-poor-wills  
Peak camping rates begin;  
make reservations at 1-877-IAPARKS  
or [iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com](http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com)

2

1890 Huge meteorite strikes  
11 miles northwest of Forest City  
Fourth turkey season runs through May 20

3

1986 Inaugural convention of the  
National Rivers Hall of Fame, Dubuque

4

Peak neo-tropical bird migration—  
including hummingbirds, warblers  
and orioles—through the month

5

Walleye season opens on Iowa Great Lakes  
Cinco de Mayo

6

7

8

1897 General Assembly chooses  
wild rose as Iowa's official flower

9

Yellow-headed blackbirds arrive

10

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Mother's Day

DNR begins mourning dove surveys  
Bike to work week [www.bikeiowa.com](http://www.bikeiowa.com)

16

Bluebirds hatch first of two broods  
Mourning doves cooing and mating

17

18

Bobolinks return from Argentina

19

Armed Forces Day

20

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Muskie season opens on Iowa Great Lakes

1955 Goldfinch designated Iowa State Bird

Pheasant hatch begins  
Fawns born through first week of June

Look for fireflies in central and southern Iowa

27

28

29

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31

Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Cedar Rock  
house opens for season near Quasqueton

1920 Backbone dedicated  
as Iowa's first state park

1947 Snow falls over northwest two-thirds  
of state with 10 inches at Le Mars

Memorial Day

1955 Rock Creek Lake near Newton and  
Green Valley Lake near Creston open to  
fishing; limits of bass taken in 15 minutes.  
Almost 5,000 anglers at Green Valley.

State Forest Nursery stops taking seedling  
orders tomorrow

Can reserve campsites for Labor Day  
weekend; 1-877-IAPARKS or  
[iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com](http://iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com)

Best month to fish for most species. Fish  
are near shore and spawning. River fishing  
success depends on water clarity. Fish feeder  
streams or canals where water is warmer.

In a wooded area, one of four  
young bobcat kits plays.  
—BY RON HUELSE



Stay at the Shore and Explore!

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800-469-5253



APRIL

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JUNE

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2012

JUNE

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Drive over and  
enjoy the ride.

► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

Hérons nesting

Get started on REAP private cost-share grants for city and county conservation

Peak of songbird nesting is June through July

Listen for singing bullfrogs and tree frogs

Watch urban skies for return of night hawks

1833 Iowa Territory opened for settlement

Quail and turkeys hatching

Free Fishing Days through Sunday

3

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1860 Worst tornado in Iowa history kills 141, injures 329 from Hardin to Clinton counties

Get outside to watch a partial lunar eclipse tonight

DNR biologists begin breeding bird surveys

Save energy and money—have air conditioners serviced

Lewis and Clark Festival June 8-10 at Lewis and Clark State Park in Onawa

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Channel catfish and largemouth bass spawning; fish riprap with a ball of night crawlers for catfish

Turtles begin laying eggs

2008 Cedar River at Cedar Rapids crests at 19.12 feet above flood stage and 11.12 feet above previous record crests set in 1929 and 1851

Flag Day

1998 Official one-day precipitation record set with 13.18-inch rain in Atlantic

17

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23

1673 Marquette and Joliet come to the Mississippi River  
Father's Day

Outdoor Journey for Girls at Springbrook Conservation Education Center, June 20-22  
515-281-5918 or [iowadnr.gov](http://iowadnr.gov)  
Summer solstice—first day of summer

Check out summer deals for outdoor wear, books and guides at 866-410-0230 or [www.iowanaturestore.com](http://www.iowanaturestore.com)

24

25

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Canada goose banding begins through early July

Hunting and Conservation Camp for boys at Springbrook Conservation Education Center June 27-29, 641-747-8383 or [iowadnr.gov](http://iowadnr.gov)

Lakes begin to stratify by temperature. In lakes 20 feet deep, a thermocline will form around 10 feet devoid of oxygen below that line. In deeper lakes, the thermocline will be around 15 feet. Fishing below the thermocline is fruitless.  
TIP: Contour maps and depth finders will help locate the thermocline

Make sure to clean boats, trailers and equipment after outings to prevent spread of aquatic nuisance species

Ever alert, two fauns stop to survey their surroundings for danger.  
—BY PATTY TROM-BIRD



Start a new adventure in Marshalltown

Explore 160 acres of trails  
Hike or bike portions of the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail  
Work on your golf game this season at one of our six courses

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MAY

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JULY

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29	30	31				







2012

JULY

# IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		July is peak nesting time for goldfinch, the state bird	Turkey brood survey begins through early August <b>Independence Day</b>	Cut cooling bills—close curtains on sunny sides of house		Project AWARE river clean-up through next Saturday: <a href="http://iowaprojectaware.com">iowaprojectaware.com</a> ; 515-205-8587
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	American Wilderness Leadership School, Springbrook Conservation Education Center, July 9-13 641-747-8383 or <a href="http://iowadnr.gov">iowadnr.gov</a>	Outdoor Journey for Girls at Hickory Hills near Dysart July 10-12 515-281-5918 or <a href="http://iowadnr.gov">iowadnr.gov</a>	Save fuel by checking vehicle tire pressure			Fourth annual Christmas in July at Backbone State Park in Delaware County
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Dogs allowed back on state-owned game management areas		Take kids hiking to look for fawns		Ramadan begins	Check out what's going on at Mines of Spain State Recreation Area, 563-556-0620
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Eighty percent of game fish can be found in 20 percent of a stream; move often to find fish	2010 Lake Delhi Dam fails on Maquoketa River after 10-13 inch rainfall within 24 hours	1936 State record high temperature set in Atlantic and Logan at 117 degrees F Hunting and Conservation Camp for Boys, Springbrook Conservation Education Center, July 25-27, 641-747-8383 or <a href="http://iowadnr.gov">iowadnr.gov</a>			Take kids streamwalking
29	30	31				
Search prairies for blazing stars in bloom						Low stream flows; catfishing easiest in streams using cheese baits



A cluster of spiderwort is backlit from the morning light near a trailhead.  
—BY RON HUELSE

Up for a quick getaway?

► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

JUNE

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AUGUST

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# 2012 AUGUST

# IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
August roadside survey begins Dove and duck banding begins	Federal waterfowl seasons are issued State Forest Nursery begins accepting seedling orders for spring planting	Watch for muskrats building huts and storing food	Outdoor Journey for Girls at Springbrook Conservation Education Center Aug. 1-3, 515-281-5918 or iowadnr.gov	REAP city, county and private/public grants due Aug. 15, <a href="http://www.iowareap.com">www.iowareap.com</a>	Rathbun Lake Summer Bash through Sunday at Honey Creek Resort State Park, 877-677-3344	Shorebirds begin migrating south
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Watch skies for swallows in large flocks	Hummingbirds prepare for migration by using feeders for the next 3-4 weeks	Perseid meteor shower peaks next week on Aug. 12-13	1915 Last log raft used by the lumber industry seen in Dubuque	Waterfowl seasons presented to Iowa Natural Resource Commission Iowa State Fair begins	Renew your magazine subscription at the DNR Building during the state fair Aug. 9-19	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	1867 Hordes of grasshoppers reported in western Iowa  Private cost-share REAP grants due for city and county conservation REAP grants by 4:30 p.m.	Deer tags on sale tomorrow	1963 Dutch Elm disease blamed for the deaths of thousands of trees in Iowa			Deer start to shed antler velvet; fawns start to lose spots
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Iowa State Fair ends	1804 The only death on the Lewis and Clark Expedition occurs in Iowa  1950 Earliest freeze record set across northern Iowa with 30° F in Britt and Sibley	Blue-winged teal and doves congregating for migration				1916 National Park Service established by U.S. Congress
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Pelican migration begins. Watch for flocks on reservoirs and large lakes					Locust songs peak during August	



After a meal of frogs, this curious  
otter swam within 20 feet of the  
photographer before vanishing.  
—BY RON HUELSE

**Let work slide  
for a while.**

► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)



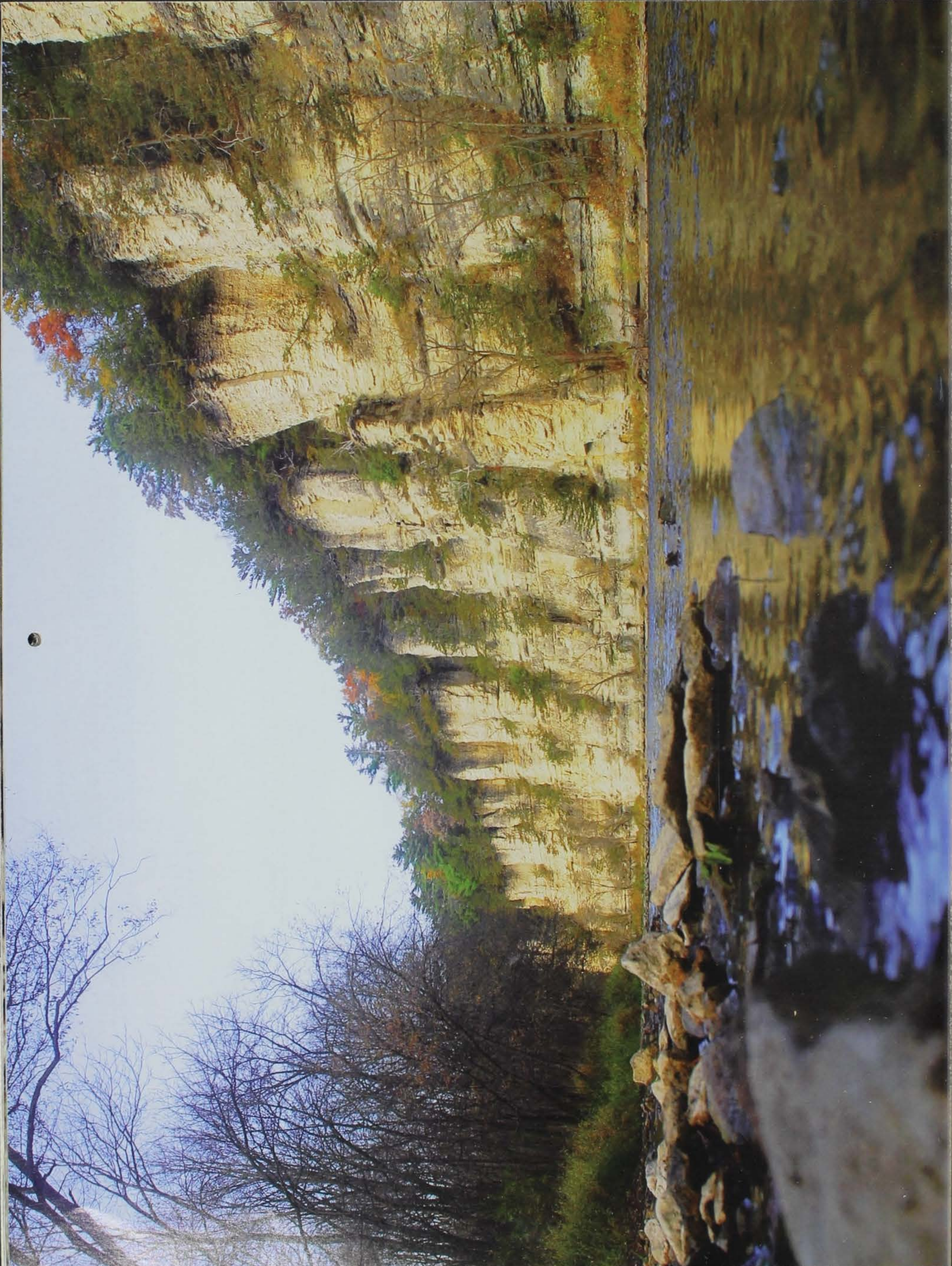
**JULY**

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**SEPTEMBER**

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LOXIA



2012

## SEPTEMBER

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Chimney Rocks on the Upper Iowa River in Winneshiek County.  
-BY CLAY SMITH

REAP education grants due Nov. 1.  
[www.iowareap.com](http://www.iowareap.com)  
Squirrels start cutting acorns from trees



Dove, rabbit and squirrel seasons open

2

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Take a family outing to view monarchs as they congregate for migration to Mexico

Labor Day

1890 The Morrison Electric auto introduced to Iowans in a parade in Des Moines

1953 Old Oscar, the 5-foot, 100-plus pound giant lake sturgeon always on display at the Iowa State Fair, dies

Plant conifers Sept. 10-30

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Neotropical birds start to head south through end of month

Take a child to the woods to watch squirrels, bluejays and chipmunks caching acorns

Patriot Day

Fall colors begin in northern Iowa

Becoming an Outdoors Woman at Springbrook Conservation Education Center through Sunday, [iowadnr.gov](http://iowadnr.gov) or 515-281-6159

Youth/disabled hunter season begins

16

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Wood duck migration begins  
1881 Earliest measurable snowfall set with 6-inch snowfall in western Iowa

1950 Ding Darling, famed cartoonist and conservationist, helps open Lake Darling State Park near Washington

1926 Unofficial one-day precipitation record set with 21.70-inch rain in Boyden

Fall colors begin in southern Iowa

Autumnal equinox - first day of autumn

23

24

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First killing frost averages this date in extreme northern Iowa

1909 Earthquake felt in eastern Iowa

1953 Iowa's latest official 100°F temperature day with 103°F at Glenwood

Clad your kids in buckskin and head to the Fort Atkinson Rendezvous held through Sunday in Winneshiek County

30

Youth/disabled deer season ends  
Peak season camping fees end



## Keokuk ROCKS!

Hunt Keokuk Geodes...  
Fun for the entire family!

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800-383-1219

Make a Love  
**KEOKUK**

KEOKUK AREA CONVENTION AND TOURISM BUREAU



## AUGUST

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## OCTOBER

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		







2012

OCTOBER

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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Campgrounds start shutting  
off water for the season

Fall deer and turkey archery season begins

Bowhunter observation survey begins

1838 Chief Black Hawk dies  
at his home in Davis County

Ruffed grouse season opens

Fly-fishing class Oct. 6-7 at Springbrook  
Conservation Education Center,  
641-747-8383

7



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Columbus Day

Fall turkey gun/bow season begins

Quail form into coveys

Fall colors peak Oct. 12-20

Save money and energy—  
use programmable thermostatsEarly muzzleloader deer season begins  
Lacey Keosauqua State Park Scenic Drive  
Festival this weekend, 319-293-3502

14



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Compost instead of burning leaves

Plant broadleaf trees mid-October  
until the ground freezesGet your "Hunt Iowa" blaze orange hat at  
[www.iowanaturestore.com](http://www.iowanaturestore.com) or 1-866-410-0230First killing frost averages this  
date in extreme southeast Iowa  
Youth pheasant season, Oct. 20-21

21



22

23

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Early muzzleloader deer season closes

Squirrels begin building leaf nests

1949 Effigy Mounds National Monument  
designated by President Truman

Pheasant and quail seasons begin

28



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Halloween

1991 Halloween blizzard and ice storm  
lasts until Nov. 1, leaving 16 inches of snow  
in northwest Iowa with 60 mph gusts.  
Catastrophic ice storm from Clarinda  
to Forest City followed by bitter cold.1925 Earliest subzero temperature  
with -5°F at Little SiouxWater gurgles forth at Malanaphy Springs  
State Preserve near Decorah from 450  
million-year-old dolomite.

-BY CLAY SMITH

Take a trip  
out of the blue.> [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

SEPTEMBER

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NOVEMBER

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25	26	27	28	29	30	







# 2012 NOVEMBER

# IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
			Peak flights of duck migration	All Saints' Day		Furbearer hunting and trapping seasons begin
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Daylight saving time ends	Peak of the deer rut	Election Day	Turn in poachers to TIP Hotline: 1-800-532-2020 or iowadnr.gov		Dove season closes	Save energy by replacing furnace filter
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veterans Day 1940 Armistice Day blizzard kills duck hunters along Mississippi River, totaling 160 lives across the Midwest				Leonid meteor shower peaks Nov. 17-18	Mentored Outdoor Experience deer hunt, Springbrook Conservation Education Center, Nov. 16-18	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				Thanksgiving Day	November antlerless deer season through Sunday	Take a family outing to watch eagles along rivers
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	Give Iowa Outdoors as a holiday gift; order at 1-800-361-8072				Fall turkey gun/bow season closes Archery only turkey and deer seasons close	



A Canada goose takes flight in the morning light.  
—BY RON HUELSE



No plans?  
Wing it.

► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

## OCTOBER

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## DECEMBER

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2012

DECEMBER

IOWA  
OUTDOORS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



A curious mink poses after a light snow.  
—BY RON HUELSE

Give Iowa Outdoors as a holiday gift—  
order at 1-800-361-8072.

Order gifts from [www.iowanaturestore.com](http://www.iowanaturestore.com)  
or 866-410-0230

First shotgun deer season opens  
Muskie season closes on Iowa Great Lakes

2

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First shotgun deer season closes

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Second shotgun deer season begins

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Hanukkah begins

Christmas bird count through end of December

Geminid meteor shower Dec. 13-14

2013 hunting and fishing  
licenses go on sale.

16

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Last day of Hanukkah

Second shotgun deer season closes

Late split deer and fall turkey  
bow season reopens

Late muzzleloader deer season begins

Winter solstice—first day of winter

23

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28

29

Nonresident antlerless deer holiday season,  
Dec. 24 – Jan. 2.

Christmas

30

31

New Year's Eve

Ring in the New Year at Honey Creek Resort.  
For event details call 877-677-3344.

Let work slide for a while.



► [travelIOWA.com](http://travelIOWA.com)

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

JANUARY 2013

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DECEMBER 2011



JANUARY



FEBRUARY



MARCH



APRIL



MAY



JUNE



JULY



SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



2012 AUGUST IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2012 CALENDAR

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NOVEMBER



DECEMBER