NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

IOWA OUTDOORS

THE DNR'S MAGAZINE OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

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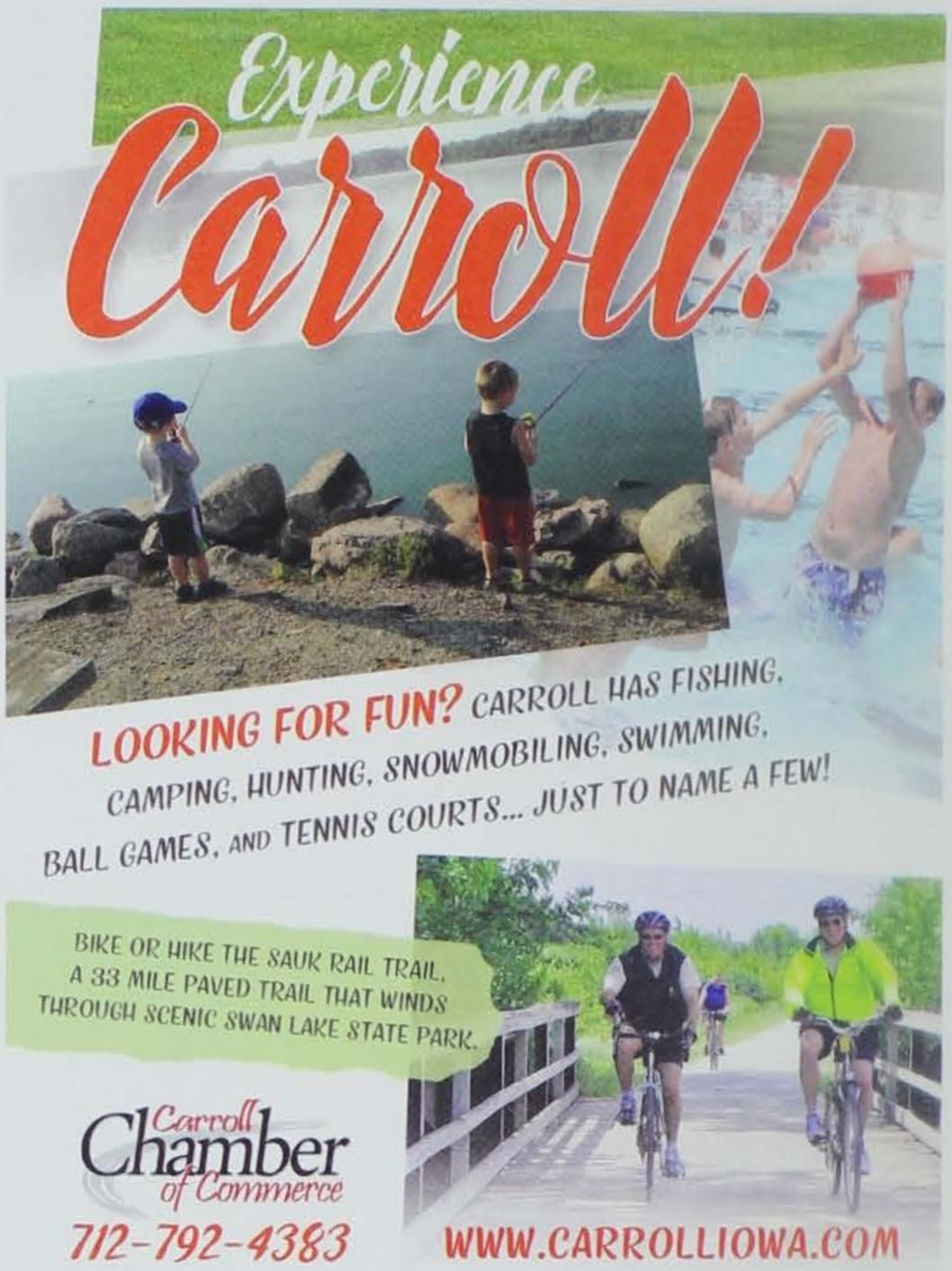

IOWA OUTDOORS

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2017 • VOLUME 76 • ISSUE 6

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Iowa Outdoors (ISSN 0021-0471) is published bimonthly by the Department of Natural Resources, 502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, IA 50319. Periodicals postage paid Des Moines, IA. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: $15 FOR ONE YEAR, $24 FOR TWO YEARS AND $30 FOR THREE YEARS. PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. Include mailing label for renewals and address changes. POSTMASTER: Send changes to *Iowa Outdoors*, P.O. Box 37831, Boone, IA 50037-0831.

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United States Postal Service Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation.

1. Publication Title: Iowa Outdoors. 2. Publication Number: 268-780. 3. Filing Date: 9/21/17. 4. Issue Frequency: Bi-monthly. 5. Number of Issues Published Annually: 6. 6. Annual Subscription Price: $15. 7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: (Not printer): 502 E. 9th, Des Moines, IA 50319 8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): 502 E. 9th, Des Moines, IA 50319 9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor Publisher, State of Iowa Dept. Natural Resources, 502 E. 9th, Des Moines, IA 50319; Editor, Brian Button, 502 E. 9th, Des Moines, IA; Managing Editor, Alan Foster, 502 E. 9th, Des Moines, IA 50319 10. Owner: State of Iowa Dept. Natural Resources, 502 E. 9th, Des Moines, IA 50319. 11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None. 13. Publication Title: Iowa Outdoors. 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September/October 2017. 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: a. Total Number of Copies: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 42,500; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 41,000. b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 39,522; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 41,000. (2) Paid In-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0. (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0. (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0. c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation [Sum of 15b. (1), (2), (3), and (4)] Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 39,522; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 38,155. d. Free Distribution by Mail (Samples, complimentary, and other free): (1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0. (2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0. (3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 0; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 0. (4) Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 1,143; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,200. e. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d.): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 1,143; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 2,200. f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c. And 15e.): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 40,665; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 40,355. g. Copies not Distributed: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 1,835; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 645. h. Total (Sum of 15f. And 15g.): Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 42,500; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 41,000. i. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 97.0%; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 94.0%. 16. Publication of Statement of Ownership Publication: Will be printed in the Nov./Dec. 2016 issue of this publication. 17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: Alan Foster–Managing Editor. Date: 9/30/17. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete.

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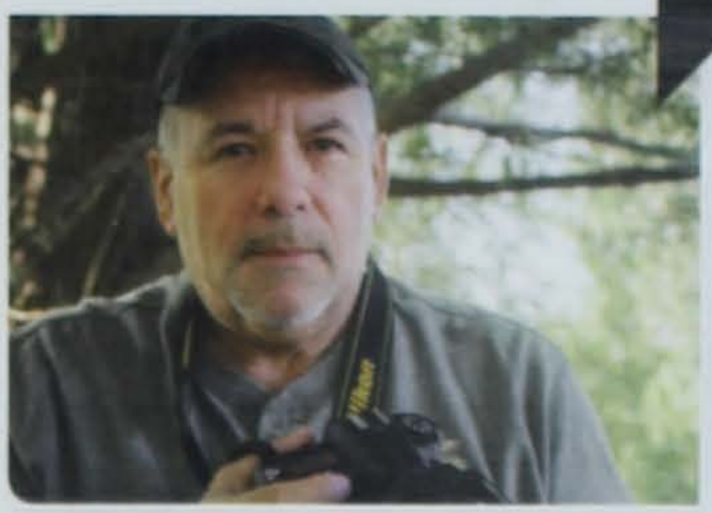

RON MAGGARD of Jasper County lives on 45 acres and has a true love for nature. He starting photographing deer and wildlife at 17 with his first 35mm camera, but life seemed to get in the way and he put the camera down for nearly 30 years. Two years ago, he purchased his first high-end camera and fell in love all over again. Now he feels he's doing what he was meant to—being behind the lens, capturing moments others may not get to see in-person. See his works at https://rmaggard-photography.smugmug.com

ERIC WILLIAMSON of central Iowa specializes in wildlife and outdoor photography. He started early with his parent's Canon 35mm equipment. Eric progressed into videography at age 13 and digital photography at age 16. He holds a degree in professional audio/video. See his online gallery and workshop opportunities at shuttertraxs.com

RON HUELSE of Knoxville has spent 12 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 reintroduce osprey locally and raises awareness of siltation issues at the reservoir. He's a recent retiree with "more hobbies than I have time for."

State Record Fish

SPECIES	WEIGHT (LBS.-OZ.)	LENGTH (IN.)	WATERBODY	COUNTY	DATE TAKEN	ANGLER	CITY
Bass (Largemouth)	10-12	23.5	Lake Fisher	Davis	5/1/1984	Patricia Zaerr	Davenport
Bass (Ocean Striped)	9-4	29	Rathbun Reservoir	Appanoose	7/1/1983	Richard Pauley	Centerville
Bass (Rock)	1-8	10.5	Pool 11, Mississippi	Dubuque	6/1/1973	Jim Driscoll	Dubuque
Bass (Smallmouth)	7-12	22.75	West Okoboji Lake	Dickinson	9/1/1990	Rick Gray	Dickinson
Bass (Spotted)	2-0	16.0	Coralville Reservoir	Johnson	5/7/2013	James Steffen	Solon
Bass (White)	4-3	18.7	Big Spirit Lake	Dickinson	5/7/2011	Josh Zylstra	Laurens
Bass (Wiper)	19-10	33	Saylorville Reservoir	Polk	8/29/2005	Youa Lovan	Des Moines
Bass (Yellow)	1-9	12.7	Siems County Park	Kossuth	2/14/2015	Justin Friedrich	Algona
Bass (Yellow)	1-9	14.5	Lake Manawa	Pottawattamie	4/1/1991	Bill Campbell	Council Bluffs
Bass (Yellow)	1-9	13.5	Lake Anita	Cass	5/1/2000	Michael Gradick	Underwood
Bowfin/Dogfish	11-9	31.5	Pool 10, Mississippi	Clayton	5/1/1994	Bill Greten	Blue Grass
Buffalo (Bigmouth)	64-6	41.5	Lake Manawa	Pottawattamie	4/18/2007	Ronald Anderson	Omaha, NE
Buffalo (Black)	63-6	48.5	Pool 9, Mississippi	Allamakee	8/14/1999	Jim Winters	Jesup
Buffalo (Smallmouth)	8-3	24.6	Pool 11, Mississippi	Dubuque	8/13/2015	Miranda Eipperle	Peosta
Bullhead (Black)	5-8	22	Farm Pond	Hamilton	6/1/1986	Michael Hurd	Ellsworth
Bullhead (Brown)	1-4	12.5	Pool 9, Mississippi	Allamakee	8/24/2015	Dick Newcomer	Harpers Ferry
Bullhead (Yellow)	1-10	13.5	Twelve Mile Lake	Union	4/16/2016	Xavier Jones	Ankeny
Carp (Bighead)	93-8	56	Rathbun Reservoir	Appanoose	6/15/2012	Larry Sparks	Mystic
Carp (Common)	67-0	48.5	Viking Lake	Montgomery	7/8/2006	Mike Miller	Council Bluffs
Carp (Silver)	40	42.5	Farm Pond	Wapello	5/10/2016	Randy Conover	Eldon
Catfish (Blue)	101-0	53	Missouri River	Mills	6/8/2004	Mike Rush	Bellevue, NE
Catfish (Channel)	38-2	40	Missouri River	Pottawattamie	6/11/2005	Dustin Curtis	Omaha, NE
Catfish (Flathead)	81-0	52	Ellis Lake	Lucas	6/1/1958	Joe Baze	Chariton
Crappie (Black)	3-14	18	Three Mile Lake	Union	6/5/2013	Dale Klein	Omaha, NE
Crappie (White)	4-9	21.25	Green Castle Lake	Marshall	5/1/1981	Ted Trowbridge	Marshalltown
Freshwater Drum	46-0	38.5	Big Spirit Lake	Dickinson	10/1/1962	R.F. Farran	Clarion
Gar (Longnose)	20-13	57.25	Pool 13, Mississippi	Jackson	7/19/2014	Doug Griebel	Bellevue
Gar (Shortnose)	7-2	34	Roberts Creek Lake	Marion	4/9/2012	Pat Antelman	Altoona
Goldeye	2-15	20	Pool 10, Mississippi	Clayton	8/20/2004	Scott Kinkead	Central City
Mooneye	1-8	16	Pool 9, Mississippi	Allamakee	10/23/2016	Tricia Steines	Springbrook

State Record Fish *(continued)*

State Record Fish *(continued)*

SPECIES	WEIGHT (LBS.-OZ.)	LENGTH (IN.)	WATERBODY	COUNTY	DATE TAKEN	ANGLER	CITY
Muskellunge	50-6	52.5	Big Spirit Lake	Dickinson	8/21/2000	Kevin Cardwell	Spirit Lake
Muskellunge (Tiger)	27-2	47	West Okoboji Lake	Dickinson	8/1/1989	Shannon Green	Spencer
Northern Pike	25-5	45	West Okoboji Lake	Dickinson	2/1/1977	Allen Forsberg	Albert City
Paddlefish	107-0	69.5	Missouri River	Pottawattamie	3/1/1981	Robert Pranschke	Onawa
Redhourse (Greater)	5.98	23	Cedar River	Floyd	8/30/2017	Dereck Jacobsen	Fremont, NE
Redhorse (Silver)	4-8	22	Des Moines River	Boone	5/5/2014	Jarrad Pike	Boone
Sauger	6-8	25	Missouri River	Pottawattamie	10/1/1976	Mrs. W. Buser	Sloan
Saugeye	12-4	29.5	Des Moines River	Polk	3/1/2000	Don Ostergaard	Des Moines
Sturgeon (Shovelnose)	12-0	33	Des Moines River	Van Buren	4/1/1974	Randy Hemm	Douds
Sucker (Blue)	15-6	33.25	Iowa River	Johnson	4/11/2011	Steven Jones	Iowa City
Sucker (Northern Hogsucker)	15.6 oz.	13.5	Upper Iowa River	Winneshiek	8/11/2015	Dick Newcomer	Harpers Ferry
Sucker (White)	2-14	19	Big Creek Lake	Polk	6/27/2011	Kurt Brugioni	Ankeny
Sunfish (Bluegill)	3-2	12.88	Farm Pond	Madison	7/1/1986	Phil Algreen	Earlham
Sunfish (Green)	2-1	12.5	Farm Pond	Marion	7/29/2000	Ralph Mayer	Knoxville
Sunfish (Pumpkinseed)	14.4 oz.	10	Farm Pond	Pottawattamie	7/6/2016	John Perkins	Council Bluffs
Sunfish (Redear)	2-1	13.13	Farm Pond	Wapello	9/27/2013	Jeff Kokemiller	Ottumwa
Sunfish (Warmouth)	11.8 oz.	9.0	Farm Pond	Taylor	7/26/2016	Travis Cavin	Bedford
Trout (Brook)	7-0	19.75	Fountain Springs	Delaware	7/1/1996	Doug Korvarik	Marion
Trout (Brown)	15-6	29	North Prairie Lake	Black Hawk	6/1/1995	Gerold Lewis	Gladbrook
Trout (Rainbow)	19-8	35	French Creek	Allamakee	7/1/1984	Jack Renner	Waterloo
Walleye	14-8	30.5	Des Moines River	Polk	9/1/1986	Gloria Eoriatti	Ankeny
White Amur (Grass Carp)	85-8	48	Greenfield Lake	Adair	5/1/2007	Jesse Lane	Greenfield
Yellow Perch	2-7	16	Pool 12, Mississippi	Dubuque	3/13/2012	Travis Peterson	Dubuque

December

IOWA

December 2017

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	A fish flies from the talons of a juvenile bald eagle as an older eagle swoops in. Winter waterways are popular spots, especially below dams, to view eagles as they fish. BY ERIC WILLIAMSON		*Give Iowa Outdoors as a holiday gift—order at* iowaoutdoorsmagazine.com.		1 *Muskie season closed on all Minnesota border lakes, including the Iowa Great Lakes* *Fall turkey gun/bow season closes* *Archery only turkey and deer seasons close*	2 *First shotgun deer season opens*
3	4	5	6 *First shotgun deer season closes*	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8	9 *Second shotgun deer season begins*
10	11	12 *Geminid meteor shower peaks Dec. 13-14 with up to 120 meteors per hour*	13 Hanukkah begins	14 *Christmas Bird Count through Jan. 5;* audubon.org	15 *2018 hunting and fishing licenses go on sale*	16
17 *Second shotgun deer season closes*	18 *Late split deer and fall turkey bow season reopens* *Late muzzleloader deer season begins*	19	20 Hanukkah ends	21 Winter solstice—first day of winter	22	23 *Nonresident antlerless deer holiday season, Dec. 24 – Jan. 2.*
24	25 Christmas	26 *Ring in the New Year at Honey Creek Resort. For event details call 877-677-3344.*	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						

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NOVEMBER

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JANUARY 2018

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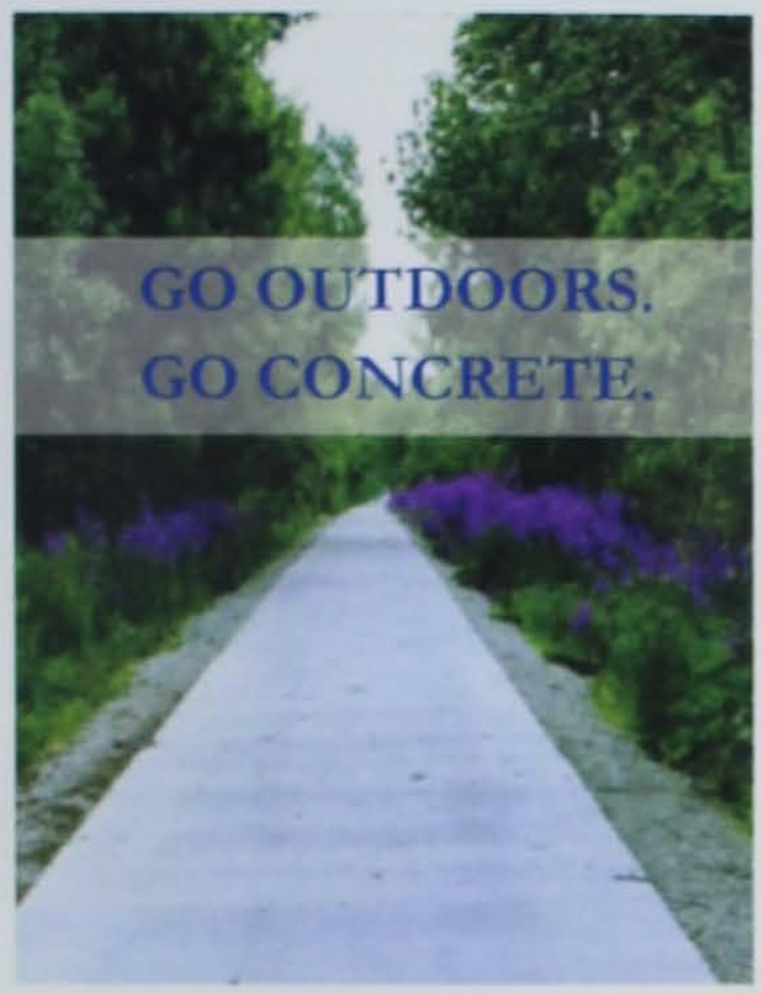

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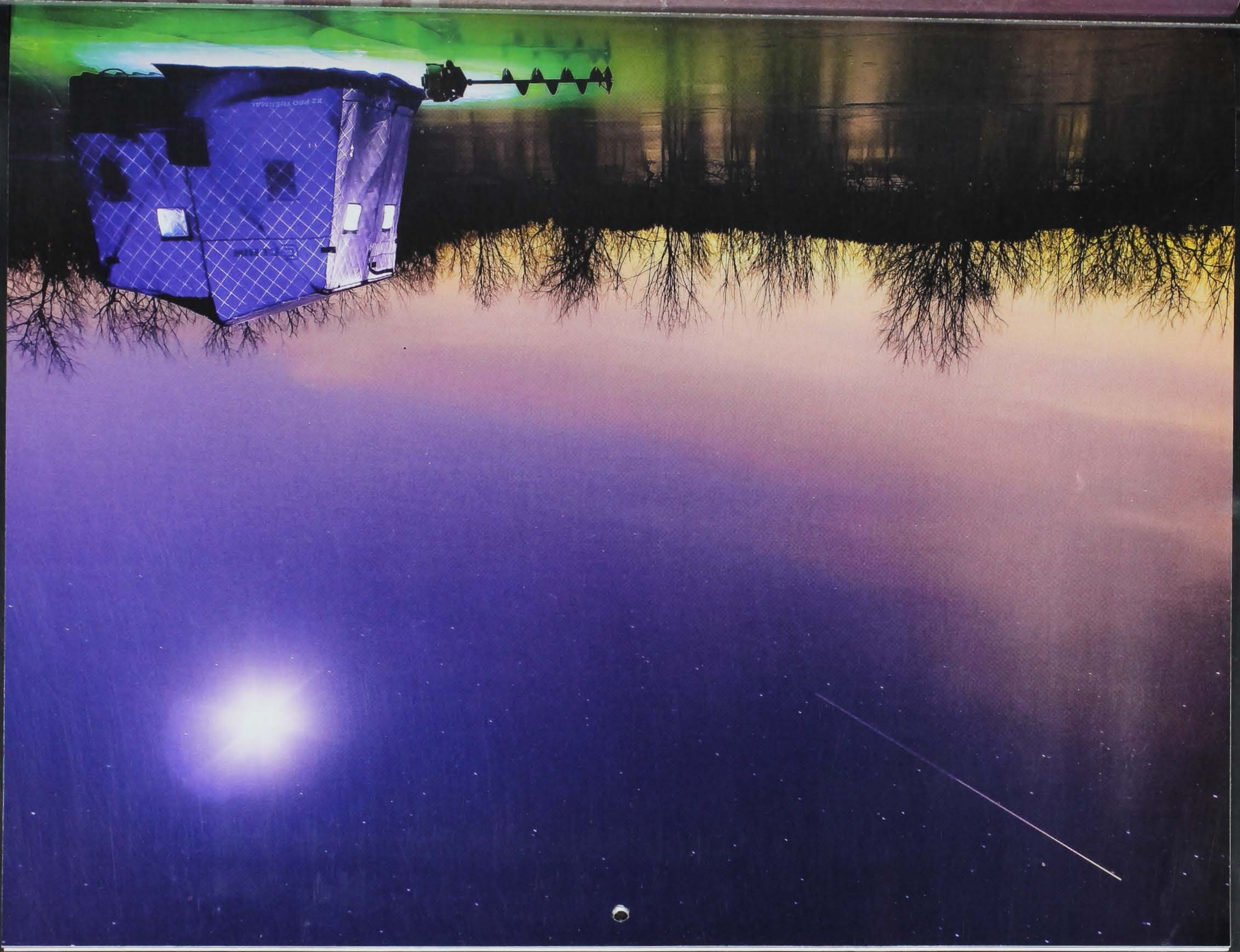
X2 PRO THERMAL

January 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Year's Day	2 *Canada, brant and white-fronted goose season closes in north zone*	3 *Mid-winter bald eagle and migratory bird counts begin* *Quadrantids meteor shower peaks Jan. 3-4*	4	5	6
7 *Look for bald eagles feeding below dams and open water areas*	8	9 *Fox squirrels begin to mate*	10 *2017 hunting and fishing licenses expire* *Pheasant, late muzzleloader deer, archery deer and archery turkey seasons close* *Light goose season closes in north zone*	11	12 *1912 State record low temperature set in Washta, -47°*	13
14 *Fox and coyote mating season begins (mid- to late January)*	15 *Canada, white-fronted and brant goose season closes in south and Missouri River zones* Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16 *Domestic rainbow trout spawning peaks*	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 *Light goose season closes in south and Missouri River zones*	25 *Light goose Conservation Order begins*	26	27
28	29 *Search woods for shed antlers*	30 *Tomorrow's full moon will be a blue moon (second full moon of the month) and a supermoon*	31 *Quail, partridge, ruffed grouse, squirrel and trapping (excluding beaver) seasons close*			

A 30-second exposure captures a twilight and moon-lit ice fishing outing in Scott County's Lost Grove Park.
pp MATT SHAFFER

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DECEMBER 2017

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FEBRUARY

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February

IOWA

February 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February is unique this year for not having a full moon. However, January and March both have blue moons (two full moons in a month).			*Great horned owls are on the nest in early February*	1	2 *1934 work began on the Zebulon Pike Lock and Dam in Dubuque*	3 *1996 State record low temperature tied in Elkader, -47°*
4	5 *Bald eagles are staking territories and building nests*	6	7 *Cardinals and chickadees begin singing mating calls*	8	9	10 *Bobcat mating begins*
11	12 *1875 Meteor strikes near Amana, leaving 800 pounds of meteorites*	13 *Mardi Gras*	14 Valentine's Day *Walleye season closes at end of day on Iowa Great Lakes*	15 *Although ice fishing slows, river fishing is excellent for walleyes in open water below dams*	16 *2010 Earthquake felt in eastern Iowa* *Great Backyard Bird Count runs today through the 20th.* birdsource.org/gbbc	17
18 *1909 Wallace Stegner, prominent author and conservation voice, born at Lake Mills*	19 Presidents Day	20 *Permanent ice fishing shelters must be removed from state lakes unless deadline is extended*	21 *Turkey vultures return when snow melts and carcasses become visible*	22	23	24
25 *Can reserve campsites for Memorial Day weekend: 1-877-IAPARKS or* iowastateparks.reservamerica.com	26 *1846 William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody born near LeClaire*	27	28 *Cottontail hunting season ends*			

"They just sat there and posed," says photographer Ron Maggard of this group of bison at the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge in Jasper County near Prairie City. There are always things great and small to be seen at the refuge. This image was captured from the road that bisects the massive bison and elk enclosure.

BY RON MAGGARD

JANUARY

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MARCH

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March 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Iowa income taxes due April 30. Support wildlife—check the Fish and Wildlife Fund box on your tax form			1 *Paddlefish season runs through April 15 on the Mississippi, Missouri and Big Sioux rivers; additional regulations apply*	2 *Chorus frogs begin singing as soon as ice goes out*	3 *Search "camps and workshops" at* iowadnr.gov *for the spring Becoming an Outdoors Woman weekend, or call 515-725-8200*
4 *REAP education grants due May 15.* iowareap.com	5 *Look for returning robins and bluebirds*	6	7	8 *Woodcock mating display flights begin*	9 *Northern pike netting begins after ice-out on Mississippi River and Iowa Great Lakes*	10 *Cottontails may be seen courting—jumping airborne and chasing mates under the moonlight*
11 Daylight saving time starts	12 *Look for blooming pasque flowers*	13	14 *Spring tree planting can begin if frost is gone from ground*	15 *Dogs prohibited on all state-owned game management areas through July 15*	16 *Owls will be on nestlings*	17 St. Patrick's Day *Spring peeper frogs may begin calling in eastern and southeast Iowa*
18 *In 2012, 34 morel mushrooms found near Keokuk, about a month earlier than expected*	19	20 Vernal equinox - first day of spring	21 *1961 Iowa Legislature chooses the oak as Iowa's official tree*	22 *Watch for coyote pups in wild areas*	23 *Listen for gobbling wild turkeys*	24 *Take photos of woodland Dutchman's breeches and dogtooth violets in bloom*
25	26 *After ice-out, migratory waterfowl return*	27	28 *Beavers begin making scent mounds of piled mud, grass and sticks coated with scent oils near ponds*	29 *Reserve campsites for Fourth of July weekend;* 1-877-IAPARKS *or* iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com	30	31 *1933 President Franklin Roosevelt signs the bill to create the Civilian Conservation Corps*

Snow trillium is one of Iowa's earliest blooming spring ephemerals. Ephemerals bloom and produce seeds quickly before the tree canopy above leafs out to shade the forest floor. Look for these 6-inch tall plants in bloom March and April on wooded slopes—even when snow is present.

BY RON HUELSE

FEBRUARY

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APRIL

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April 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 April Fools' Day Easter Sunday	2	3 *Running water available in campgrounds around mid-month, after threat of frost gone*	4 *Hunter safety education classes begin; check out www.iowadnr.gov for dates and locations*	5 *In April, deer and raccoon spotlight surveys typically begin, as does weekly trout stocking. Full waterfowl migration typically underway.*	6 *1982 Iowa's latest subzero temperature recorded, -9°F at Manchester*	7 *Walleye gill-netting underway* *Prairie Chicken Festival at Kellerton Bird Conservation Area, Ringgold County* *Youth turkey season runs through April 16*
8 *Gosling hatch begins*	9 *Blizzard of 1973 dumps up to 20.3 inches of snow in eastern Iowa. Gusts of 65 mph create snow drifts that suffocate over 100,000 cattle and 200,000 domestic turkeys.*	10 *Deer shed winter coats*	11 *1954 Iowa Conservation Commission launches first-in-the-nation TV show "Outdoor Shop Talk" produced by staff* *Look for fox pups in wild areas*	12	13	14 *2010 Wisconsin meteor lights up northern Iowa skies*
15 *Light goose conservation order ends* *Plant a shade tree on south or west side of home to reduce cooling bills*	16 *First turkey season runs through April 19* *Watch water areas for return of shorebirds*	17 *Federal taxes due* *Plant native milkweeds for monarchs*	18 *Eagle hatch begins*	19 *American toad begins singing*	20 *Second turkey season runs through the 24th*	21 *1980 Iowa's earliest official 100° day recorded at Fort Dodge and Waterloo*
22 *Lyrids meteor shower peaks April 22-23* 48th Earth Day *Around wetlands, look for return of garter snakes from hibernation*	23 *Hike southern Iowa woods for morels*	24	25 *Third turkey season runs through May 1* *Turkeys on nests incubating eggs*	26 *Pheasants and quail begin nesting*	27 Arbor Day	28
29	30 *Catfish begin biting on dead fish in warm, shallow waters*			*Save money and reduce electric use—install LED lighting*		*Reserve campsites and cabins;* iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com *or* 1-877-IAPARKS

Cedar waxwings are year-round inhabitants, and one of few Iowa birds to survive on winter fruits. They eat a variety, but prefer cedar berries. Look for them in summer along rivers, snatching protein-rich insects to augment their diet.

BY ERIC WILLIAMSON

MARCH

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MAY

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May 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
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 warmest.	*Bike to work month—www.bikeiowa.com*	*Peak camping rates begin May 1; make reservations at 1-877-IAPARKS or iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com*	*Fourth turkey season runs through May 20* *1890 Large meteorite strikes 11 miles northwest of Forest City*	*1986 Inaugural convention of the National Rivers Hall of Fame, Dubuque*	*Peak neo-tropical bird migration—including hummingbirds, warblers and orioles—through the month*	*Walleye season opens on Iowa Great Lakes*
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Yellow-headed blackbirds arrive	*1897 General Assembly chooses wild rose as Iowa's official flower*		*Jupiter at closest approach to Earth. Use binoculars to see Jupiter's four largest moons, which appear as bright dots next to the planet.* *Register now for Outdoor Journey for Girls at Hickory Hills near Dysart in July 515-725-8200 or iowadnr.gov*		*Watch water areas for beaver kits*	*Bluebirds hatch first of two broods*
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Mother's Day	*DNR begins mourning dove surveys*	*REAP Conservation Education grants due* Ramadan Begins	*Mourning doves cooing and mating*	*Bobolinks return from Argentina*		Armed Forces Day
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Red-tailed hawks nesting *Look for return of whip-poor-wills*	*Muskie season runs through Nov. 30 on all Minnesota border lakes, including the Iowa Great Lakes*	*1933 Goldfinch designated Iowa State Bird*	*Look for fireflies in central and southern Iowa*	*Pheasant hatch begins* *Fawns born through first week of June*	*Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Cedar Rock house near Quasqueton opens this weekend for season*	
27	28	29	30	31		
	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	*1938 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* *Can reserve campsites for Labor Day weekend; 1-877-IAPARKS or iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com*		

A red fox kit playfully nips at mom. Red fox numbers in Iowa have trended downward recently, perhaps due to competition from rising coyote numbers—both pursue small mammals and there is only so much food to sustain both populations.

BY ERIC WILLIAMSON

APRIL

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JUNE

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June 2018

IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Peak of songbird nesting is June through July	*Herons nesting*		1 *1833 Iowa Territory opened for settlement* Free Fishing Days through Sunday	2 *Get started on REAP private cost-share grants for city and county conservation*
3 *1860 Worst tornado in Iowa history kills 141, injures 329 from Hardin to Clinton counties*	4 *Channel catfish and largemouth bass spawning; fish near riprap with a ball of nightcrawlers for catfish*	5 *DNR biologists begin breeding bird surveys*	6 *Watch urban skies for return of night hawks*	7 *Listen for singing bullfrogs and tree frogs* *Quail and turkeys hatching*	8 *Lewis and Clark Festival June 8-10 at Lewis and Clark State Park in Onawa*	9 *Youth Hunter Education Challenge June 2-4, 515-205-8709 or iowadnr.gov*
10 *Save energy and money—have air conditioners serviced*	11	12	13 *2008 Cedar River at Cedar Rapids shatters previous record floods of 1929 and 1851*	14 Flag Day *1998 Official one-day precipitation record set with 13.18-inch rain in Atlantic* Ramadan Ends	15 *Turtles begin laying eggs*	16 *1673 Marquette and Joliet paddle into the Mississippi River*
17 Father's Day	18	19 *Canada goose banding begins through early July*	20	21 Summer solstice—first day of summer	22	23
24	25	26	27 *Saturn closest to Earth. See rings and moons with a medium-sized telescope.*	28 *Make sure to clean boats, trailers and equipment after outings to prevent spread of aquatic nuisance species*	29	30

A resplendent male wood duck
BY ERIC WILLIAMSON

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.

MAY

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JULY

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July

July 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 *July is peak nesting time for goldfinch, the state bird*	4 Independence Day *Cut cooling bills— close curtains on sunny sides of house*	5	6 *Aphelion—Earth at farthest distance from Sun* *Turkey brood survey begins through August*	7
8	9 *Project AWARE river clean-up July 9-13; location TBA, iowadnr.gov/AWARE*	10	11 *Save fuel by checking vehicle tire pressure*	12	13	14 *Take kids hiking to look for fawns*
15 *Dogs allowed back on state-owned game management areas tomorrow*	16	17	18	19 *Check out what's going on at Mines of Spain State Recreation Area, 563-556-0620*	20	21
22	23 *Eighty percent of game fish can be found in 20 percent of a stream; move often to find fish*	24 *2010 Lake Delhi Dam fails on Maquoketa River after 10- to 13-inch rainfall within 24 hours*	25 *1936 State record high temperature set in Atlantic and Logan at 117°F.* *Low stream flow: catfishing easiest in streams using cheese baits*	26 *Take kids streamwalking*	27 *Search prairies for blazing stars in bloom*	28
29	30	31				

A gull swoops in to catch a meal at Lake Red Rock in Marion County south of Pella.
BY RON MAGGARD

JUNE

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AUGUST

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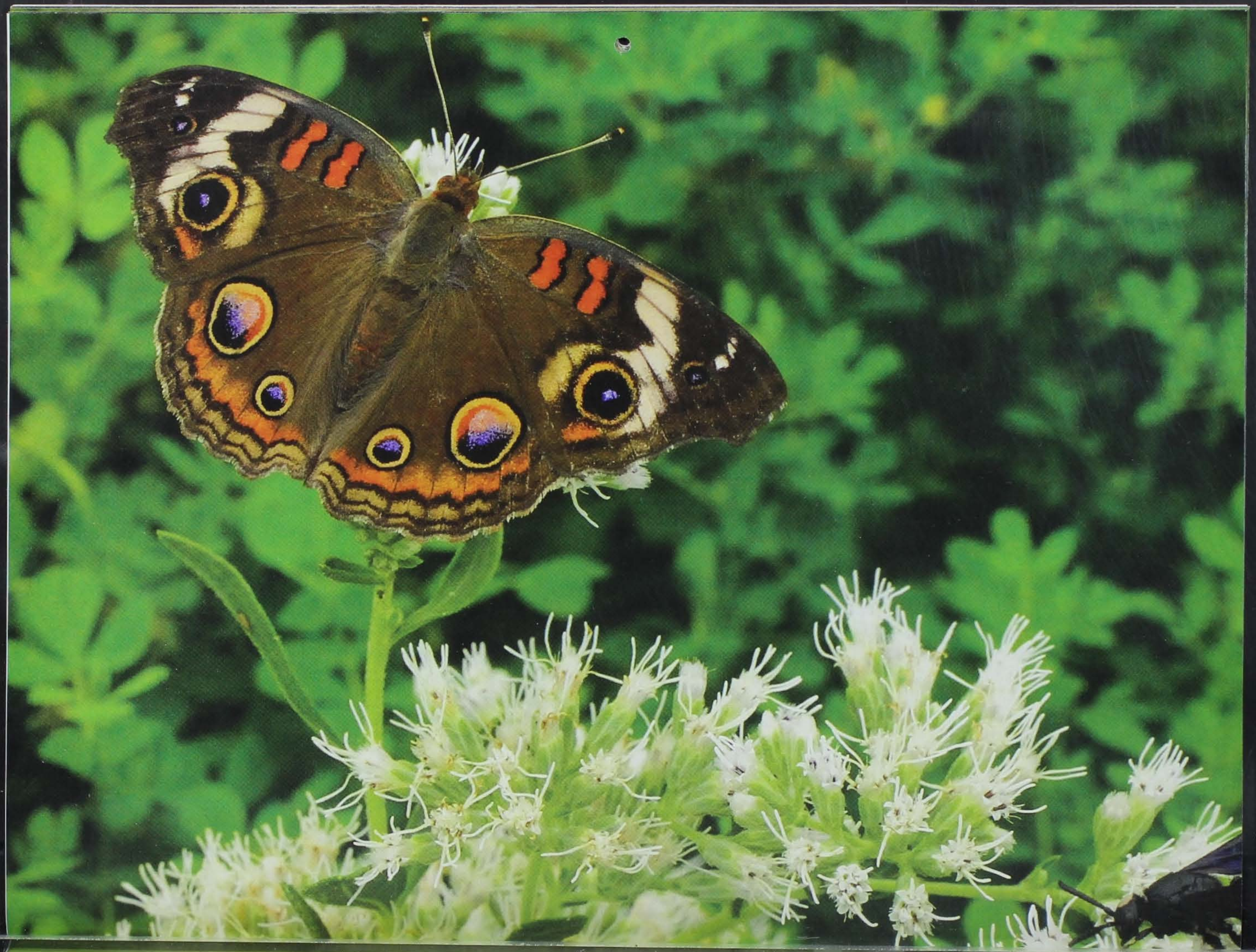

August

August 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 *State Forest Nursery begins accepting seedling orders for spring planting* *August roadside survey begins* *Dove and duck banding begins*	2 *Shorebirds begin migrating south* *REAP city, county and private grants due Aug. 15, www.iowareap.com*	3 *Search "camps and workshops" at iowadnr.gov for the fall Becoming an Outdoors Woman weekend, or call 515-725-8200*	4 *Watch for muskrats building huts and storing food*
5 *Watch skies for swallows in large flocks*	6 *Hummingbirds prepare for migration by using feeders for the next 3-4 weeks*	7	8 *1915 Last log raft used by the lumber industry seen in Dubuque* *Buy a magazine subscription at the DNR Building during the state fair Aug 9-19 and receive a free t-shirt*	9 Iowa State Fair begins	10 *Deer start to shed antler velvet; fawns start to lose spots*	11 *1867 Hordes of grasshoppers reported in western Iowa*
12 *Perseid meteor shower peaks Aug. 12-13*	13	14	15 *Deer tags on sale*	16	17 *1963 Dutch Elm disease blamed for the deaths of thousands of trees in Iowa*	18
19 Iowa State Fair ends	20 *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*	21	22 *Blue-winged teal and doves congregating for migration*	23	24	25 *1916 National Park Service established by U.S. Congress*
26	27	28	29 *Pelican migration begins. Watch for flocks on reservoirs and large lakes*	30	31 *Locust songs peak during August*	

The spectacular buckeye butterfly shows off its three large eyespots on each wing. The spots help confuse predators. The species is found statewide.

BY RON HUELSE

Buy a subscription at the DNR Building at the Iowa State Fair and get a FREE T-SHIRT

JULY

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SEPTEMBER

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September

September 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Red-tailed hawks are likely the most common hawk species in North America. The oldest known wild red-tailed hawk was at least 30 years, 8 months old when it was found in Michigan in 2011, the same state where it was banded in 1981. *by* ERIC WILLIAMSON	*Squirrels start cutting acorns from trees*	*REAP education grants due Nov. 1,* www.iowareap.com		*Take a family outing to view monarchs as they congregate for migration to Mexico*	1 *Dove season opens* *Rabbit and squirrel seasons open*
2	3 Labor Day *A magnitude 5.6 Oklahoma earthquake in 2016 is felt across much of Iowa*	4 *1890 The Morrison Electric auto introduced to Iowans in a parade in Des Moines* *Take a child to the woods to watch squirrels, bluejays and chipmunks cacheing acorns*	5 *Wood duck migration begins* *Neotropical birds start to head south through end of month*	6	7 *1953 Old Oscar, the 5-foot, 100-plus pound giant lake sturgeon always on display at the Iowa State Fair, dies* *Fall colors begin in northern Iowa*	8 *Plant conifers Sept. 8-30*
9	10	11 Patriot Day	12	13	14	15 *Youth/disabled hunter season for deer begins*
16 *1881 Earliest measurable snowfall set with 6-inch snowfall in western Iowa*	17 *1950 Ding Darling, famed cartoonist and conservationist, helps open Lake Darling State Park near Washington*	18 *1926 Unofficial one-day precipitation record set with 21.70-inch rain in Boyden* *Fall colors begin in southern Iowa*	19	20	21 Autumnal equinox - first day of autumn	22
23	24 *First killing frost averages this date in extreme northern Iowa*	25	26 *Clad your kids in buckskin and head to the Fort Atkinson Rendezvous held this weekend in Winneshiek County*	27 *1909 Earthquake felt in eastern Iowa*	28 *1953 Iowa's latest official 100°F temperature day with 103°F at Glenwood*	29 *Peak season camping fees end*
30 *Youth/disabled deer season ends*						

AUGUST

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OCTOBER

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October

October 2018

IOWA OUTDOOR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 *Fall deer and turkey archery season begins*	2 *Campgrounds start shutting off water for the season*	3 *1838 Chief Black Hawk dies at his home in Davis County*	4	5	6 *Ruffed grouse season opens* *Bowhunter observation survey begins*
7 *Quail form into coveys*	8 Columbus Day	9 *Fall colors peak* Oct. 10–20	10	11 *Save money and energy—use programmable thermostats*	12	13 *Lacey Keosauqua Scenic Drive Festival this weekend,* 319-293-3502
14 *Plant broadleaf trees mid-October until the ground freezes*	15 *Fall turkey gun/bow season begins*	16 *Compost instead of burning leaves*	17	18	19 *First killing frost averages this date in extreme southeast Iowa*	20 *Early muzzleloader deer season begins* *Youth pheasant season Oct. 21-22*
21 *Early muzzleloader deer season closes*	22	23 *Squirrels begin building leaf nests*	24	25 *1949 Effigy Mounds National Monument designated by President Truman*	26	27 *Pheasant and quail seasons begin*
28 *1925 Earliest subzero temperature with -8°F at Little Sioux*	29	30	31 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.*			

At Dolliver Memorial State Park in Webster County, hike past the Cipperus Beds—unique sandstone formations that rise 100 feet above Prairie Creek, then past oak-covered hillsides.

BY ERIC WILLIAMSON

SEPTEMBER

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NOVEMBER

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November

November 2018

IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 *Peak flights of duck migration*	2 *Turn in poachers to TIP Hotline: 1-800-532-2020 or iowadnr.gov/tip*	3 *Furbearer hunting and trapping seasons begin*
4 Daylight saving time ends	5	6 Election Day	7	8 *Peak of the deer rut begins*	9 *Save energy by replacing furnace filter*	10
11 *1940 blizzard kills duck hunters along Mississippi River, killing 160 across the Midwest* Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16 *Leonid meteor shower peaks Nov. 17-18*	17
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Day	23 *Give* Iowa Outdoors *as a holiday gift; order at* iowadnr.gov	24 *Take a family outing to watch eagles along rivers*
25	26	27	28	29	30 *Muskie season closed on all Minnesota border lakes, including the Iowa Great Lakes* *Fall turkey gun/bow season closes* *Archery only turkey and deer seasons close*	

Two whitetail bucks frame themselves perfectly between two trees. Two additional bucks bounded out of the woods while the photo was taken at Hickory Grove County Park in Story County near Colo.

by RON MAGGARD

OCTOBER

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DECEMBER

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December

December 2018

IOWA OUTDOORS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	The low angle light of December casts a warm glow against this great horned owl and rugged textured tree. w/ ERIC WILLIAMSON		*Give Iowa Outdoors as a holiday gift—order at* **iowaoutdoorsmagazine.com.**			1 *First shotgun deer season opens*
2	3 Hanukkah begins	4	5 *First shotgun deer season closes*	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8 *Second shotgun deer season begins*
9 Hanukkah ends	10	11	12	13 *Geminid meteor shower peaks Dec. 13-14 with up to 120 meteors per hour*	14 *Christmas Bird Count through Jan. 5.* **audubon.org**	15 *2019 hunting and fishing licenses go on sale*
16 *Second shotgun deer season closes*	17 *Late split deer and fall turkey bow season reopens* *Late muzzleloader deer season begins*	18	19	20	21 Winter solstice—first day of winter	22
23	24 *Nonresident antlerless deer holiday season, Dec. 24 – Jan. 2.*	25 Christmas *Ring in the New Year at Honey Creek Resort. For event details call 877-677-3344.*	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					

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NOVEMBER

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JANUARY 2019

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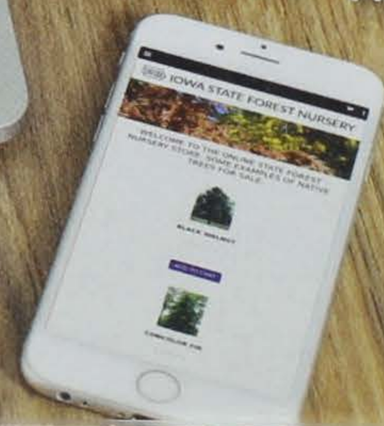

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DECEMBER 2017

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