



**Wayne County Conservation Board  
Conservation Director; Kenny Banks**

2301 Bob White Rd. Allerton, IA 50008

641-873-4670

Wccb5@waynecountyia.org

WAYNE COUNTY AUDITOR

FEB 10 2026

RECEIVED

# ANNUAL REPORT

**Fiscal July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025**

## Board Roster

Tom Rockhold – Chair, Lineville, IA  
Garrett Abel – Member, Allerton, IA  
Don Seams – Member, Corydon, IA  
Marty Nickel – Member, Lineville, IA  
Tim Gaul – Member, Corydon, IA  
Lance Lange – Member, Supervisor, Corydon, IA

## Terms expires December 31,

2028  
2026  
2026  
2028  
2026  
2028

- Diane Olsen-Schroder resigned in August 2024, Tim Gual filled the open chair
- Mike Lewis resigned in May 2024, Don Seams filled the open chair

## Staff Roster

Kenny Banks – Executive Director, Allerton, IA  
Brittany Snow – Assistant Director/Technician, Lineville, IA  
Anna Anderson – Naturalist, Centerville, IA  
Linda Allen – Part-time clerical, Part-time secretary, Allerton, IA  
Steve Benjamin – Part-time Technician, Allerton, IA  
Ronnie Guthrie – Part-time Technician, Corydon, IA  
Vernon Trower – Part-time Technician, Allerton, IA  
- Vernon retired May 16, 2025

**Regular County Conservation Board meetings held in accordance with Iowa Code 350.3.**  
There were 12 regular meetings during the fiscal year.

Timothy Gaul was appointed to the board in November of 2024.

Don Seams was appointed to the board in November of 2024.

Lance Lange was appointed to the board as the Supervisor.

Anna Anderson started November 19, 2024, as the new naturalist.

Vernon Trower retired on May 16, 2025.

Steve Benjamin was hired as a part time technician on May 17, 2025.

**Conservation Park enhancements:**

- Cut several dead Ash Trees (ash bore) at Corydon Lake Park
  - Continuing cutting of Ash Trees in all parks
- Helga, IDNR, helped implement a bow only management hunt at Bobwhite State Park
- Marked more trees for removal at Corydon Lake Park
- Leveling camp pads and extending them at Bobwhite
- New playground at Corydon Lake Park
  - Added a shelter with 3 picnic tables and 1 bench and 2 new trash cans to the area
- Burned a brush pile and timber reserve area at Bobwhite
- Tore down the old wooden playground at Bobwhite
- Received the Wayne Community Foundation Grant on March 28, 2025. The grant was for an upgraded flush-style restroom on the east side of Corydon Lake Park.
- Filed for an extension on the grant December 5, 2025, due to weather set backs
- Extended and widened the camp pads and added rock to sites
- Repaired fence at Medicine Creek Wildlife Area
- Linda planted 3 flower pots for the Bobwhite entrance

**Conservation Set Backs:**

- Continual rain set back the start of the bathroom project at Corydon Lake Park and has been put off until fall

# Maintenance Areas:

## Corydon Lake Park:

- 143-acre park
- 64-acre lake
- 2 shelters; electricity and drinking water
  - Stationary grills at each
- Modern shower house
- 19 campsites
- ADA EZ Dock and 2 kayak launchers
- Camping
- Playground
- Picnicking
- Hiking trails
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- 9-hole disc golf course
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year of water quality treatment with IDNR hatchery
- New playground and shelter by shelters
- New parking stops for new playground
- Started new restroom project May 2025

## Bobwhite State Park

- 390-acre park
- 90-acre lake
- 2 shelters
  - Stationary grills at each
- Modern shower house
- 30 campsites
- Camping
- Playground
- ADA pit toilet South shelter
  - ADA sidewalk
- Picnicking
- Hiking trails
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- ADA dock and 2 kayak launchers
- Beach and swim area

## Moore-Gosch Memorial Park

- 29-acre park
- 12-acre lake
- Camping
- 1 shelter; electricity and drinking water
  - Stationary grill
- Modern shower house
- 22 campsites
- Picnicking
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- Dock and a kayak launcher
- Playground
- Half-court basketball

## Lakeside Park

- 86-acre park
- 45-acre lake
- Camping
- 1 shelter; electricity and drinking water
  - Stationary grill
- Modern shower house
- 29 campsites
- Picnicking
- Fishing/boating; electric motors only
- 2 ADA docks and 2 kayak launchers
- 2 ADA sidewalks at docks and shelter
- Single stall restroom on the North side of park by the shelter
- 3 playgrounds
- WCCB large storage building

## Medicine Creek Wildlife Area

- 1,028-acre area
- 140 wetland acres
- Restored prairie
- Upland timber
- Public hunting
- Fishing/boating
  - Boat ramp
- Food plots
- Restocked by IDNR

# Campgrounds Use Totals:

## Bobwhite State Park:

Total of 303 units  
 66% in county  
 22% out of county  
 12% out of state  
 872 nights of stay  
 807 individuals

## Lakeside Park:

Total of 319 units  
 39% in county  
 57% out of county  
 4% out of state  
 1,058 nights of stay  
 916 individuals

## Moore-Gosch Memorial Park:

Total of 263 units  
 34% in county  
 21% out of county  
 45% out of state  
 855 nights of stay  
 713 individuals

## Corydon Lake Park:

Total of 92 units  
 22% in county  
 55% out of county  
 23% out of state  
 290 nights of stay  
 228 individuals

### % of use for FY 24/25

Park	In County	Out County	Out State
BW	200	68	35
LSP	123	183	13
MG	89	56	118
CLP	20	51	21
Total	432	358	187
Total %	44%	37%	19%

### \$ totals for camping FY 24/25

FY 24/25	BW	LSP	MG	CLP	Totals
July	\$3,120	\$5,260	\$4,180	\$1,340	\$13,900
Aug.	\$1,960	\$2,480	\$2,000	\$1,360	\$7,800
Sept.	\$3,920	\$3,800	\$4,140	\$700	\$12,560
Oct.	\$2,180	\$1,620	\$1,320	\$800	\$5,920
Nov.	\$1,040	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,040
April	\$260	\$100	\$500	\$40	\$900
May	\$3,460	\$3,120	\$2,940	\$500	\$10,020
June	\$1,640	\$4,780	\$2,020	\$1,060	\$9,500
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$17,580</b>	<b>\$21,160</b>	<b>\$17,100</b>	<b>\$5,800</b>	<b>\$61,640</b>

### Account Balances Ending FY 24/25

Reap..... \$24,241.80  
 Wetland.....\$0  
 Donations..... \$8,849.90  
 Duncan..... \$87,720.19  
 SEP..... \$4,577.44  
 Cons. Reserve  
 IA Code 350.6.... \$3,471.63

Total camping fees collected.....\$61,500.00  
 Accrued.....\$3,320.00  
 7 Gift Certificates at \$20.00.....\$140.00  
 15 shelter rentals at \$25.00.....\$250.00  
 Total revenue FY 24/25.....\$65,210.00

## Law Enforcement Activities:

- Took calls about hunting, fishing, and park regulations
- Operated under the Wayne County Sheriff's office
- County Officers patrolled each park
- In certain situations where law enforcement is needed, we called the sheriff's office
- Work with IDNR officer, for Wayne and Lucas County, Kyle Jensen on all hunting, fishing, and game matters
  - o Wildlife removal from roadways
  - o Wildlife disposal
  - o EHD deer removal from lakes

## Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance:

- Added a new Subaru to the fleet
- Performed routine maintenance on all mowers and equipment as necessary
  - o Change oil
  - o Change air filters
  - o Change gas filters
  - o Run correct air pressure in tires
  - o Check hydro oil
- Changed blades on mowers
- Sharpen mower blades
- Repaired mowers as needed
- Performed routine maintenance on trucks as necessary
  - o Oil changes
- Repaired trucks as needed
  - o Brakes rotor on White Ford
  - o Driver side brake caliper replaced on Green Ford
- Kept updated gas log
- Keep updated mileage log in trucks
- Purchased a new mower (G4)
- Maintained hand tools
  - o Update as needed
- Maintenance for tractor as needed
- Maintenance for skid loader as needed
  - o New tracks
- Purchased brush hog for skid loader

## Public

- Monthly board meeting
- See Naturalist yearly report
- Attempting to keep Reap committee together
- Work with Stacey, Corydon City Clerk on grant
- Work with Taylor and Stacey on new shelter, tables, and trash cans at Corydon Lake Park
- Participate in supervisor meetings to explain budget and new budget for conservation
- End of year activities for Mormon Trail students at Lakeside Park
  - o Kayaking
  - o Fishing
  - o Life Jackets
  - o Hike
  - o Archery
- Take on community service workers to work off hours
- Issued fuel wood permits to the public
- Work with Stacey and Jared from the City of Corydon on tree removal from Corydon Lake Park and restroom project
- Participated in Job Shadowing program with Wayne High School
- Times Republican reached out about attending Board meetings
  - o Told them yes, they are open to the public
- Partner with Appanoose County Conservation
- Work with Corydon Museum
- Work with Courtney for the City of Humeston
- Had Wayne students at Corydon Lake Park for Community Service Day
  - o Pictures on Facebook
- Bordertown Bandits 4-H Clover Kids planted a Hackberry tree at Moore Gosch Park
- Went into a Right-of-Way easement with Rathbun Regional in August
- Camp or Treat had 98 participants

### **Continuing Education:**

- Attended Winterfest in January of 2025
  - o Continuing education
  - o Brittany and Anna attended
  - o Kenny wasn't able to attend

### **Office:**

- Conducted interviews for open Naturalist position
  - o Hired Anna Anderson
- Input claims in Excel
  - o Started new system to track claims/budget
- Filed claims
- Read e-mails
- Input camp receipts
- Took phone calls
- Cleaned office
- Maintain Facebook page
- Open mail and bills
- Filed copies of claims sent to courthouse
- Wrote up claims list and wrote up claims to submit to courthouse for payment
- Work on agenda for board meeting
- Took phone calls for shelter reservations and make reservation signs to post
- Put information in together for board meetings
- Worked on budget for the next fiscal year
- Worked on timesheets promptly
- Kept updated logs for what was done that day
- Retrieved claims from courthouse for board meetings
- Make monthly expense reports
- Post board meeting agenda outside office
- File and save information on the computer
- Print off bills from e-mails
- Input camping receipts into computer
- Attend department head/safety meetings
- Collaborate with Auditors, Recorders, Treasurers Office and State Auditors
- Make calls to turn on and off power and water with said entities according to season
- Update and return capital asset sheets to insurance company
- Completed paperwork concerning community service workers
  - o Worked with County Attorney for making schedules for workers
- Took calls regarding the Bobwhite specialty hunt in Bobwhite Park

## Naturalist:

- Anna started full time in November 2024 with Wayne County Conservation
- Put on public programs at each park
- Provided programs at the Seymour, Wayne and Mormon Trail elementary schools
- Provided programs at Corydon, Seymour and Humeston libraries
- Provided programs at Corydon Head Start and Magical Beginnings, Murphy Place and Corydon Specialty Clinic
- Maintained Bee Hive
- Assisted with Maintenance and Office
- Attended Winterfest

Fishing	CLP, LSP, BW, ACCB, WOC
Constellations	SL, CL, HL, W, MB, CHS, MP, CSC
Hikes	BW, ACCB, LCCB
Kayaking	BW, LSP, CLP, HL, SL, CL, ACCB
Camp or Treat/cookoff	BW
Beeswax Lotion Bars	BW
Iowa Turtles (w/Turtle)	SL, CL, HL, CSC, MP
Animal Eyesight	CSC, S, W, MT, CL, SL
Owl Moon - Owls	S, W, MT, MB, CHS
Iowa Furbearers	S, W, MT, MP, CSC, CL, HL, SL, MB, CHS, SL
History of Iowa Conservation	MP, WOC, WRC
Tree Planting	BW
Tracks and Tracking	S, W, MT, MP, CL, SL, MB, CHS
Water Cycle	S, W, MT, SL, CL, HL
Pond Circle – Food Chain	MB, CHS, S, W, MT
Otters	CSC, MP
Wood	MP, CL
Summer Reading Kites	SL, HL, CL
June Bugs	MB, CSC, MP
Birds	LCCB

Seeds and Sunflowers	MB, CHS
Archery	CLP, ACCB
As Seen on Online	ACCB

## Monthly Participants

July	0
August	0
September	0
October	125
November	0
December	109
January	624
February	513
March	715
April	671
May	397
June	165
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,319</b>

MT – Mormon Trail

S – Seymour

W- Wayne

MP – Murphy's Place

BW – Bobwhite

CLP – Corydon Lake Park

LSP – Lakeside Park

WCF – Wayne County Fair

CHS – Corydon Head Start

MB – Magical Beginnings

SL – Seymour Library

CL – Corydon Library

HL – Humeston Library

CSC – Corydon Specialty Care

ACCB – Appanoose County Conservation Board

LCCB – Lucas County Conservation Board

WOC – Wayne Optimist Club

WRC – Wayne Rotary Club

## Maintenance:

### Spring/Summer:

- Open parks
  - o Open bathhouses
- Board meetings
- Beach monitoring with ISU
  - o Water quality testing
- Mow/burn plot areas off
- Burn prairie for prairie restoration BW
- Burn CLP dam
- Burn brush pile @ BW
- Work with Mark Flammang, IDNR, aquatic spraying of lake @ CLP
- Work with IDNR, Kyle Jensen
- Burn and compost leaves
- Change boundary signs that have been shot
- Maintain mowers
- Mow all parks
  - o Usually 26 – 30 times per season depending on weather
- Trim all parks
- Spray all parks
- Spray campground pads
- Mow lake shores w/ side cutter
- Mow dams w/ side cutter
- Mow roadways and trails w/ side cutter and bush hog
- Mow MCWA entrance
  - o Field entrances for parking and dead-end road
- Fill trucks up when needed
- Oil change on trucks when needed
- Clean, repair, maintain all shower houses
- Clean/open shower houses in spring
- Load firewood in the box in the campground
- Fill pot holes in at campgrounds
- Clean, maintain, rent out shelters in all parks
  - o Weddings
  - o Family reunions
  - o Graduations.... etc.
- Pick up trash @ all parks
- Painted curb stops at South Shelter @ CLP
- Primp all parks for special weekends, yearly festivals
  - o Old settlers
  - o Bordertown days
  - o Watermelon days
  - o Wayne Co. Fair
  - o Allerton World Fair
  - o Memorial Weekend
  - o 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  - o Labor Day Weekend
  - o Easter
  - o Mother/Father's Day
- Clean vehicles, shop & equipment
- Clean the parks up after storm damage
- Maintain kayaks and kayak trailer
- Received new stump grinder
- Marked 200 trees for removal @ CLP
- Turn water and utilities on in all parks for camping season
- Ron, Linda, and Vern started back to work part-time
- Cleaned up areas around the campground
- Linda planted 3 flower pots
- Camp host, Steve Benjamin planted sunflowers at the BW campground entrance
- Tilled beach
- Painted parking post at CLP
- Completed at CLP
  - o New playground
  - o New Shelter
  - o New handicap accessible tables
  - o New trash cans
- New fence 1/4<sup>th</sup> on border of Dean Alley and MCWA
- Burn leaves @ CLP
- Burn the dam @ CLP
- Burn the prairie @ BW
- Fix water leaks @ BW
- Fix broken gate post @ Hill 95
- Pick up the Subaru in Des Moines

## Maintenance Continued:

### Fall/Winter:

- Fill out fuel wood agreements for cutting in BW, CLP and LSP
- Close parks
- Winterize all shower houses
- Burn brush piles
- Cut hazard trees
- Cut and split firewood to sell at CG
- Worked on and submitted budget
- Fall burn
- Annual report
- Continuing education
- Build tables
- Repair tables
- Winterize trucks, tractors, mowers
- Winterize @ shop
- Clean fire rings
- Blade snow
- Shovel snow
- Work on ice removal
- Board meetings
- Clean shop
- Work in campgrounds, weather permitting
- Trickle charge batteries
- Move equipment inside for the winter
  - o Storage building @ LSP
  - o Back shop @ BW
- Inventory
- Put gates up at BW campgrounds to close campgrounds
- Work with IDNR, Helga Offenburger
  - o Fall hunt at BW
- Maintain chainsaws
- Fill trucks up when needed
- Oil change on trucks when needed
- Follow IDNR hazard tree cutting protocol
- Cutting every ash tree that the ash bore has killed in every park
- Turn off water and utilities at all parks for winter
- Clean up honey suckle and autumn olive @ BW
- Cleaned up honey suckle on roadway @ BW and LSP

### Future Park Plans:

1. Groom parks to meticulous standards
2. Continue tree cutting @ all parks regarding dead Ash Trees until all are cut out of high use areas
3. Burn off Dams @ all parks
4. Burn the Prairie @ BW and MCWA
5. Food plots @ MCWA
  - a. Establish sunflowers for annual growth
  - b. Establish food plots
6. Provide excellent outdoor activities for local and non-local residents
7. Opportunities for the schools
8. Expand the kayaking program
9. Continue working with IDNR for the lake at CLP
  - a. Water quality
  - b. Fish habitat
10. Work with ISU for beach monitoring at BW
11. Maintain all areas of the parks
12. Keep working w/ schools and the community via naturalist programs
13. Get CLP looking more like the other county parks with more grass growth and tree cutting programs
14. Marked 200 or more trees at CLP
  - a. City Council rejected bid
15. Work with IDNR with herd reduction by bow hunting at BW
16. Work with IDNR with restocking fish population at the MCWA
17. Grants for new electric and water line at CLP
18. Grants for a restroom by new playground @ CLP Shelter
19. Bids for new mower
20. Lost 3 beehives over the winter, looking to replace
  - a. Continue with pollinator program
21. Get water and electric to the southside at BW
22. Get funding for a new Nature Center