18th Annual Project AWARE General Agenda
July 11-16, 2021
Middle and South Raccoon Rivers, North Raccoon River; 48.8 Miles
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Sunday, July 11
Meet & Greet at Whiterock Conservancy River Campground (1314 Fig Ave., Coon Rapids)
- Statewide Event Shuttles (Iowa City and Van Meter)
- Iowa Project AWARE Event Kickoff
- Camp – Whiterock Conservancy River Campground (1314 Fig Ave., Coon Rapids)

Monday, July 12 – 8.2 Miles
Henderson Park Access to Squirrel Hollow Access (North Raccoon River - Alternative)
- Start – Henderson Park Access (1636 N Ave., Jefferson - Greene CCB)
- Takeout/End (8.2 miles) – Squirrel Hollow Access (1820 Redwood Ave, Jefferson – Greene CCB)
- Camp – Whiterock Conservancy River Campground (1314 Fig Ave., Coon Rapids)

Tuesday, July 13 – 11.5 Miles
Squirrel Hollow Access to Dawson Access (North Raccoon River - Alternative)
- Start – Squirrel Hollow Access (1820 Redwood Ave, Jefferson – Greene CCB)
- Support Stop (4.0 miles) – Adkins Bridge Access (2100 Block S Ave, Jefferson – Greene CCB)
- Takeout/End (7.5 miles) – Dawson Access (P46 north of Dawson – Dallas CCB)
- Camp – Springbrook State Park (2437 160th St., Guthrie Center)

Wednesday, July 14 – 8.6 Miles
Dawson Access to Perry Access (North Raccoon River - Alternative)
- Start – Dawson Access (P46 north of Dawson – Dallas CCB)
- Takeout/End (8.6 miles) – Perry Access (off 1400 I Court, Perry – City of Perry)
- Camp – Hanging Rock Park (916 Redfield St., Redfield – Dallas CCB)

Thursday, July 15 – 11.5 Miles
Redfield Access to Earlham Bridge Access (Middle and South Raccoon Rivers)
- Start – Redfield Access (719 Bridge St., Redfield – City of Redfield)
- Support Stop (7.8 miles) – Pleasant Valley Access (32645 Indian Trail, Adel – Iowa DNR)
- Takeout/End (3.7 miles) – Earlham Bridge Access (33505 L Ave, Adel – Iowa DNR)
- Camp – American Legion Post 403 (910 Main St., Van Meter)

Friday, July 16 – 9.0 Miles
Earlham Bridge Access to Van Meter Access (Middle and South Raccoon Rivers)
- Start – Earlham Bridge Access (33505 L Ave, Adel – Iowa DNR)
- Takeout/End (9.0 miles) – Van Meter Access (705 Debra Dr., Van Meter – City of Van Meter)
Detailed Daily Agenda

Sunday, July 11 (Meet & Greet)
Whiterock Conservancy River Campground, Coon Rapids

Whiterock Conservancy River Campground Park Amenities
- Portable toilets (8) available (KD Portables) plus 3 existing portable toilets
- Running water available
- Electricity available (at pavilion across road)
- Emergency Storm Shelter – Garage adjacent to pavilion, basement of house (1313 Fig Ave, Coon Rapids)

9:30 am – Shuttle departs from University of Iowa – Oakdale Campus (Iowa City)
12:00 pm – Shuttle departs from Van Meter High School (Van Meter) – 2 buses (Coon Rapids-Bayard Schools)
1:00 pm – Arrive at Whiterock Park Riverside Campground (Coon Rapids)

Ongoing – Registration

2:00 pm – Afternoon Campground Programs
  ● Poison Ivy: Plant Identification, Prevention, & Treatment – Dan Boelman (Zanfel Laboratories, Inc.)

3:00 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs
  ● Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic – John Wenck (Iowa Department of Natural Resources) and Rick Dietz (Iowa Project AWARE Volunteer)
  ● Introduction to Whiterock Conservancy – Barbra Jotzke-Torrier (Whiterock Conservancy)
  ● Arts and Crafts Project – Making Tree Cookie Nametags

4:00 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs
  ● Canoe Skills and Safety Clinic – John Wenck (Iowa Department of Natural Resources) and Rick Dietz (Iowa Project AWARE Volunteer)
  ● Introduction to Whiterock Conservancy – Barbra Jotzke-Torrier (Whiterock Conservancy)
  ● Arts and Crafts Project – Melisa Jacobsen

6:00 pm – Dinner at Whiterock Conservancy River Campground, Coon Rapids
7:15 pm – Welcome & Introductions

Monday, July 12 (8.2 miles)
Henderson Park Access to Squirrel Hollow Access (North Raccoon River - Alternative)

7:00 am – Breakfast and lunch distribution at Whiterock Conservancy River Campground
8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)
8:15 am – Bus Shuttle volunteers to Henderson Park south of Jefferson (located 1 mile south of Jefferson just off Hwy 4 NE side of river; 30-minute shuttle) (30-minute shuttle)
9:00 am – Depart from Henderson Park (paved ramp, river left – north side of river)

8.2 miles – Trash Pickup Location – Squirrel Hollow Access (1820 Redwood Ave, Jefferson; intersection of Redwood Ave and 277th St.) (above rock dam - carry down access, river left – east side of river) (below rock dam – paved ramp, river left – east side of river)

Bus shuttle volunteers from Squirrel Hollow Access to Whiterock Conservancy (35-minute shuttle)
Van shuttle volunteers from Whiterock Conservancy River campground to Whiterock Conservancy Star Field
Campground showers

4:30 pm – Concurrent Afternoon Campground Activities
  ● A Geologic Walk Through Time - Joe Artz (Office of the State Archaeologist, retired) and Ryan Clark (Iowa Geological Survey)
  ● Seep Wetland Bioblitz – Carissa Shoemaker (Whiterock Conservancy)
  ● Arts and Crafts Project – Melisa Jacobsen

6:00 pm – Dinner at Whiterock Conservancy River Campground (Coon Rapids)
7:30 pm – Concurrent Evening Campground Programs (Whiterock Conservancy River Campground)
  ● Corn and Khrushchev - Liz Garst (Whiterock Conservancy; brought to you by Humanities Iowa)
- **Geology and Natural History of the Raccoon River Watershed** - Joe Artz (Office of the State Archaeologist, retired) and Ryan Clark (Iowa Geological Survey)

**Whiterock Conservancy River Campground (Coon Rapids) Amenities**
- Portable toilets (8) available (KD Portables) plus 3 existing portable toilets
- Running water available
- Shower shuttle available to Whiterock Conservancy Star Field Campground showers
- Electricity available (across the road)
- Emergency Storm Shelter – Garage adjacent to pavilion, basement of house (1313 Fig Ave, Coon Rapids)

**Tuesday, July 13 (11.5 miles)**

*Squirrel Hollow Access to Dawson Access (North Raccoon River - Alternative)*

7:00 am – **Breakfast and lunch distribution** at Whiterock Conservancy River Campground (Coon Rapids)
8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)
8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)
8:15 am – **Bus Shuttle** volunteers to Squirrel Hollow Access (1820 Redwood Ave, Jefferson; intersection of Redwood Ave and 277th St.) (above rock dam - carry down access, river left – east side of river) (35-minute shuttle)
9:00 am – **Depart** from Squirrel Hollow Access (paved ramp, river left – east side of river)

**4.0 miles – Support Location** (no trash removed at this location) – Adkins Bridge Access (2100 block S Ave, Jefferson) (paved ramp, river right – west side of river)

7.5 miles – **Trash Pickup Location** – Dawson Access (P46, Dawson) (paved ramp, river right – south side of river)

**Bus Shuttle** from Dawson Access to Springbrook State Park (23-minute shuttle)

4:30 pm – **Concurrent Afternoon Campground Activities**
- Wildflower-watching, lichen-looking, and insect-inspecting in parks, preserves, and peaceful places *(Springbrook State Park)* – John Pearson (Iowa DNR Botanist)
- **Traditional Toys and Games (Native American and Pioneer Era)** – Chérie Haury-Artz (Office of the State Archaeologist)
- **Raptors** – Christina Roelofs (Shelby County Conservation and Iowa Department of Natural Resources)
- **Arts and Crafts Project** – Melissa Jacobsen
- **The Recipe for Clean Water, Good Health, and Diversity!** – Robin Fortney, Bob Nye, and Penny Perkins (Raccoon River Watershed Association)

5:00 pm – **Daily Shuttle Service** to Whiterock Conservancy (Coon Rapids) from Springbrook State Park (Guthrie Center) – 40-minute *Round Trip*

6:00 pm – **Dinner** at Springbrook State Park (Guthrie Center)

7:30 pm – **Concurrent Evening Campground Programs** *(Springbrook State Park, Guthrie Center)*
- **History of the Underground Railroad in Guthrie and Dallas Counties** – Rod Stanley
- **Gym’n Eat Crickets** - Shelby Smith
- **How to Use a Throw Rope** – Glenn Harman (Iowa Department of Natural Resources)

**Springbrook State Park (Guthrie Center) Amenities** – Picnic Area
- Pit Toilets plus Portable toilets (8) available (KD Portables)
- Running water available
- Showers available (van shuttle)
- Limited electricity available in picnic area
- Emergency Storm Shelter – Springbrook State Park office building (Guthrie Center)

**Wednesday, July 14 (8.6 miles)**

*Dawson Access to Perry Access (North Raccoon River - Alternative)*

7:00 am – **Breakfast and lunch distribution** at Springbrook State Park (Guthrie Center)
8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)
8:15 am – **Bus Shuttle** volunteers to Dawson Access (P46, Dawson) (above rock dam - carry down access, river left – east side of river) (23-minute shuttle)

9:00 am – **Depart** from Dawson Access (paved ramp, river right – south side of river)

8.6 miles – **Trash Pickup Location** – Perry Access (ramp access off 1400 I Court, Perry) (paved ramp, river left – east side of river)

- **Bus Shuttle** volunteers from Perry Access to Hanging Rock Park

4:30 pm – **Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs**

- **Early Hunting Technology: Using an Atlatl to Throw a Dart** – Elizabeth Reetz and Chérie Haury-Artz (Office of the State Archaeologist and Dallas County Conservation staff)
- **Native American Tipi Building** – Mike Havlik (Dallas County Conservation)
- **Arts and Crafts Project** - Melisa Jacobsen

5:00 pm – **Daily Shuttle Service** to Springbrook State Park (Guthrie Center) from Hanging Rock Park (Redfield) – 1 hour 10-minute **Round Trip**

6:00 pm – **Dinner** at Hanging Rock Park (Redfield)

7:00 pm – **Concurrent Evening Campground Programs** (Hanging Rock Park, Redfield)

- **An Invitation: Come Step Inside our Stories and Experience the Memory of the Land** – Chris Adkins (Dallas County Conservation)
- **Bonnie and Clyde** – Rod Stanley

8:15 pm – **Late Night Campground Program**

- **Bryan Akipa Flute Concert** - Brian Akipa

**Hanging Rock Park (Redfield) Amenities**

- Portable toilets (8) available (WSI)
- Running water available
- No showers available
- Electricity available in park
- Emergency Storm Shelter – West Central Valley Middle School (Redfield)

**Thursday, July 15 (11.5 miles)**

Redfield Access to Earlham Bridge Access (Middle and South Raccoon Rivers)

6:00 am – **Birding Program** – Mike Havlik (Dallas County Conservation)

7:00 am – **Breakfast** and **lunch distribution** at Hanging Rock Park (Redfield)

8:00 am – **Morning Safety Program** (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)

8:15 am – **Bus Shuttle** volunteers to Hanging Rock Park to Redfield Access (5-minute shuttle)

8:30 am – **Depart** from Redfield Access (paved ramp, river right – west side of river)

12:00 p.m. - Tent arrives/assembled at Legion Hall

7.8 miles – **Halfway point & Support Stop (no trash removed at this location)** – Pleasant Valley Access (paved ramp, river left – north side of river)

- Cut-off time: **1:00 pm** – anyone not here by this time will have to exit the river

3.7 miles – **Take Out** at Earlham Bridge Access (carry down access, river right – south side of river)

- **Bus Shuttle** from Earlham Bridge Access to Van Meter VFW (15-minute shuttle)
- Shuttle volunteers from American Legion Post 403 to Van Meter CSD for showers

4:30 pm – **Concurrent Afternoon Campground Programs**

- **Surface Water Quality: Trend, Treatment, and Tactics for Providing Safe Drinking Water** – Kyle Danley (Des Moines Water Works)

5:00 pm – **Daily Shuttle Service** to Hanging Rock Park (Redfield) from American Legion Post 403 (Van Meter) – 50-minute **Round Trip**

6:00 pm – **Dinner** at American Legion Post 403 (Van Meter)

7:30 pm – **Concurrent Evening Campground Programs** (American Legion Post 403, Van Meter)

- **Exploring Iowa’s Rivers and Aquifers with Data and Drones** - Peter Levi (Drake University)
Central Iowa Water Trails - Maggie McClelland (Central Iowa Water Trails Project Manager)

American Legion Post 403 (Van Meter) Amenities
- Portable toilets (8) available (WSI)
- Running water available south side of building
- Shuttle for showers available
- Electricity available outside of building
- Emergency Storm Shelter – American Legion Post 403

Friday, July 16 (9.0 miles)
Earlham Bridge Access to Van Meter Access (Middle and South Raccoon Rivers)

7:00 am – Breakfast and lunch distribution at American Legion Post 403 (Van Meter)
8:00 am – Morning Safety Program (Iowa Department of Natural Resources Rivers Program)
8:15 am – Bus Shuttle volunteers to Earlham Bridge Access (15-minute shuttle)
8:30 am – Depart from Earlham Bridge Access
9.0 miles – Take Out Van Meter Access (paved ramp, river right – south side of river)
- Bus Shuttle from access to American Legion Post 403 (5-minute shuttle)
- Wash canoes

Organize volunteers and equipment for shuttle home (depart – TBD)
~late afternoon – Post-event shuttle arrives in Iowa City